



*When All the Stars Held Their Breath*

**University of Mount Union Christmas Festival**

Sunday, December 1, 7 p.m.

University Circle United Methodist Church

Thursday, December 5, 11:15 a.m. | Friday, December 6, 7:30 p.m. | Saturday, December 7, 7:30 p.m.

Myers Sanctuary, Dewald Chapel

# Christmas at the University of Mount Union

With a distinguished legacy that is deeply rooted in the very history of the institution, the choral program at the University of Mount attracts attention wherever and whenever it performs. Crowds gather to take in the musical splendor of our student vocalists – on campus, in the community and around the world.

The study of music has played a significant role in the exceptional experience we provide at Mount Union since the very first days of the institution's 167-year history. It's fundamental to our philosophy, our liberal arts foundation and our mission to prepare students for fulfilling lives, meaningful work and responsible citizenship. Music is, without a doubt, a long-standing tradition at the University.

This evening, we join to hear the performances of our Concert Choir and Cantus Femina, two vocal ensembles that are integral components of our music program. Our annual holiday concert – a relatively new addition to the institution's rich history of musical performance – unites choral selections and traditional carols with scripture and readings of the season. This event is truly one-of-a-kind, and we, as listeners, have the great fortune of basking in its uniqueness. In past years, audiences have sung the praises of *Child of Light* and *The-Heart-in-Waiting*, and this year's *When All the Stars Held Their Breath* promises to be another outstanding performance that none of us will soon forget.

Thank you for joining us this evening. On behalf of the entire Mount Union community, I wish you a holiday season full of blessings and joy.

Sincerely,



Dr. Richard F. Giese  
President of the University of Mount Union

*We kindly ask that you hold your applause until after the singing of "Hymn to the Eternal Flame."*

*"Was there a moment, known only to God, when all the stars held their breath, when the galaxies paused in their dance for a fraction of a second, and the Word, who had called it all into being, went with all his love into the womb of a young girl, and the universe started to breathe again and the ancient harmonies resumed their song and the angels clapped their hands for joy?"* – Madeleine L'Engle from *Bright Evening Star*

## Organ Prelude

**Scripture Reading** .....Jeremiah 23: 5-6

"For the time is coming," says the Lord, "when I will raise a righteous Branch from King David's line. He will be a king who rules with wisdom. He will do what is just and right throughout the land. And this will be his name 'The Lord is Our Righteousness.'"

**O frondens virga** (12th Centry) ..... Hildegard von Bingen

O Branch, coming into leaf,  
Standing in your nobility,  
Just as dawn advances:  
Now rejoice and be glad,  
And deem us, helpless ones, worthy;  
Free us from evil habits,  
And even reach out your hand to lift us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:  
World without end. Amen.

## CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE

### **O, Come All Ye Faithful**

(the audience is invited to stand)

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him, born the King of Angels:  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God in the highest:  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given!  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

## Prayer of Invocation

### Lighting of the Advent Candle

**Reading** from "*Noël: Christmas Eve 1913*" ..... Robert Bridges

A frosty Christmas Eve when the stars were shining  
Fared I forth alone where westward falls the hill,  
And from many a village in the water'd valley  
Distant music reach'd me peals of bells aringing:  
The constellated sounds ran sprinkling on earth's floor  
As the dark vault above with stars was spangled o'er.

Then sped my thoughts to keep that first Christmas of all  
When the shepherds watching by their folds ere the dawn  
Heard music in the fields and marveling could not tell  
Whether it were angels or the bright stars singing.

**Sure On This Shining Night** ..... Z. Randall Stroope

Sure on this shining night of star made shadows round,  
Kindness must watch for me this side the ground.  
The late year lies down the north. All is healed, all is health.  
High summer holds the earth. Hearts all whole.  
Sure on this shining night I weep for wonder wand'ring far alone  
Of shadows on the stars.

**Scripture Reading** ..... Luke 2:8-12

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then the angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.

**Rise up, Shepherd, and Follow** .....African-American Spiritual, arr. Gordon Thornett

There's a star in the East on Christmas morn,  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
It will lead to the place where the Savior's born.  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Leave your sheep and leave your lambs.  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
Leave your ewes and leave your rams.  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
Follow, follow, rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
Follow the Star of Bethlehem,  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

If you take good heed to the angel's words,  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.  
You'll forget your flocks, you'll forget your herds,  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Leave your sheep and leave your lambs.  
Rise up, shepherd, and follow ...

**Scripture Reading** ..... Luke 2:13-14

And suddenly there was with the Angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

**Angel Alleluias** ..... Allan Bullard

When Christ was born of Maid Mary,  
In Bethlehem that fair city,  
Angels sung there with mirth and glee: Alleluia!

