

*Sounds of Christmas*

**University Singers, The Knights Chorus and PLU Ringers**

Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 8pm  
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Pacific Lutheran University  
School of Arts and Communication and the Department of Music present

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**Richard Nance, Barry Johnson and Linda Miller, conductors**  
**Paul Tegels, organ**

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Welcome to Lagerquist Concert Hall.  
Please disable the audible signal on all watches and cellular phones for the duration of the performance.  
Use of cameras, recording equipment and all digital devices is not permitted in the concert hall.

### **Program**

**(Please hold applause until the conclusion of the concert)**

**Processional: Creator of the Stars of Night** ..... **arr. Jeffery Honoré**  
Combined choirs and PLU Ringers • Logan Kropp, student conductor

**Reading: Advent** ..... **Thomas Merton (1915 - 1968)**  
Jonny Maier, reader

Charm with your stainlessness  
these winter nights,  
Skies, and be perfect!  
Fly vivid in the fiery dark, you quiet meteors,  
And disappear.  
You moon, be slow to go down,  
This is your full!

The four white roads make off in silence  
Towards the four parts of the starry universe.  
Time falls like manna  
at the corners of the wintry earth.  
We have become more humble than the rocks,  
More wakeful than the patient hills.

Charm with your stainlessness  
these nights in Advent, holy spheres,  
While minds, as meek as beasts,  
Stay close at home in the sweet hay;  
And intellects are quieter  
than the flocks that feed by starlight.

Oh pour your darkness and your brightness  
over all our solemn valleys,  
You skies:  
and travel like the gentle Virgin,  
Toward the planets' stately setting,

Oh white full moon as quiet as Bethlehem!

**O Come, O Come Emmanuel** ..... **arr. Cynthia Dobrinski (b. 1950)**  
PLU Ringers

**Audience Carol: Of The Father's Love Begotten (please stand and sing)**

**1. (All)**  
Of the Father's love begotten,  
E're the worlds began to be,  
He is Alpha and Omega,  
He the source, the ending he,  
Of the things that are, that have been,  
And that future years shall see,  
Evermore and evermore.

**2. (All)**  
Oh, that birth forever blessed,  
When the virgin, full of grace,  
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,  
Bore the Savior of our race,  
And the babe, the world's redeemer,  
First revealed his sacred face,  
Evermore and evermore.

3. (All)  
Let the heights of heav'n adore him,  
Angel hosts, his praises sing;  
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before him

And extol our God and King;  
Let no tongue on earth be silent,  
Ev'ry voice in concert ring  
Evermore and evermore.

**Nova, Nova, Ave Fit Ex Eva** ..... **Williametta Spencer (b. 1927)**  
University Singers

**Reading: O Simplicitas** ..... **Madeleine L'Engle (1918 - 2007)**  
Joy Edwards, reader

An angel came to me  
and I was unprepared  
to be what God was using.  
Mother I was to be.  
A moment I despaired,  
thought briefly of refusing.  
The angel knew I heard.  
According to God's Word  
I bowed to this strange choosing.

A palace should have been  
the birthplace of a king  
(I had no way of knowing).  
We went to Bethlehem;  
it was so strange a thing.  
The wind was cold, and blowing,  
my cloak was old, and thin.  
They turned us from the inn;  
the town was overflowing.

God's Word, a child so small  
who still must learn to speak  
lay in humiliation.  
Joseph stood, strong and tall,  
The beasts were warm and meek  
and moved with hesitation.  
The Child born in a stall?  
I understood it: all.  
Kings came in adoration.

Perhaps it was absurd;  
a stable set apart,  
the sleepy cattle lowing;  
and the incarnate Word  
resting against my heart.  
My joy was overflowing.  
The shepherds came, adored  
the folly of the Lord,  
wiser than all men's knowing.

**Gesu Bambino** ..... **Pietro Yon (1886 – 1943)**  
The Knights Chorus • Skye Gibbs, mezzo-soprano • Rachel King, piano

**Sing Noel** ..... **Alfred E. Sturgis (b. 1960)**  
The Knights Chorus

**Candlelight Carol** ..... **John Rutter (b. 1945)**  
University Singers • Julie Landes, student conductor • Paul Tegels, organ

**Audience Carol: The First Nowell (please stand and sing)**

1. (All)  
The first Nowell the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell!  
Born is the King of Israel.

2. (Women)  
They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,

And so it continued both day and night.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell!  
Born is the King of Israel.

3. (Men)  
And by the light of that same star  
Three Wise Men came from country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell!  
Born is the King of Israel.

4. (All)  
Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,  
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,  
and with his blood mankind hath bought:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell!  
Born is the King of Israel.

**Rise Up Shepherd and Follow**..... arr. Frank Almond  
The Knights Chorus • Isaiah Taylor, baritone

**All Men Draw Near**..... Peter Williams (1937 – 2016)  
University Singers • Julie Landes, piano

**Oh My Dear Heart**..... Eleanor Daley (b. 1955)  
University Singers

**Reading: Carol**..... Thomas Merton (1915 - 1968)  
Isaiah Taylor, reader

Flocks feed by darkness with a noise of whispers,  
In the dry grass of pastures,  
And lull the solemn night with their weak bells.

The little towns upon the rocky hills  
Look down as meek as children:  
Because they have seen come this holy time.

God's glory, now,  
is kindled gentler than low candlelight  
Under the rafters of a barn:  
Eternal piece is sleeping in the hay,  
And Wisdom's born in secret  
in a straw-roofed stable.

And O!  
Make holy music in the stars, you happy angels.  
You shepherds, gather on the hill.  
Look up, you timid flocks, where the three kings  
Are coming through the wintry trees;

While we unnumbered children of the wicked  
centuries  
Come after with our penances and prayers,  
And lay them down in the sweet-smelling hay  
Beside the wise men's golden jars.

