

Where the Light Begins

Dr. Grant William Cook III, Artistic Director



2021 UNIVERSITY OF MOUNT UNION CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL

Brush Performance Hall, Giese Center for the Performing Arts

Thursday, December 9, 11:15 a.m. | Friday, December 10, 7:30 p.m. | Saturday, December 11, 7:30 p.m.

Where the Light Begins

Upon the night view of the world, a day must follow

—quoted in *The Many Moods of Christmas* by Howard Thurman



We kindly ask that you hold your applause until after the singing of Silent Night.

Lighting of the Peace Candle

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.

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.

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.

Lost in the Night

Finnish Folk Tune, arr. Kyle S. Haugen

Lost in the night do the people yet languish,
Longing for morning the darkness to vanquish,
Plaintively heaving a sigh full of anguish.
Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?

Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow?
Shall those who have light no light let us borrow,
Giving no heed to our burden of sorrow?
Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?

Sorrowing wanderers, in darkness yet dwelling,
Dawned has the day of a radiance excelling,
Death's dreaded darkness forever dispelling.
Christ is coming soon! Christ is coming soon!

Will not day come soon?
Come and save us soon!
Christ is coming soon!

Nunc Dimittis

Paul Smith

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
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.

Reading: "The Singing of Angels"

Howard Thurman

There must be always remaining in every [person's] life some place for the singing of angels—some place for that which in itself is breathlessly beautiful and by an inherent prerogative throwing all the rest of life into a new and creative relatedness. Something that gathers up in itself all the freshets of experience from drab and commonplace areas of living and glows in one bright white light of penetrating beauty and meaning—then passes. The commonplace is shot through now with new glory—old burdens become lighter, deep and ancient wounds lose much of their old, old hurting. A crown is placed over our heads that for the rest of our lives we are trying to grow tall enough to wear. Despite all the crassness of life, despite all the hardness of life, despite all of the harsh discords of life, life is saved by the singing of angels.

When Angels Sing

Mark Miller

Within each lifetime an angel's voice is heard;
celestial sounds pierce time and space.
For just a moment, the breathless beauty
of heaven's song reveals God's grace.

*Peace in our hearts, peace when angels sing,
peace, be still and listen, heart.
Listen when angels sing.*

Despite our sorrow, the dawn brings life anew;
and raging storms begin to cease.
For just a moment, the breathless beauty
of heaven's song brings us peace.

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Craig Courtney

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
The Savior, who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign."

"The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid."

"All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace;
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to earth
Begin and never cease!"

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.

And You Will Sleep

Philip Biedenbender

The walls of a stable are not worthy of a king.
You come, little one,
borne on the songs of angels,
the echoes of prophets,
and the light of a strange star.

Do not cry, though you must lie
on this rough, unforgiving wood.
You will be wrapped in lengths of linen,
and you will sleep.

Being found in human form,
he humbled himself,
becoming obedient to death,
yes, the death of the cross.

Though you must lie
on this rough, unforgiving wood,
you will be wrapped in lengths of linen,
and you will sleep.

These walls are not worthy of a king, little one,
but your kingdom is not of this world.

CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

(The audience is invited to stand)

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn 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 newborn 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 newborn King!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun 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 newborn King!"

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,
When from our sin he set us free,
All for to gain our liberty?

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:
"Glory to God and peace to men,
Now and forever more. Amen!"

Reading: "I Will Light Candles This Christmas"

Howard Thurman

Candles of joy despite all the sadness,
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,
Candles of courage for fears ever present,
Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love to inspire all my living,
Candles that will burn all year long.

This Little Light of Mine

African American Spiritual, arr. Robert T. Gibson

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.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go, 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.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Where The Light Begins

Susan LaBarr

Perhaps it does not begin.
Perhaps it is always.

Perhaps it takes
a lifetime
to open our eyes,
to learn to see
what has forever
shimmered in front of us—

the luminous line
of the map
in the dark

the vigil flame
in the house
of the heart

the love
so searing
we cannot keep
from singing,
from crying out
in testimony
and praise.

Perhaps this day
will be the mountain
over which
the dawn breaks.

Perhaps we
will turn our face
toward it,
toward what has been
always.

Perhaps
our eyes
will finally open
in ancient recognition,
willingly dazzled,
illuminated at last.

Perhaps this day
the light begins
in us.

Nes Gadol Haya Sham

Traditional Yiddish Folk Song

A great miracle happened there.
When the temple had been cleansed, sanctified and purified,
Then the miracle occurred, down through the ages glorified.
Oh Hanukkah, what joy you are bringing,
A time meant for singing.
Every day the dreidel is spinning around,
Every voice is lifted in Hanukkah sound.
And brightly the candles remind us of Hanukkah lore,
Each candle makes a glorious sight to recall the heroes of yore.

