

A Prelude of Christmas Music

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2022 ❖ 7:30 pm

Sung by the St. Michael Choir
Ray Urwin, Director of Music

Two Motets

by Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

En natus est Emmanuel

Sung by the St. Michael's Section Leaders

*En natus est Emmanuel: Dominus
quem praedixit Gabriel: Dominus
Dominus Salvator noster est.*

*Hic jacet in praeseptio: Dominus
puer admirabilis: Dominus
Dominus Salvator noster est.*

*Haec lux est orta hodie: Dominus
ex Maria Virgine: Dominus
Dominus Salvator noster est.*

*Behold is born Emmanuel: Christ the Lord.
Him foretold by Gabriel: Christ the Lord.
Christ the Lord, our Savior!*

*He lies in a manger bed: Christ the Lord.
Wondrous little boy he is: Christ the Lord.
Christ the Lord, our Savior!*

*The light appeareth on this day: Christ the Lord.
Born of Mary, virgin maid: Christ the Lord.
Christ the Lord, our Savior!*

Psallite Unigenito

*Psallite Unigenito, Christo, Dei Filio,
Redemptori, Domino, puerulo iacenti in praeseptio.
Ein kleines Kindelein liegt in dem Krippelein
Alle lieben Engelein dienen dem Kindelein
und singen ihm fein. Psallite...*

*Sing the psalms to the Only-Begotten one,
Christ, the Son of God, Redeemer, Lord,
a baby who lies in a manger.
A little child lies in the manger stall,
All the dear little angels praise the child
and sign to him.
Sing the psalms...*

Le Bel Ange du Ciel (from Les Rossignols Spirituels, 1616)
by Peter Phillips (1560-1628)

Cecilia Rogers, Soloist
(Sung in French)

*The beautiful heavenly angel of highest virtue
Tells us: God is born to us of a young, gentle girl!
Shepherds, up! Leave your mountains and valleys,
Leave your breeds, sing your musettes:*

Refrain

*Here is the baby, the beautiful little Jesus!
Jesus the baby, who comes from God!
Tell of Emmanuel: Noel! Noel!*

*Away with grief and sadness
Let's be happy, let's jump with joy!
Because God gave us a child,
Wolves of the sheepfold, run away!*

(Refrain)

*He is born, he is born, he brings new life!
Let us hurry to Bethlehem, and make
beautiful melodies with oboe, violins, flutes and drums,
to JESUS and MARY.*

(Refrain)

*His manger and poverty is our glory and wealth,
His death is our life and his tears, our jubilation
Let us do everything possible to receive it well,
He is the prince of angels, so we all sing his praises.*

(Refrain)

Ancient Belgian carol

Riu, riu chiu
by Mateo Flecha the Younger (1481-1553)

Scott Ziemann, Bass Solo

Please stand as able and join in singing

Hymn 107

Good Christian friends, rejoice

In dulci Jubilo

1 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;
2 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;
3 Good Chris - tian friends, re - joi - ce with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

The Kings

by **Peter Cornelius (1824-1874)**

Scott Ziemann, Bass solo

This composer, who was born on Christmas Eve, was a student of Richard Wagner. The right hand of the accompaniment (here played by a violin) weaves in the melody of a familiar Lutheran Epiphany hymn, How bright appears the Morning Star.

*Three kings from Persian lands afar
To Jordan follow the pointing star:
And this the quest of the travelers three,
Where the new born King of the Jews may be.
Full royal gifts they bear for the King:
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.*

*The star shines out with a steadfast ray;
The kings to Bethlehem make their way,
And there in worship they bend the knee,
As Mary's child in her lap they see;
Their royal gifts they show to the King,
Gold, incense, myrrh are their offering.*

*Thou child of man - lo, to Bethlehem
The kings are traveling - travel with them!
The star of mercy, the star of grace,
Shall lead thy heart to its resting-place.
Gold, incense, myrrh thou canst not bring:
Offer thy heart to the infant King!*

A Christmas Carol

Music by **Norman Dello Joio (1913-2008)**

Poem by **G. K. Chesterton (1874-1936)**

Vincent Loza, Tenor Solo

*The Christ-child lay on Mary's lap,
His hair was like a light.
O weary, weary were the world,
but here is all aright.*

*The Christ-child lay on Mary's breast,
His hair was like a star,
O stern and cunning are the kings,
but here the true hearts are.*

*The Christ-child lay on Mary's heart,
His hair was like a fire,*

*Weary, weary is the world,
but here the world's desire.*

*The Christ-child stood at Mary's knee,
His hair was like a crown,
And all the flowers looked up at Him,
and all the stars looked down.
O weary, weary were the world,
But here the world is aright.*

The Blessed Son of God (from Hodie, 1954) by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

*The blessed son of God only
In a crib full poor did lie;
With our poor flesh and our poor blood
Was clothed that everlasting good. Kyri'eleison.*

*The Lord Christ Jesu, God's son dear,
Was a guest and a stranger here;
Us for to bring from misery,
That we might live eternally. Kyri'eleison.*

*All this did he for us freely,
For to declare his great mercy;
All Christendom be merry therefore,
And give him thanks for evermore. Kyri'eleison.*

Verbum caro factum est by Franziskus de Rivulo (fl. 1560-66)

*Verbum caro factum est, et habitavit in nobis;
et vidimus gloriam eius, gloriam quasi unigeniti a patre,
plenum gratiae et veritatis.*

*The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us;
and we have seen his glory, the glory as of the
only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14*

Voluntary on "Tomorrow shall be my dancing day" David Schelat (b. 1955)