

Grace Church

PRESENTS

THE CANTATA SINGERS

AT

EVENSONG



BLESS, O Lord, us thy servants who minister in thy temple; Grant that what we sing with our lips we may believe in our hearts, and what we believe in our hearts we may show forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Cantata Singers

Robert M. Finster, conductor

PROGRAM III, 1967-1968 Season

Third Sunday in Lent
Commemoration of Saint Patrick
March 17, 1968, 8:00 P.M.

CHURCH MUSIC OF THE 20th CENTURY

- PINKHAM — Jubilate Deo (1966)**
— Festival Magnificat (1963)
OLDROYD — Song of the Passion (1938)
DYSON — Hail universal Lord (1958)
BRITTEN — Rejoice in the Lamb (1943)

Soloists:

Constance Read, soprano
Gloria Kirk, contralto
Edmund Dana, tenor
Roland Bentley, baritone

Kent Hill, organ

Grace Episcopal Church

WEST CHURCH AND DAVIS STREETS
ELMIRA, NEW YORK

The Reverend Samuel W. Hale, Jr., Rector
Robert M. Finster, Organist and Choirmaster

The Reverend Robert F. Lester
Pastor, Park Congregational Church, Elmira

The Reverend John F. Gormley
Newfield, New York

Guest Officiants

THE ORDER OF EVENSONG



ORGAN: Prelude on *Iam sol recedit igneus*.....
Bruce Simonds
b. 1895

HYMN 268: St. Patrick and Deirdre.....Irish Melodies
All standing and singing

OPENING SENTENCES AND VERSICLES

- V.** O Lord, open thou our lips.
R. And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.
V. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and
to the Holy Ghost;
R. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever
shall be, world without end. Amen.
V. Praise ye the Lord.
R. The Lord's Name be praised.

PSALM 100: *Jubilate Deo*.....Daniel Pinkham
* b. 1923

LESSON — Congregation seated

MAGNIFICAT.....Pinkham

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit
hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of his hand-
maiden.
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall
call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me; and
holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him through-
out all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath
scattered the proud in the imagination of
their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things; and
the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his ser-
vant Israel, as he promised to our fore-
fathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to
the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall
be, world without end. Amen.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost: The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints: The Forgiveness of Sins; The Resurrection of the body: And the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS

V. The Lord be with you.

R. And with thy spirit.

Let us pray. — Congregation kneeling

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, On earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.

R. And grant us thy salvation.

V. O Lord, save the State.

R. And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

V. Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

R. And make thy chosen people joyful.

V. O Lord, save thy people.

R. And bless thine inheritance.

V. Give peace in our time, O Lord.

R. For it is thou, Lord, only, that makest us dwell in safety.

V. O God, make clean our hearts within us.

R. And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

COLLECT FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

We beseech thee, Almighty God, look upon the hearty desires of thy humble servants, and stretch forth the right hand of thy Majesty, to be our defence against all our enemies; through Jesus Christ our Lord. R. Amen.

COLLECT FOR SAINT PATRICK

O Almighty God, who in thy providence didst choose thy servant Patrick to be an apostle to the people of Ireland, to bring those who were wandering in darkness and error to the true light and knowledge of thee: Grant us so to walk in that light, that we may come at last to the light of everlasting life; through the merits of Jesus Christ thy Son our Lord. R. Amen.

COLLECT FOR LENT

Almighty and everlasting God, who hatest nothing that thou hast made, and dost forgive the sins of all those who are penitent; Create and make in us new and contrite hearts, that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may obtain of thee, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord R. Amen.

ANTHEM: Song of the Passion.....George Oldroyd
1886-1951

When I think on Jesu's blood,
That he shed upon the rood,
I let tears smart.

Who of men can be unkind
If Christis blood he hath in mind,
Entirely in his heart?

Sweet Jesu Christ, what is thy guilt,
That thou for me art spilt,
Flower of unlothfulness?
I a thief am, but thou diest;
I am guilty, but thou abuyest
All my wickedness.