Some shepherds saw those angels bright,  
To them appeared with glorious light,  
And said: 'God's Son is born tonight!' Alleluia!

This King is come to save his kind,  
In Holy Scripture as we find,  
Therefore this song we have in mind: Alleluia!

Then, dearest Lord, for Thy great grace,  
Grant us the bliss to see Thy face,  
Where we may sing with all the human race: Alleluia!

**Reading "Shepherd's Song At Christmas"** ..... Langston Hughes

Look there at the star!  
I, among the least,  
Will arise and take  
A Journey to the East.  
But what shall I bring  
As a present for the King?  
What shall I bring to the Manger?

I will bring a song,  
A song that I will sing,  
A song for the King  
In the Manger

Watch out for my flocks,  
Do not let them stray.  
I am going on a journey  
Far, far away.  
But what shall I bring  
As a present for the Child?  
What shall I bring to the Manger?

I will bring a lamb,  
Gentle, meek, and mild,  
A lamb for the Child  
In the Manger.

I'm just a poor shepherd boy,  
Very poor I am —  
But I know there is  
A King in Bethlehem.  
But what shall I bring  
As a present for Him?  
What shall I bring to the Manger?

I will bring my heart  
And give my heart to Him.  
I will bring my heart  
To the Manger.

**CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE**

***While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks***

(The audience is invited to stand)

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground,  
The angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.

"Fear not!" said he, for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind.  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind."

"To you, in David's town, this day is born of David's line  
A Savior, who is Christ the Lord, and this shall be the sign."

"All glory be to God on high, and to the Earth be peace;  
Good will henceforth from Heaven to all begin and never cease!"

**Make a Joyful Noise** ..... René Clausen

Make a joyful noise unto God, sing and dance and be merry.  
Celebrate the birth of our savior: Alleluia!

Jesus the Lord is born, and He died to save us, to set us free.  
We are but sheep needing God as our shepherd, and we are free.

Enter heaven's gates with Thanksgiving, singing songs of praise,  
Give thanks to God and praise God's holy name.

For our God is good, God's mercy endures forever,  
And God's faithfulness endures, from generation to generation, from age to age.

Make a joyful noise unto God, sing and dance and be merry.  
Celebrate the birth of our savior: Alleluia! Amen.

**What Sweeter Music** ..... Eleanor Daley

What sweeter music can we bring,  
Than a carol, for to sing  
The birth of this our heavenly King?  
Awake the voice! Awake the string!

Dark and dull night, fly hence away,  
And give the honor to this day,  
That sees December turned to May.  
If we may ask the reason, say:

We see Him come, and know Him ours,  
Who, with His sunshine, and His showers,  
Turns all the patient ground to flowers.

The darling of the world is come,  
And fit it is, we find a room to welcome Him.  
The nobler part of all the house here, is the heart,

Which we will give Him; and bequeath  
This holly, and this ivy wreath,  
To do Him honor; who's our King,  
And Lord of all this reveling.

What sweeter music can we bring,  
Than a carol, for to sing  
The birth of this our heavenly King?  
Awake the voice! Awake the string!  
For this the birth of our heavenly King.

**There is No Rose** ..... Z. Randall Stroope

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu.  
*Alleluia.*

For in this rose contained was heaven and earth in little space.  
*Resmiranda.* (Wonderful circumstance)

The angels sungen the shepherds to:  
*Gloria in excelsis!* (Glory in the highest)

Now leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow we this joyous birth;  
*Transeamus Domini.* (Let us cross over to the Lord)  
*Alleluia.*

**The Sussex Carol**..... Traditional English Carol, arr. Corin T. Overland

On Christmas Night all people sing, to hear the news the angels bring.  
News of great joy, news of great mirth. News of our merciful King's birth!

Then why should all on earth be so sad, since our redeemer made us glad?  
News of great joy, news of great mirth. News of our merciful King's birth!

When from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty?  
News of great joy, news of great mirth. News of our merciful King's birth!

When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place.  
Angels and men with joy shall sing. All for to see the newborn king.

All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night:  
Alleluia! Glory to God and peace to men! Now and forever more, Amen!

**CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE**

***Hark! The Herald Angels Sing***

(The audience is invited to stand)

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King,  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With th' angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Deity,  
Pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

**Reading "What the Donkey Saw"** ..... U. A. Fanthorpe

No room in the inn, of course, and not that much in the stable,  
What with the shepherds, Magi, Mary, Joseph, the heavenly host –  
Not to mention the baby using our manger as a cot.  
You couldn't have squeezed another cherub in for love nor money.

Still, in spite of the overcrowding, I did my best to make them feel wanted.  
I could see the baby and I would be going places together.

