



“The Heart - In - Waiting”

University of Mount Union Christmas Festival

Friday, December 7, 7:30 p.m. | Saturday, December 8, 7:30 p.m.

Myers Sanctuary, Dewald Chapel



Christmas at the University of Mount Union

Since the institution's founding in 1846, the study of music has played a significant role in the exceptional experience we provide – it's fundamental to our philosophy, our mission and our liberal arts foundation. Music is, without a doubt, a long-standing tradition at the University of Mount Union.

Dating back to the earliest days in the history of the institution, the choral program has built a legacy that is both distinguished and celebrated. It has been and remains a vital component of the educational experience that we offer, and for years, it has provided our students with an outlet for their talents and our community with an opportunity to enjoy their performances. Today, crowds continue to gather on campus, in the community and around the world to witness the splendor of our student vocalists' harmonious melodies first hand.

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, as they add to the already-rich history of choral performance. As the choral program establishes a new tradition – a holiday concert that unites choral selections and traditional carols with scripture and readings of the season – we as the listeners reap the rewards. Last year, audiences sang the praises of *Child of Light*, and this year, *The-Heart-in-Waiting* promises to be another outstanding event 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 "Silent Night."

"The Heart-In-Waiting"

Organ Prelude

Come To The Water John Foley, S.J.
arr. Lynda Hasseler

O let all who thirst, let them come to the water.
And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord: without
money, without price.
Why should you pay the price, except for the Lord?

And let all who seek, let them come to the water.
And let all who have nothing, let them come to the Lord: without
money without strife.
Why should you spend your life, except for the Lord?

And let all who toil, let them come to the water.
And let all who are weary, let them come to the Lord: all who labor
without rest.
How can your soul find rest, except for the Lord?

And let all the poor, let them come to the water.
Bring the ones who are laden, bring them all to the Lord: bring the
children without might.
Easy the load and light, come to the Lord.

Scripture Reading Hosea 6:3

Let us acknowledge the Lord; let us press on to acknowledge him. As
surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter
rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.

CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE

O, Come All Ye Faithful
(the audience is invited to stand)

Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the king of angels:
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, 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:
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Prayer of Invocation

O Lord, we are thirsty, sightless, weary and empty-spirited. The blare of
the seasonal call to spend ourselves silly is affecting not only our hear-
ing and normally reasonable judgment, but draining our spirits and
keeping us focused on the surface and not on the deeper message of
this season. Fill us now, O Lord, with your everlasting love and hope
that we may find our way home to the heart of our faith. This is our
fervent prayer. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Reading "The Incarnation" C. S. Lewis

In the Christian story God descends to reascend. He comes down;
down from the heights of absolute being into time, and space, down
into humanity; down further still, if embryologists are right, to reca-
pitulate in the womb ancient and pre-human phases of life; down to
the very roots and seabed of the Nature He has created. But He goes
down to come up again and bring the whole ruined world up with
Him. One has the picture of a strong man stooping lower and lower
to get himself underneath some great complicated burden. He must
stoop in order to lift, he must almost disappear under the load before
he incredibly straightens his back and marches off with the whole
mass swaying on his shoulders . . .

Gloria! Nancy Hill Cobb

Glory to God in the highest.
And on earth peace to those of good will.
We praise thee. We bless thee.
We worship thee. We glorify thee.
We give thanks to thee because of thy great glory.





Scripture Reading Isaiah 7:13-15

Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good."

Alpha to Omega..... Ian Kellam

Alpha and Omega born in this moment.
Cradled in the hands of God lies a baby,
Lulled by the voice of a Nazarene girl;
Guarded by the love and strength of a carpenter
Setting all the stars awhirl.

Dreaming on a hill-slope outside of Bethlehem,
Bathed in the light of a brightening star;
Shepherds awakned by armies of trumpeters
Thrill to the heavenly choir.

Alpha and Omega born in this moment
Bringing forever the grace of God's Son,
Power unimagined beamed from the heavens
Sees God in mankind and mankind with God one.