Why gavest thou so much for thine?
What winnest thou for thy hard pine,
Rich in bliss above?

Love thy heart so deep has sought
That pain of death doth let thee nought
Of man to win the love.

COLLECT FOR PEACE

O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed; Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour. R. Amen.

COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST PERILS

Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. R. Amen.

GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. R. Amen.

ANTHEM.....George Dyson
b. 1883

Hail universal Lord, be bounteous still
To give us only good; and if the night
Hath gathered aught of evil or concealed,
Disperse it, as now the light dispels the dark.
These are thy glorious works, parent of good,
Almighty, thine this universal frame,
Thus wondrous fair; thyself how wondrous then!
Speak ye who best can tell, ye sons of light,
Angels, for ye behold him, and with songs
And choral symphonies, day without night,
Circle his throne rejoicing, ye in heaven,
On earth join all ye creatures to extol
Him first, him last, him midst, and without end.
Amen.

HYMN 314: Magdalen College...William Hayes, 1774
All standing and singing

The programs given by The Cantata Singers
are dependent largely upon your
contributions at each service.

REJOICE IN THE LAMB, Op. 30.....Benjamin Britten
b. 1913
(Festival Cantata)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

HYMN 363: Slane.....Irish Melody
All standing and singing

ORGAN: Prelude on a Theme of Victoria.....Britten



SOLI DEO GLORIA



THE CANTATA SINGERS, LATER THIS SEASON

May 26, Sunday, 8:00 P.M.

The Festival Bach 1968

J. S. Bach — St. John Passion

THE CANTATA SINGERS is a concert choir founded in 1964 by Robert M. Finster. Since that time it has continued as part of the music program of Grace Church Parish, and has dedicated itself to the performance of sacred choral literature. The amateur chorus is unique in its function and in the makeup of its personnel. Its members represent nearly every major Christian body, thus bringing to the group a breadth and scope not found in individual parish choirs and many other choruses. Membership is open to all those who have a deep interest in singing great sacred choral music, an adequate singing voice, the ability to read music, and the sincere intention of attending all rehearsals and participating in all concerts during a given season. New members will be considered at the beginning of the 1968-1969 season.

THE CANTATA SINGERS

SOPRANO

MRS. MARJORIE ADAMS
 MRS. PETER ARBACH
 MRS. BRUCE AUSTIN
 MRS. CHRISTOPHER BONDS
 MRS. KEITH CALKINS
 MRS. MARILYN DeFALCO
 MISS DIANNE DOWNER
 MRS. RICHARD DULUDE
 MISS MARY-ELLEN EARL
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 MISS MELISSA HOBLER
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 MRS. MATTHEW PERRY
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 MISS CONSTANCE READ
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 SISTER M. JULIANA, SSJ
 MRS. FLOYD STANTON
 MRS. RICHARD WACK
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 MRS. ALBERT CLARK
 MISS MARJORIE COLE
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 MISS MAUREEN McCARTHY
 MISS CAROLE MANSFIELD
 MRS. DAVID MOCHEL
 MISS JUNE MORRONI
 MRS. ALBERT NEUMEYER
 MRS. ERNEST PALMER
 SISTER MARGARET DE SALES, SSJ
 SISTER M. FIDELIS, SSJ
 SISTER MARY SARTO, RSM
 MRS. JOHN TETZ

BASS

EDWARD BABCOCK
 FRANK BARTLETT
 ROLAND BENTLEY
 PAUL CLARK
 LEONARD CRIMINALE
 REV. SAMUEL HALE
 PHILIP HAYDEN
 REV. DONALD HOFF
 GEORGE HOWELL
 DAVID LUCE
 REV. FRANCIS PARK
 WALTER PERSONIUS
 FREDERICK PETRIE
 SIDNEY REED
 MICHAEL SUSICK
 RICHARD WACK

TENOR

JOHN BLAKE
 KEITH CALKINS
 EDMUND DANA
 RICHARD DeGEUS
 REV. BASIL DE PINTO, OSB
 CHARLES GETMAN
 STUART HAGERMAN
 ALBERT NEUMEYER