## Is A Murmuring Dove Nearby?

Is a murmuring dove nearby as you sleep upon the hay?  
Like the dove that you will see coming down from parting skies?  
That day is far away, O child upon the hay,  
But in the stable I can hear a murmuring dove.

Is a donkey standing near as you sleep upon the hay?  
Like the donkey you will ride through the cheering pilgrim throng.  
That day is far away, O child upon the hay,  
But in the stable I can see a donkey stand.

Are the shadows deep and dark as you sleep upon the hay?  
Like the darkness that will fall though the sun is overhead.  
That day is far away, O child upon the hay,  
But in the stable I can see the shadows dark.

Does the morning sun break in as you sleep upon the hay?  
Like the sun of early dawn that reveals an empty tomb.  
That day is far away, O child upon the hay,  
But in the stable I can see the morning sun.

## CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE

### *The Friendly Beasts*

(The audience is invited to stand)

*for Jane*

Jesus our brother, kind and good, was humbly born in a stable rude,  
And the friendly beasts around Him stood, Jesus our brother, kind and good.

"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown, "I carried your mother up hill and down;  
I carried your mother to Bethlehem town." "I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

"I," said the cow all white and red, "I gave you my manger for your bed;  
I gave you my hay to pillow your head." "I," said the cow all white and red.

"I," said the sheep with curly horn, "I gave you my wool for your blanket warm;  
You wore my coat on Christmas morn." "I," said the sheep with curly horn.

"I," said the dove from the rafters high, "I cooed you to sleep so you would not cry;  
We cooed you to sleep, my mate and I." "I," said the dove from the rafters high.

Thus all the beasts by some good spell, in the stable dark were glad to tell  
Of the gifts they gave Immanuel, the gifts they gave Immanuel.

**Scripture Reading** ..... John 8:12 and 1 John 1:5

And Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life." This is the message we have heard from Him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all.

**This Little Light of Mine** ..... African American Spiritual, arr. Moses Hogan

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine.  
All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine.  
All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

My God gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.  
My God gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.  
My God gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine.  
In my home, all over the world, let it shine.

## Benediction

And now, may the Light of the Word shine upon your path and guide your way.  
May the Light watch over you and be a companion to you by night.  
May the Light burn in your hearts and shine through your lives by day.  
And through your living, may you be a witness of that Light to the world.

**Hymn to the Eternal Flame** ..... Stephen Paulus

Ev'ry face is in you, ev'ry voice, ev'ry sorrow in you,  
Ev'ry pity, ev'ry love, ev'ry mem'ry, woven into fire.

Ev'ry breath is in you, ev'ry cry, ev'ry longing in you,  
Ev'ry singing, ev'ry hope, ev'ry healing, woven into fire.

Ev'ry heart is in you, ev'ry tongue, ev'ry trembling in you,  
Ev'ry blessing, ev'ry soul, ev'ry shining, woven into fire.

## Organ Postlude

### Officiants

Dr. Grant William Cook III, Director of Choral Activities  
Rev. Dr. Kenneth Chalker '71, University Circle United Methodist Church  
Rev. Marty CashBurless, University Chaplain  
The Phillips Family (Carol '76 and Jesse '14 )  
The Eversdyke Family (Scott '96 and Katie '97)  
The Reichenberger Family  
Adina Haught, Visual and Performing Arts Administrative Assistant

### Collabortative Artists

James Mismas, organ  
Joanna Li, organ  
Kathy Reichenberger, piano  
Betty Schultz, oboe  
Heather Rice, flute  
Brianna Searing, flute  
Ian Bell, bassoon  
Keith Wilson, marimba and percussion  
Mark Amabeli, percussion

**University of Mount Union Concert Choir****Soprano**

Alex Augustine	Japanese and Theatre	Sophomore
Erin Bell	Neuroscience	Sophomore
Victoria Blankenship	Criminal Justice	Junior
Kacey Cooper	Music Education (voice)	Junior
Christine Culver	Biochemistry	Junior
Kimberly Dorka	Early Childhood Education	Senior
Alex Garner	Music Education (voice)	Senior
Marissa Gatsios	Biochemistry	Freshman
Joyanna Hoffman	Biochemistry	Senior
Rebecca Mann	Biochemistry	Junior
Kristen Morton	Music Education (voice)	Senior
Megan Ostrofsky	Theatre and Education	Sophomore
Natalie Ricciutti	Psychology	Sophomore
Jenna Scurich	Intervention Specialist	Sophomore
Jenna Waterman	Exercise Science	Sophomore
Devan Weckerly	Communication: Integrated Media	Sophomore
Brittany Wilk-Adams	Human Resource Management	Junior

