

Sounds of Christmas
University Singers and Knights Chorus

Wednesday, December 4, 2024 at 7:30pm
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Pacific Lutheran University
The College of Professional Studies and School of Music, Theatre & Dance present

Sounds of Christmas

University Singers
Raul Dominguez, *conductor*

Knights Chorus
Barry Johnson, *conductor*

Justin Murphy-Mancini, *organ* • Amy Boers and Mariyka Vasilchuk, *piano*

Wednesday, December 4, 2024 at 7:30pm
Lagerquist Concert Hall, Mary Baker Russell Music Center

Welcome to Lagerquist Concert Hall.
Please disable the audible signal on all watches and cellular phones for the duration of the concert.
Use of cameras, recording equipment, and all digital devices is not permitted in the concert hall.

PROGRAM

(Please hold applause until the conclusion of the concert)

Prelude: An Old Christmas Carol.....Elizabeth Mounsey (1819-1905)
Justin Murphy-Mancini, *organ*

Processional: Once in Royal David's City

Verse 1: Katherine Marchant, *soloist*

Once in royal David's City
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

Verse 2: All

He came down to earth from heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,

And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

Verse 3: All

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high;
When like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Reading: Advent.....Thomas Merton (1915-1968)
Hudson Groom, *reader*

Charm with your stainlessness
these winter nights,
Skies, and be perfect!
Fly vividly in the fiery dark, you quiet meteors,
And disappear.
You moon, be slow to go down,
This is your full!

The four white roads make off in silence
Towards the four parts of the starry universe.
Time falls like manna
at the corners of the wintry earth.
We have become more humble than the rocks,
More wakeful than the patient hills.

Charm with your stainlessness
these nights in Advent, holy spheres,
While minds, as meek as beasts,
Stay close at home in the sweet hay;
And intellects are quieter
than the flocks that feed by starlight.

Oh pour your darkness and your brightness
over all our solemn valleys,
You skies:
and travel like the gentle Virgin,
Toward the planets' stately setting,

Oh white full moon as quiet as Bethlehem!

Knights Chorus

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime **17th Century French Folk Song**
arr. John Helgen

Kade Levien, *flute*

Wassail Song..... **English Carol**
arr. J. Edmund Hughes

There is no rose of such virtue **15th Century English Carol**

Reading: O Simplicitas **Madeleine L'Engle (1918-2007)**

Reanae Maleport, *reader*

An angel came to me
and I was unprepared
to be what God was using.
Mother I was to be.
A moment I despaired,
thought briefly of refusing.
The angel knew I heard.
According to God's Word
I bowed to this strange choosing.

A palace should have been
the birthplace of a king
(I had no way of knowing).
We went to Bethlehem;
it was so strange a thing.
The wind was cold, and blowing,
my cloak was old, and thin.
They turned us from the inn;
the town was overflowing.

God's Word, a child so small
who still must learn to speak
lay in humiliation.
Joseph stood, strong and tall,
The beasts were warm and meek
and moved with hesitation.
The Child born in a stall?
I understood it: all.
Kings came in adoration.

Perhaps it was absurd;
a stable set apart,
the sleepy cattle lowing;
and the incarnate Word
resting against my heart.
My joy was overflowing.
The shepherds came, adored
the folly of the Lord,
wiser than all men's knowing

University Singers

Ad amore (2011) **Lee R. Kesselman**

Makenzie Barber, *percussion*

*That Goodness,
infinite and ineffable
which is above, runs to Love,
as light comes to polished bodies!*

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day (1974)..... **John Rutter**

Kennadi Jones, *soprano* • Amy Boers, *piano*

Carol: The First Nowell (please stand and sing)

1. (All)
The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell!
Born is the King of Israel.

2. (Treble voices)
They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.

(All)
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell!
Born is the King of Israel.

3. (Tenor/Bass voices)
And by the light of that same star
Three Wise Men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent,
And to follow the star wherever it went.

(All)
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell!
Born is the King of Israel.

4. (All)
Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
and with his blood mankind hath bought:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell!
Born is the King of Israel.