REHEARSAL ACCOMPANISTS

MRS. CHARLES DAVIS
 MRS. ALBERT NEUMEYER

DR. KENT HILL, guest organist for this concert, is the newly appointed instructor of organ at Mansfield State College. A native of Georgia, he graduated from the Oberlin Conservatory in 1957 (B.M.). A Fulbright fellowship took him to Denmark for further organ study in 1959-1960. At Eastman School of Music he was the recipient of a National Defense Education Fellowship, and he completed his doctoral studies there in 1966. An Associate of the American Guild of Organists, he has given recitals in Europe and across this country. It is indeed a pleasure to welcome him to Grace Church.

DANIEL PINKHAM (b. 1923)

Pinkham is a faculty member of The New England Conservatory of Music and Music Director of historic King's Chapel in Boston. A co-founder of the Cambridge Festival Orchestra, he has been known chiefly as a composer of choral music, songs, and works for organ and other instruments.

His "Jubilate Deo" was commissioned by Trinity Church, Southport, Connecticut. It is an intense and concise work, demonstrating the use of unusual rhythms and dissonances.

The "Festival Magnificat," written with optional brass parts, was commissioned by John Fesperman and the Old North Singers, Boston. Like most of his other works, this piece shows Pinkham to be a careful craftsman who knows well his materials, combining them artistically to reach his desired end.

GEORGE OLDROYD (1886-1951)

Oldroyd's anthem "Song of the Passion" uses verses probably by Henry Parker (d. 1470), a Carmelite friar. It is a highly romantic work in much the same style as his other choral works, chiefly anthems and service settings. For a time Oldroyd taught at Trinity College and London University, and was the author of several important essays on Gregorian chant.

GEORGE DYSON (b. 1883)

Sir George Dyson was for a time professor at the Royal College of Music; in 1937 he was made its director. His anthem "Hail universal Lord" is based on verses from John Milton's **Paradise Lost**, Book V, the "argument" for which is the approach of morning in Paradise. Eve awakes and relates to Adam her troublesome dream of the serpent and the fruit. The anthem text is part of the long morning hymn that follows, in which they pray to have the bad dream of the loss of Paradise dispelled. They go on to ask praise of God by the sun, the moon, the stars, the air, the winds, the waters, etc. — a thought similar to Smart's **Jubilate** — all of creation praising God.

The anthem was commissioned in 1958 for the choir of St. Matthew's Church, Northampton, England.

BENJAMIN BRITTEN (b. 1913)

The festival cantata "Rejoice in the Lamb" was also commissioned by St. Matthew's Church, Northampton, for the fiftieth anniversary of the consecration of their church in 1943.

The words of the cantata are taken from the long poem **Jubilate Agno** by Christopher Smart (1722-1771), a deeply religious poet, but of a strange and unbalanced mind. It was written while Smart was in an asylum, and is chaotic in form but contains many flashes of genius.

It is a few of the finest passages that Britten has chosen to set to music. The main theme of the poem, and that of the cantata — indeed, of this entire service — is the worship of God, by all created beings and things, each in its own way.

The cantata is made up of ten short sections. The first sets the theme. The second gives a few examples of one person after another being summoned from the Old Testament to join with some creature in praising and rejoicing in God. The third is a quiet and ecstatic Hallelujah. In the fourth section Smart takes his beloved cat as an example of nature praising God by being simply what the Creator intended it to be. The same thought continues in the fifth section with the illustration of the mouse. The sixth section speaks of the flowers — "the poetry of Christ." In the seventh section Smart refers to his own troubles and suffering, but even these are an occasion for praising God, for it is through Christ that he will find his deliverance. The eighth section gives four letters from the alphabet, leading to a final chorus in section nine which speaks of musical instruments and music's praise of God. The final section repeats the Hallelujah.

Research on John Milton by Leonard Criminale;
notes of Christopher Smart by Walter Hussey.

Our thanks to Mrs. David Teeter for services
as chairman of the Reception Committee.

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