Try to love your neighbors actively and tirelessly. The more you succeed in loving, the more you'll be convinced of the existence of God and the immortality of your soul. And if you reach complete selflessness in the love of your neighbor, then undoubtedly you will believe, and no doubt will be able to enter your soul. This has been tested. It is certain.

Silent Night

Peter Anglea

Silent night, holy night,
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing, Alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born,
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light;
Radiant beams from thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Postlude: Joy to the World

setting by Michael Burkhardt

Artistic Director

*Dr. Grant William Cook III
Margaret Morgan Ramsey Professor in Music
Director of Choral Activities

Collaborative Artists

Peyton Zamarelli, soprano
*Amy Haines, piano and keyboard
Allie Rudman, flute
*David Duro, trumpet
Rachel Vaughan, trumpet
Sam Darrin, trombone
Joshua Clay, trombone
*Jeff Neitze, timpani and percussion

Officers

Performing Arts Administrative Assistant, Jennifer Francis
University of Mount Union President and First Lady, Dr. Thomas and Vanessa Botzman
The VanNatta Family: Corrine ('23), Cole ('23), Colleen, and Chris

Readers

Peyton Zamarelli
Addie Wisniewski
Lexi Smith
Kollin Klingler

Concert Choir

Soprano

Ashley Burtscher	Public Relations	Junior	Hoover H.S.
Hannah Botzman	Exercise Science	Junior	Independence H.S.
Grace Clark	Primary Education	First Year	Jackson H.S.
Schuyler Hollenbach	Music and Theatre	First Year	Loudonville H.S.
Allyson Pedone	Art	Junior	Hoover H.S.
Maya Polen	Biology (Pre-med)	Junior	Perry H.S.
Bailey Poths	Marketing and Management	First Year	Fairless H.S.
Michaela Ross	Music education (voice)	First Year	Southeast H.S.
Allison Rudman	Music Education (instrumental)	First Year	Stow-Munroe Falls H.S.
Sally Renee Tausch	Music and Theater	First Year	Heartland Christian
Corrine VanNatta	Biology	Senior	Hoover H.S.
Sage Warner	Biology and Psychology	First Year	Penn Hills H.S. (PA)
Peyton Zamarelli	Music(voice) and Public Relations	Senior	West Branch H.S.

Alto

Gabrielle Darrin	Music Education (vocal)	Senior	Howland H.S.
Chloe Dragos	Integrated Media	Junior	Perry H.S.
Claire Gardner	Mechanical Engineering	Senior	Woodridge H.S.
Gwyneth Hollenbach	Music (oboe)	Senior	Loudonville H.S.
Natalie Kaufman	Music Education (instrumental)	Senior	Conneaut H.S.
Aaliyah Kinnard	Primary Education	Sophomore	Hoover H.S.
Danielle Lebo	Music Education (vocal)	Sophomore	East Canton H.S.
Tiffany Schaumberg	Biology	Junior	Wayne Central H.S. (NY)
Rachel Vaughan	Music (composition)	Senior	Minerva, H.S.
Taylor White	Music Education (vocal)	Sophomore	Green H.S.
Brihauna Johnson	Theatre	Sophomore	Woodridge H.S.
Anna Zumbar	History and Spanish	Junior	Alliance H.S.
Hailey Cszmadia	Mechanical Engineering	Junior	Highland H.S.
Jackie Sullivan	Primary Education	Junior	Hoover H.S.

Tenor

Armon Cook	Political Science	Senior	Firestone H.S.
Alex Glauthier IV	Finance	Junior	Northwest H.S.
Kollin Klingler	Music Education (vocal)	Senior	Bryan H.S.
Ian Kinaitis	Middle Childhood Education	Sophomore	Green H.S.
Joseph Lombard Jr.	Undeclared	First Year	Wickliffe H.S.
Malik Peloso	Music Education (vocal)	Junior	Massillon H.S.
Riley Sampson	Nursing	Junior	Marlington H.S.
Nathaniel Teall	Music Education (vocal)	Senior	Massillon H.S.
Lance Tomasko	Music Education (vocal)	Junior	Woodridge H.S.
Micah Walker	Electrical Engineering	Junior	Home School
Benjamin Wykoff	Music Education (vocal)	Junior	Jackson H.S.
Cole VanNatta	Accounting and Finance	Junior	Hoover H.S.

