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The Cantata Singers

Will Wickham, Musical Director

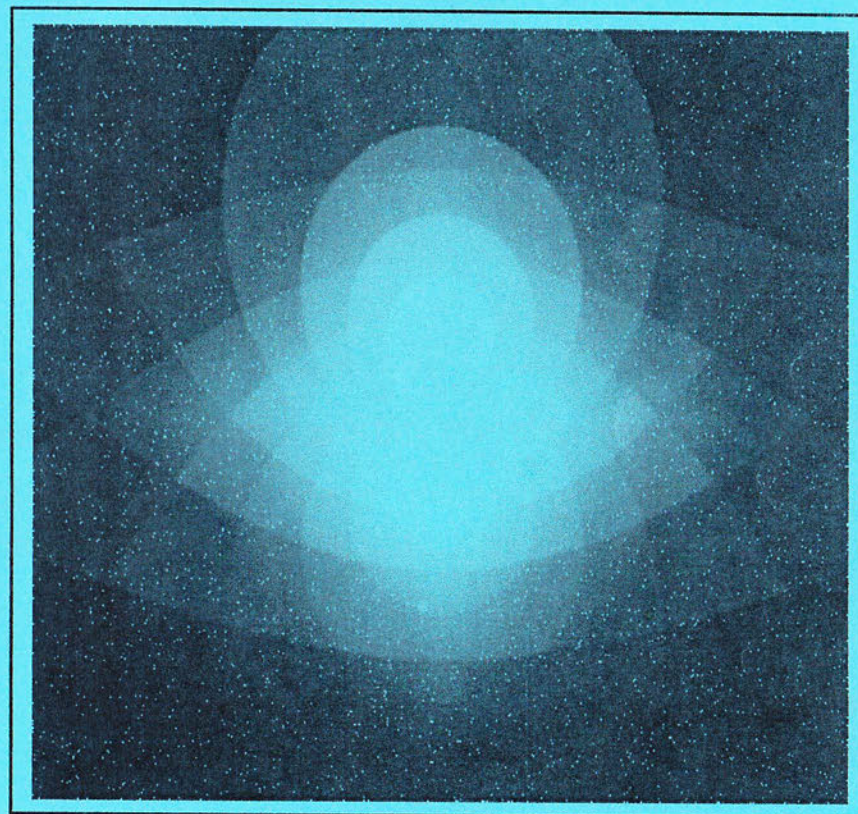
in collaboration with

Grace United Methodist Church

and the choir of

First Congregational Church of Corning

present



**“GLORIA! THE ADVENT
OF THE KING”**

5 December, 2010

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This project is made possible, in part, with funding from The New York State Council on the Arts' Decentralization Program administered locally by The ARTS Council of the Southern Finger Lakes.

Today's Program

Gloria Antonio Vivaldi

- 1. Gloria in excelsis 2. Et in terra pax
- 3. Laudamus te (duet) - Kathy Lovell & Cathy Hogan
- 4. Gratias agimus tibi 5. Propter magnam gloriam
- 6. Domine Deus (aria) - Susan B. Hartney 7. Domine Fili Unigenite
- 8. Domine Deus, Agnus Dei (aria & chorus) - Judy Raymond
- 9. Qui tollis 10. Qui sedes ad dexteram (aria) - Loueda Bleiler
- 11. Quoniam tu solus sanctus 12. Cum Sancto Spiritu

There will be a 15 minute intermission

Glory to God in the highest Randall Thompson

Still, Still, Still Traditional, arranged by John Rutter

Solo: Ruth Bruning Semi Chorus: Judy Raymond, Loueda Bleiler
Phyllis Bishop, Cathy Hogan, Kathy Lovell

What is this Fragrance? French Carol, arr. Dale Warland

Anita Pawlak - oboe

The Darkest Midnight in December Stephen Main

Dr. William Cowdery - organ

Carol of Joy Dan Forrest (music) & Eileen Berry (lyrics)

Never a Brighter Star Dan Forrest (music) & Eileen Berry (lyrics)

Frances McLaren - piano

Hosanna Dan Forrest

Please help welcome the Christmas season in singing these traditional carols

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

1) God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Savior
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

2) From God our heav'nly Father
A blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds
Brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

3) The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoiced much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding,
In tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway
This blessed babe to find:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

4) Now to the Lord sing praises, All you
within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All others doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Angels We Have Heard on High

1) Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains. *Refrain*
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

2) Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song. *Refrain*

3) Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Refrain*

4) See Him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While our hearts in love we raise. *Refrain*

Joy to the World!