**Audience Carol: It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (please stand and sing)**

1. (All)  
It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to all,  
From heav'n's all-gracious king."  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

2. (All)  
Still through the cloven skies they come  
With peaceful wings unfurled,  
And still their heav'nly music floats  
O'er all the weary world.  
Above its sad and lonely plains  
They bend on hov'ring wing,  
And ever o'er its babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

3. (Combined Choirs)  
Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
The world has suffered long;  
Beneath the angel-strain has rolled  
Two thousand years of wrong;  
And man, at war with man, hears not  
The love-song which they bring:  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,  
And hear the angels sing!

4. (All)  
For lo! The days are hast'ning on,  
By prophets seen of old,  
When with the ever-circling years  
Shall come the time foretold,  
When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendors fling,  
And all the world give back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

**Reading: Not Celebrate? ..... Ann Weems (1935 – 2016)**

Erica Lee, reader

Not celebrate?  
Your burden is too great to bear?  
Your loneliness is intensified  
during this Christmas season?  
Your tears have no end?  
Not celebrate?  
You should lead the celebration!  
You should run through the streets  
to ring the bells and sing the loudest!  
You should fling the tinsel on the tree,

and open your house to your neighbors,  
and call them in to dance!  
For it is you above all others  
who know the joy of Advent.  
It is unto you that a Savior is born this day,  
One who comes to lift your burden  
from your shoulders,  
One who comes to wipe the tears from your eyes.  
You are not alone,  
For He is born this day to you.

**O Tannenbaum..... arr. Alice Parker (b. 1925)/Robert Shaw (1916 – 1999)**

The Knights Chorus • Alex Putnam, tenor

**God Rest You Merry Gentlemen.....arr. Philip Kern**

The Knights Chorus • Rachel King, piano

**Christmas the Morn..... Kirke Mechem (b. 1925)**

University Singers

**Reading: *It Is Not Over* ..... Ann Weems (1935 – 2016)**

Jamie McNeil, reader

It is not over, this birthing.  
There are always newer skies  
into which God can throw stars.  
When we begin to think that we can predict the  
Advent of God,  
that we can box the Christ in a stable in Bethlehem,

that's just the time that God will be born  
in a place we can't imagine and won't believe.  
Those who wait for God  
watch with their hearts and not their eyes,  
listening, always listening for angel words.

**Benediction ..... James Early**

Kody Allen, reader

May your heart hear the songs of angels,  
and may the star of Bethlehem  
shine on the gift you bring the Christ Child.

**Audience Carol: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (please stand and sing)**

**1. (All)**

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.”  
Joyful, all you nations, rise;  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic hosts proclaim,  
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

**2. (All)**

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see!  
Hail, the incarnate deity!  
Pleased as us with all to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Hark! The herald angels sing,  
“Glory to the newborn King!”

3. (All)  
Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Ris'n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,

Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise each child of earth,  
Born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King!"

(Applause welcome and appreciated here!)

Postlude: Noël Suisse ..... Louis-Claude Daquin (1694 – 1772)

Paul Tegels, organ

### Personnel

#### PLU Ringers

Linda Miller, conductor • Logan Kropp, student conductor

Natalee Aalgaard  
Kelli Bower  
Natalie Breshears  
Rebecca Heberling

Sabrina Husseini  
Phyllis Jenkins  
Carl Johnson  
Logan Kropp

Jessica Le Poidevin  
Katie McGregor  
Monique Otter-Johnson  
Charles Reinmuth

Sophie Schroeder  
Ethan Warwick

#### The Knights Chorus

Barry Johnson, conductor • Logan Kropp, student conductor  
Rachel King, accompanist

#### Tenor

Kaleb Cenci  
Logan Kropp  
Tomick Necessary  
Malcolm Omri  
Alex Putnam  
Dylan Ruggeri  
Terran Stack  
Aris Youngquist

#### Bass

Kody Allen  
Aidan Bartness  
Dalton Best  
Mark Burch  
Avery Carlson  
Carson Fujisaki  
Duncan Haddock  
Jakob Johnson  
Jonny Maier  
Adrian Ronquillo  
Darek Solomon  
Alex Stahl  
Karl Stallman  
Isaiah Taylor

#### University Singers

Richard Nance, conductor • Julie Landes, student conductor

#### Soprano 1

Rosemary Bennett  
Daylyn Carrigan  
Jessica Furnstahl  
Abigail Kunkel  
Emily Miller  
Marissa Moultrie  
Timari Moxcey  
Stephanie Pfundt  
Kristin Sorensen  
Jessica Swanson  
Savannah Truluck

#### Soprano 2

Natalee Aalgaard  
Molly Costello  
Kristen Joy Edwards  
Jacqueline Jackson  
Whi Jung  
Drew Hoyt  
Julie Landes  
Erica Lee  
Jamie Rose McNeil  
Sarah Nelson  
Helen Plotkin  
Caitlin Sarwono  
Hailey Wharton

#### Alto 1

Amanda Ades  
Yuliya Borenko  
Kelli Bower  
Sadie Brownlee  
Dominique Hart  
Teresa Keck  
Kate Lychik  
Krista Osborne  
Kaitlin Reagin  
Rhyonna Rosales  
Erin Smith  
Lily Wecks

#### Alto 2

Tiana Berg  
Maddi Dever  
Skye Gibbs  
Emily Groseclose  
Colby Handley  
Celeste Jessop  
Sahara Jones  
Janelle Purser  
Erica Query  
Kylie Steves

 School of Arts +  
Communication