Bass/Baritone

Mark Bruns	Computer Engineering	Senior	Upper Arlington H.S.
Joshua Clay	Music (composition)	First Year	GlenOak H.S.
Xae Cloud	Political Science and Philosophy	Senior	Lima Senior H.S.
Sam Darrin	Music Education (vocal)	Sophomore	Howland H.S.
Caleb Dawson	Marketing	Sophomore	Seneca Valley H.S. (PA)
Matthew Eversdyke	Music Education (voice)	First Year	Alliance H.S.
Cameron Hough	Neuroscience	First Year	Medina H.S.
Matthew Korver	Theatre and Music	First Year	Geneva H.S.
Jo Minns	Music Education (voice)	Senior	St. John School
Joshua Morris	Music Education (instrumental)	Sophomore	Jackson H.S.
Andrew Reeve	Music Education (vocal) and History	Senior	Grand Valley H.S.
Seth Tackett	Theatre	First Year	Rittman H.S.
Caleb Thurman	Political Science	Senior	Firestone H.S.

Cantus

Soprano 1

Madi Bidingr	Exercise Science	First Year	Wadsworth H.S.
Ashley Burtscher	Public Relations	Junior	Hoover H.S.
Hannah Botzman	Exercise Science	Junior	Independence H.S.
Grace Clark	Primary Education	First Year	Jackson H.S.
Chloe Laszlo	Japanese and Integrated Media	First Year	Primavera H.S. (AZ)
Maya Polen	Biology (Pre-med)	Junior	Perry H.S.
Michaela Ross	Music Education (vocal)	First Year	Southeast H.S.
Allison Rudman	Music Education (instrumental)	First Year	Stow-Munroe Falls H.S.
Emily Schaar	English and French	Sophomore	Carrollton H.S.
Erin Smith	Exercise Science	Sophomore	Dover H.S.
Sally Renee Tausch	Music and Theatre	First Year	Heartland Christian
Sage Warner	Biology and Psychology	First Year	Penn Hills H.S. (PA)

Soprano 2

Julia Bricker	Japanese and Theatre	First Year	United Local H.S.
Gabrielle Darrin	Music Education (vocal)	Senior	Howland H.S.
Jocelyn Eber	Biology (Pre-vet)	Sophomore	Commodore Perry H.S.
Hannah Gillis	Human Development/Family Science	Senior	Mother of Divine Grace
Emily Maroni	Chemistry	Junior	Boardman H.S.
Emma Peak	Education	First Year	Mogadore H.S.
Alyssa Portzer	Music Education (instrumental)	Junior	Grand Valley H.S.
Bailey Poths	Marketing and Management	First Year	Fairless H.S.
Autumn Schiemer	International Studies and Diplomacy	Sophomore	Blackhawk H.S.
Corrine VanNatta	Biology	Senior	Hoover H.S.
Tessa Wells	Primary Education	Junior	West Branch H.S.
Taylor White	Music Education (vocal)	Sophomore	Green H.S.
Peyton Zamarelli	Music (voice) and Public Relations	Senior	West Branch H.S.

Alto

Amy Ali	Theatre and English	Sophomore	Lutheran West H.S.
Arianna Bloom	Music (cello)	First Year	Lake H.S.
Madison Crawford	Sport Business	First Year	Dover H.S.
Chloe Dragos	Integrated Media	Junior	Perry H.S.
Katelyn Fraley	Music Education (instrumental)	First Year	GlenOak H.S.
Ali Galehouse	Spanish and Psychology	Senior	Woodridge H.S.
Victoria Hahn	Nursing	First Year	Seneca Valley H.S.
Izzy Hoyt	Psychology and Intl. Security and Foreign Intel. Analysis	First Year	East Liverpool H.S.
Aaliyah Kinnard	Primary Education	Sophomore	Hoover H.S.
Kollin Klingler	Music Education (vocal)	Senior	Bryan H.S.
Kate Kueter	Engineering	First Year	City High (IA)
Danielle Lebo	Music Education (vocal)	Sophomore	East Canton H.S.
Aleya Mims	Biology	Senior	Struthers H.S.
Tiffany Schaumberg	Biology	Junior	Wayne Central H.S. (NY)
Madison Scott	Theatre	Sophomore	GlenOak H.S.
Marissa Scott	English	Sophomore	United Local H.S.
Lexi Smith	English and Spanish	Junior	Louisville H.S.
Emma Staley	English	Sophomore	Beaver Local H.S.
Maddy Wilke	Public Relations	Sophomore	Valley Forge H.S.
Addie Wisniewski	Music and Theatre	Junior	Highland H.S.
Anna Zumbar	History and Spanish	Junior	Alliance H.S.