High in the air flash fiery-eyed Seraphim,
Angels and cherubim stream through the skies.
Commanders of heaven stir earth's sleepy weariness:
See how the startled arise.

Weary with travel, and foot-sore at journey's end,
Strangers come riding across wind swept sands;
Men who rule kingdoms now kneel to the child of light.
God's love lies here in this land.
Alpha and Omega; born.

What Child..... Paul W. Lohman

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
On Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
While shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The babe, the son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Hail, hail the Word Made Flesh,
The babe, the son of Mary!

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh;
Come, peasant, king, to own Him!
The King of Kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him!
This, this is Christ the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Joy! joy! for Christ is born,
The babe, the son of Mary!

CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE

Infant Lowly, Infant Holy
(the audience is invited to stand)

Infant holy, infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a Gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow,
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Reading "Bird Psalm" U. A. Fanthorpe

The Swallow said,
He comes like me,
Longed for; unexpectedly.

The superficial eye
Will pass him by,
Said the Wren.

The best singer ever heard.
No one will take much notice,
Said the Blackbird.

The Owl said,
He is who, who is he
Who enters the heart as soft
As my soundless wings, as me.

The White OwlDoug Brandt

High in the rafters, on an old yellow beam,
A white owl peers out from under her wing.
Disturbed on this night, as a hundred before,
By the jangle of strangers at the poor stable door.

A musty gray donkey and women step in,
Behind them a man with a cloak worn too thin.
The donkey finds hay and barley to eat,
While the man helps the woman stamp snow from her feet.



But the two never leave, as the hundred before,
The man spreads his cloak on the hard earthen floor.
He gathers some hay and a grain sack instead,
And carefully fashions a crude lowly bed.

And far overhead, as a star starts to sing,
For a long night of hunting, a white owl takes wing.

Sleep Little Baby Bryan Kelly
in memoriam, Donna Michalek

Sleep little baby, clean as a nut,
Your fingers uncurl and your eyes are shut.
Your life was ours, which is with you.
Go on your journey. We go too.

The bat is flying round the house
Like an umbrella turned into a mouse.
The moon is astonished and so are the sheep:
Their bells have come to send you to sleep.

O be our rest, our hopeful start.
Turn your head to my beating heart.
Sleep little baby, clean as a nut,
Your fingers uncurl and your eyes are shut.

There Is No Rose René Clausen
for Elaine

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;
Res miranda. (Wonderful circumstance.)

By that rose we may well see there be one God in persons three,
Pares forma. (Equal beauty.)

The angels sang the shepherds to: *Gloria in excelsis deo!*
Gaudeamus. (Let us rejoice.)

Then leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow we this joyous birth;
Transeamus. (Let us cross over.)

Reading "Robin's Round" U. A. Fanthorpe

I am the proper
Bird for the season —
Not blessed St Turkey,
Born to be eaten.

I'm man's inedible
Permanent bird.
I dine in his garden,
My spoon is his spade.

I'm the true token
Of Christ the Child-King:
I nest in man's stable,
I eat at man's table,
Through all his dark winters
I sing.

Deepest Heart[†] David Childs

Morning dawns, the moment of wonder,
The threshold of darkness and light.
The cardinals, the robins ask to live.
God gives them breath and opens their eyes.
The birds begin to dance and sing.

When Gabriel told Mary of God's plan,
She was filled with doubt and fear.
The angel assured her, "So it will be."
She listened to her deepest heart.
"Here I am, the servant of the Lord."

"Here we are!" Help us to see
The sacred place in every heart,
Where God's truth and glory meet our despair,
Where angels say, "Do not be afraid,"
Where God has planted the seed of love.

God calls us to open our eyes,
To see the Divine in ourselves and each other,
To welcome the stranger, say "Yes" to the outcast.
May the loneliness and darkness of this life
Vanish in love's healing light.

Let us dance and sing with the first birds of morning,
God is with us, God of love; God, our hope, and God, our light.

CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE

Sussex Carol

(the audience is invited to stand)

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

All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night;
All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night;
"Glory to God and peace to all, now and for evermore. Amen!"

Scripture Reading John 1:1-5

The Word was first, the Word present to God, God present to the Word.
The Word was God, in readiness for God from day one. Everything
was created through him; nothing—not one thing!—came into being
without him. What came into existence was Life, and the Life was
Light to live by. The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness
couldn't put it out.



El Cielo CantaTraditional Argentinian Carol
arr. by Ed Henderson

The heavens sing "alleluia," Alleluia!
For the glory of God shines in your life and mine. Alleluia!

The heavens sing "alleluia," Alleluia!
For the love of God unites your life and mine. Alleluia!

Scripture Reading Philipians 2:5-8

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross.

Reading "The Heart-in-Waiting"..... Kevin Crossley-Holland

Jesus walked through whispering wood:
'I am pale blossom, I am blood berry,
I am rough bark, I am sharp thorn,
This is the place where you will be born.'

Jesus went down to the skirl of the sea:
'I am long reach, I am fierce comber,
I am keen saltspray, I am spring tide.'
He pushed the cup of the sea aside

And heard the sky which breathed-and-blew:
'I am the firmament, I am shape-changer,
I cradle and carry and kiss and roar,
I am infinite roof and floor.'

All day he walked, he walked all night,
Then Jesus came to the heart at dawn.
'Here and now,' said the heart-in-waiting,
'This is the place where you must be born.'

Jesus, Springing.....Bob Chilcott

I am the heart that houses the cone
I am the cone enclosing the cedar
I am the cedar sawn for the cradle

*forest of the body
body of the tree*

I am the cradle rocking the baby
I am the baby containing the man
I am the man nailed on the cross

*tree of the body
body of the forest*

I am the cross sawn from the cedar
I am the cedar enclosed in the cone
I am the cone housed in the heart

*here in my heart
Jesus, springing*

Benediction

You are loved without measure, you are treasured above all else, in you lives the very heart of God. Be the living, beating Heart of love to all you encounter, now and always. Amen.

CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE

Silent Night

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, Heav'nly 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.

Organ Postlude

†Ohio premiere

Officiants

Dr. Grant William Cook III, Director of Choral Activities
Rev. Marty CashBurless, University Chaplain
Rev. Dr. James H. Ritchie '73, Center United Methodist Church,
Natrona Heights, PA
Dr. and Mrs. Richard Giese
The Eppler Family: Craig '83, Laurie (Moorman '84), Sean '14 and Caelyn

Collaborative Artists

James Mismas, organ
Kathy Reichenberger, piano
Dr. Elaine Anderson, cello
Megan Smith, mezzo-soprano
Ian LeRoy, conductor
Heather Rice, flute
Brianna Searing, flute
Keith Wilson, percussion
Mark Amabeli, percussion

University of Mount Union Concert Choir

Soprano

Erin Bell	Criminal Justice	Freshman
Victoria Blankenship	Criminal Justice	Sophomore
Sarah Briggs	Early Childhood Education	Freshman
Kacey Cooper	Music Education (voice)	Sophomore
Kimberly Dorka	Early Childhood Education	Junior
Alex Garner†	Music Performance (voice)	Junior
Christina Linder	Human Development and Family Science	Sophomore
Rebecca Mann	Biochemistry	Sophomore
Kristen Morton†	Music Education (voice)	Junior
Stephanie Porten*	English: Writing	Senior
Natalie Ricciutti	Psychology	Freshman
Jenna Scurich	Intervention Specialist and Early Childhood Education	Freshman
Kelsey Tomlinson*	Communication	Senior
Jenna Waterman	Biology	Freshman