1) Joy to the World! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2) Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3) No more let sins and sorrows grow,
No thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

4) He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

The Cantata Singers

Music Director Will Wickham

Rehearsal pianist Frances McLaren

Soprano

Ruth Bruning • Andrea Burch • Megan Donovan • Robin Fitzgerald
Susan B. Hartney • Cathy Hogan • Dottie Hoos • Kathy Lovell • Joy McFarland
Susan Nagle • Kathleen Turnbole

Alto

Phyllis Bishop • Loueda Bleiler • Katie Hicks • Martha Horton • Frances McLaren
Patricia Peters • Jane Poliseo • Cora Range • Judy Raymond • Ruellene Seymour

Tenor

Bill Brodgerski • Bruce Campbell • Michael Hartney • Felix Kapron
Tom McCloskey • Richard S. Perry • Gary Tucker

Bass

Hilary T. Godard • Graham Howard • Stephen Nagle • Joe Ponzi • Dave Rappleye
Dave Rosplock and special guest Dr. James Hudson

The Congregational Church Choir

Music Director Richard S. Perry
Accompanist Eleanor Perry

Soprano

Marcia Anthony • Beth Briggs • Laura Cooper • Cathy Hogan
Jan Kostolansky • Jill Palmer • Patricia Smith

Alto

Julie Albertalli • Barbara Cooper • Ellen Good • Kathryn Hoffman • Ruth Keck
Pamela Schmitt • Beverly Sokira • Liane Watson

Tenor

David Lambert • Donald Keck • Edgar Lewis • Eleanor Perry

Bass

Stephen Albertalli • Jeffery DeMeritt • John Hoffman • Thomas Palmer

the band - William Cowdery - organ • Anita Pawlak - oboe
John Cherill - trumpet • Frances McLaren - piano

Special thanks to Grace United Methodist Church, StanWyck productions
and Dr. James Hudson

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will.

So a choir of angels began a great tradition of sung praise literally at the dawn of the Christian era. These few words, sung to shepherds quietly tending flocks, continue to resound to this very day. Can we find a better way to join in this continuing chorus of praise?

It is with a great deal of pleasure that we are able to offer you this collection of carols and songs that remind us of that magnificent choir of angels, songs that evoke the joy and awe of the shepherds, the tenderness of the new mother's touch, the shivering of the infant Jesus in the cold Bethlehem night.

Antonio Vivaldi captures the rapture of the angels elegantly, simply and very powerfully in his much loved setting of the Roman Catholic Gloria text. Randall Thompson's "Glory to God in the highest" races excitedly, almost tripping over itself, in a 20th century invocation of the angel's song of pronouncement and praise. The traditional Austrian carol "Still, Still, Still", the traditional French carol "What is this Fragrance?" and Stephen Main's 2007 award winning carol "The Darkest Midnight in December" all speak to the sensual aspects of that long ago night. The tender way Mary cradles the Savior in her arms, the peaceful stillness of the night, the overwhelming joy of the shepherds even as they struggle to not wake the infant King.

We are particularly pleased to be able to present three works by Breeseport native Dan Forrest. "Carol of Joy" and "Never a Brighter Star" are both poignant looks back to the time of the Nativity. Poet Eileen Berry's texts provide fertile ground for Dan's powerful writing leading to a profound experience for both singer and listener. Forrest's "Hosanna" is simply intended to "reflect the irrepressible joy and celebration" that hails Christ as both Savior and King.

As is our custom in celebrating the Advent season, we encourage you to raise your voices in this unending stream of joy and praise. Please join us in our closing carols, the texts of which are printed in this program.

Most importantly, all of us wish each and every one of you, the most joyous and blessed Christmas this year.

Soli Deo Gloria!

Merry Christmas! Happy New year! Merry Christmas! Happy New year! Merry Christmas!

The Cantata Singers is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Our programs, including the Festival of Women in the Arts, are supported largely by tax-exempt contributions from our audiences and members of the Elmira-Corning communities. Please consider your gift of support to music and women's arts in our community from the following levels:

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