**Alto**

Cresslyn DiRosa	Music (bassoon)	Senior
Caelyn Eppler	Music Education (voice)	Freshman
Bethany Herman	Environmental Science	Senior
Sarah Hohenadel	Biology	Sophomore
Demi Lohr	Music Education (piano)	Junior
Amanda Myhal	Biochemistry	Junior
Paige Morris	Music Performance (piano) and French	Sophomore
Taylor Nervo	Biology	Junior
Heather Rice	Music Education (flute)	Senior
Brianna Searing	Music Performance (flute)	Junior
Jana Sleutz	Exercise Science	Junior
Alexandra Waitinas	Music and Theatre	Sophomore
Haley Walls	Music Education (voice)	Sophomore
Theresa Waseity	Exercise Science	Sophomore

**Tenor**

Mark Amabeli	Mechanical Engineering	Junior
Tim Anderson	Marketing	Freshman
Ian Bell	Music Education (bassoon)	Senior
Nick Embrogno	Music Education (euphonium)	Sophomore
Christopher Jones	Music Education (clarinet)	Freshman
David Lenahan	Music and Theatre	Freshman
Ian LeRoy	Music Performance (piano)	Senior
Cody Raga	Religious Studies and Japanese	Sophomore
Jesse Reed	Chemistry	Freshman
Clinton Simmons III	Music Education (voice)	Freshman
Jacob Ward	Art and Education	Junior
Keith Wilson	Music Education (percussion)	Senior

**Bass/Baritone**

Sean Andrews	Music Education (voice)	Senior
Collin Edwards	Nursing	Freshman
Sean Eppler	Music Education (voice)	Senior
Bradley Geist	Criminal Justice	Freshman
Matt Gorman	English: Writing and Literature	Sophomore
Daniel Kravchenko	International Studies	Sophomore
Jason Lopez	Music Education (trumpet)	Freshman

Jesse Phillips	English: Writing and Religious Studies	Senior
Jacob Rogers	Psychology	Sophomore
Shawn Tyler II	Sport Business	Freshman
Tony Walsh	Religious Studies	Sophomore

**University of Mount Union Cantus Femina****Soprano I**

Amy Achenbach	History	Freshman
Alex Augustine	Japanese and Theatre	Sophomore
Shaigan Bhatti	Biochemistry	Sophomore
Victoria Blankenship	Criminal Justice	Junior
Kacey Cooper	Music Education (voice)	Junior
Sarah Croley	Communication and Japanese	Junior
Kimberly Dorka	Early Childhood Education	Senior
Alex Garner	Music Education (voice)	Senior
Kristen Morton	Music Education (voice)	Senior
Chie Nishshikawa	Accounting and Music	Sophomore
Devan Weckerly	Communication: Integrated Media	Sophomore

**Soprano II**

Allison Bates	Music Education (flute)	Sophomore
Erin Bell	Neuroscience	Sophomore
Ashley Detweiler	Exercise Science	Freshman
Sarah Filipovich	Integrated Media	Sophomore
Jacqueline Jepsen	Biochemistry	Freshman
Demi Lohr	Music Education (piano)	Junior
Megan Ostrofsky	Theater and Education	Sophomore
Natalie Ricciutti	Psychology	Sophomore
Madison Sikyta	Athletic Training	Freshman
Mary Anne Snyder	Early Childhood Education	Freshman
Rebecca Steele	Japanese and International Business	Sophomore
Brittany Wilk-Adams	Human Resource Management	Junior
Alexandra Waitinas	Music and Theatre	Sophomore
Sarah Yannie	Theatre	Freshman

**Alto**

Rachael Beach	Early Childhood Education and Music	Sophomore
Caitlin Corfias	Accounting	Senior
Cresslyn DiRosa	Music (bassoon)	Senior
Alysea Dunham	Music Education (voice)	Freshman
Caelyn Eppler	Music Education (voice)	Freshman
Kelsey Foegen	Japanese and German	Sophomore
Abbie Fox	Undecided	Freshman
Katharina Heuring	International Cultural and Business Studies	Junior (Germany)
Sarah Hohenadel	Biology	Sophomore
Miranda Huebner	Early Childhood Education	Sophomore
McKenzie Marchand	Early Childhood Education	Junior
Cassie McIntosh	National Security/Foreign Intelligence Analysis and French	Junior

Paige Morris	Music Performance (piano) and French	Sophomore
Taylor Nervo	Biology	Junior
Becky Palmer	Music Education (voice)	Freshman
Rebecca Passer	International Studies	Freshman
Heather Rice	Music Education (flute)	Senior
Haley Walls	Music Education (voice)	Sophomore



1972 Clark Ave. • Alliance, OH • 44601-3993

[www.mountunion.edu](http://www.mountunion.edu)