Alto

Maya Brown	English: Writing	Sophomore
Cresslyn DiRosa†	Music Education (bassoon)	Junior
Kayleigh Eddy	Music Education (violin)	Senior
Bethany Herman	Environmental Science	Junior
Joyanna Hoffman	Biochemistry	Junior
Jessica Kostrab*	Geology	Senior
Erin Miller†	Music Education (trumpet)	Junior
Amanda Myhal	Biochemistry	Sophomore
Taylor Nervo	Biology	Sophomore
Brianna Searing	Music Education (cello)	Sophomore
Jana Sleutz	Psychology	Sophomore
Megan Smith*	Communication	Senior
Courtney Wachal	French and International Studies	Sophomore
Haley Walls	Music Education (voice)	Freshman
Lacy Walsh	Psychology	Junior
Theresa Waseity	Biology	Freshman

Tenor

Mark Amabeli	Mechanical Engineering	Sophomore
Matt Amabeli	Computer Science	Senior
Ian Bell†	Music Education (bassoon)	Junior
Ian LeRoy†	Music Education (piano)	Junior
William Mitchell	Religious Studies	Junior
Cody Raga	Religious Studies	Freshman
Jeff Slater*	Biochemistry and Psychology	Senior
Josh Sleutz*	Human Resource Management, Accounting and Management	Senior
Jacob Ward	Art	Sophomore
Andrew Whitman	Music Education (trumpet)	Junior
Keith Wilson	Music Education (percussion)	Junior

Bass/Baritone

Sean Andrews†	Music Education (voice)	Junior
Ryan Chinrock*	Japanese	Senior
Kyle Crowley*	Physics	Senior
Kyle Edwards*	Biochemistry	Senior

Sean Eppler†	Music Education (voice)	Junior
Matt Gorman	English: Writing	Freshman
Will Hollingsworth	Middle Childhood Education	Sophomore
Jesse Phillips	English: Writing and Religious Studies	Junior
Tyler Portner	Communication	Freshman
Jacob Rogers	Psychology	Freshman
Tony Walsh	Religious Studies	Freshman

University of Mount Union Cantus Femina

Soprano

Alexandra Augustine	Japanese	Freshman
Erin Bell	Criminal Justice	Freshman
Shaigan Bhatti	Biochemistry	Freshman
Victoria Blankenship	Criminal Justice	Sophomore
Kacey Cooper	Music Education (voice)	Sophomore
Sarah Croley	Communication	Sophomore
Christine Culver	Biochemistry	Sophomore
Kimberly Dorka	Early Childhood Education	Junior
Alex Garner	Music Performance (voice)	Junior
Kaitlyn Goldsmith	Biology	Freshman
Joyanna Hoffman	Biochemistry	Junior
Christina Linder	Human Development and Family Science	Sophomore
Demi Lohr	Music Education (piano)	Sophomore
Amanda Manley	Art	Senior
Kristen Morton	Music Education (voice)	Junior
Rebecca Steele	Japanese	Freshman
Kelsey Tomlinson*	Communication	Senior
Devan Weckerly	Communication	Freshman
Brittany Wilk-Adams	Biology	Sophomore

Alto

Emily Bowman	Undeclared	Freshman
Caitlin Corfias	Accounting	Sophomore
Rachael Davis	Psychology	Senior
Kayleigh Eddy	Music Education (violin)	Senior
Kelsey Foegen	Japanese and German	Freshman
Elizabeth Glanemann	Music Education	Freshman
Sarah Hohenadel	Biology	Freshman
Miranda Hueber	Early Childhood Education	Freshman
McKenzie Marchand	Early Childhood Education	Sophomore
Corinne Midlik*	History	Senior
Erin Miller	Music Education (trumpet)	Junior
Paige Morris	Music Performance (piano)	Freshman
Taylor Nervo	Biology	Sophomore
Nicole Perry	Psychology	Freshman
Heather Rice	Music Education (flute)	Junior
Jessica Ritchie	Music Education (trumpet)	Senior
Brianna Searing	Music Education (cello)	Sophomore
Megan Smith*	Communication	Senior
Kimber Stevenson	Music Education (euphonium)	Senior
Alexandra Waitinas	Music Education (trumpet)	Freshman
Lacey Walsh	Psychology	Junior

*Choral Letter Recipient

†Section Leader



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