Knights Chorus

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem (2020) **Kingsfold**
arr. Barry Johnson and Linda Johnson

Riu, Riu, Chiu..... **Mateo Flecha el Viejo (1481-1553)**
Hudson Groom, Joel Barkman, Zyreal Oliver-Chandler, Dominic Walker, and Joaquin Makinster, *soloists*

*Riu, riu, chiu, the kingfisher,
God has kept the wolf from our ewe Lamb.*

*The raging wolf sought to bite her,
But God Almighty know how to defend her;
He chose to make her that she could not sin;
No original sin was found in that virgin.*

*This one that is born is the Great King,
Christ the Patriarch clothed in flesh.
He redeemed us when He made himself small,
Though He was Infinite
He would make himself finite.
Many prophecies have prophesied it,
And even in our days we have reached it,*

*God in flesh we see on the ground,
And men in heaven because He would wanted.*

*I saw a thousand angels go singing,
Here making a thousand voices while flying,
Telling the shepherds of glory in the heavens,
And peace to the world since Jesus has been born.*

*Now we have what we desire,
Let us go together to present him gifts,
For He came as our equal.*

There is Faint Music **Dan Forrest (b. 1951)**

University Singers

Away in a Manger..... **arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)**
Kaitlyn Owen, *soprano* • Makenzie Barber, *percussion*

Pat-a-Pan (2014)..... **arr. David Conte**

Reading: The Darkling ThrushThomas Hardy (1840-1928)

Abigail Thompson, *reader*

I leant upon a coppice gate
When Frost was spectre-grey,
And Winter's dregs made desolate
The weakening eye of day.
The tangled bine-stems scored the sky
Like strings of broken lyres,
And all mankind that haunted nigh
Had sought their household fires.

The land's sharp features seemed to be
The Century's corpse outleant,
His crypt the cloudy canopy,
The wind his death-lament.
The ancient pulse of germ and birth
Was shrunken hard and dry,
And every spirit upon earth
Seemed fervourless as I.

At once a voice arose among
The bleak twigs overhead
In a full-hearted evensong
Of joy illimited;
An aged thrush, frail, gaunt, and small,
In blast-beruffled plume,
Had chosen thus to fling his soul
Upon the growing gloom.

So little cause for carolings
Of such ecstatic sound
Was written on terrestrial things
Afar or nigh around,
That I could think there trembled through
His happy good-night air
Some blessed Hope, whereof he knew
And I was unaware.

Carol: God Rest Ye Merry Gentle Ones (please stand and sing)

1. (All)
God rest ye merry gentle ones
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Savior
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r
When we were gone astray:

O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

2. (Tenor/Bass voices)
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. (Soprano/Alto voices)
But when to Bethlehem they came
Whereat this infant lay,
They found Him in a manger
Where oxen feed on hay,
His mother Mary kneeling
Unto the Lord did pray:
O tidings of comfort and joy...

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

Reading: Not Celebrate?Ann Weems (1935-2016)

Melody Molina-Vazquez, *reader*

Not celebrate?
Your burden is too great to bear?
Your loneliness is intensified
during this Christmas season?
Your tears have no end?
Not celebrate?
You should lead the celebration!
You should run through the streets

to ring the bells and sing the loudest!
You should fling the tinsel on the tree,
and open your house to your neighbors,
and call them in to dance!
For it is you above all others
who know the joy of Advent.
It is unto you that a Savior is born this day,
One who comes to lift your burden

from your shoulders,
One who comes to wipe the tears from your eyes.
You are not alone,
For He is born this day to you.

University Singers

from *Mass No. 6 (2000)* György Orbán

Amy Boers, *piano*

1. Kyrie

*Lord have mercy.
Christ have mercy.
Lord have mercy.*

2. Gloria

*Glory to God in the highest.
And on earth peace,
to all those of good will.
We praise thee. We bless thee.
We worship thee. We glorify thee.*

*We give thanks to thee
according to thy great glory.
Lord God, Heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.
Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son.*

*Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father.
Thou who takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou who takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou who sittest at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy upon us.*

*For Thou alone art holy.
Thou alone art the Lord.
Thou alone art the most high, Jesus Christ.
With the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the
Father. Amen.*

Reading: Peace on Earth – A Queer Christmas Poem (2022) Esther Spurril-Jones

Faye Stock, *reader*

I heard the bells on Christmas day,
Their voices calling in the morn,
Familiar carols bright and gay,
They sang of joy and peace on earth.

Despite their cheer my heart was torn,
For hate is strong and mocks the song,
Of Love then in a stable born,
Who came to herald peace on earth.

I wondered if the bells belong
In such a world, with hate and strife,
To sing of peace and joy feels wrong
When't seems there is no peace on earth.

When Love's disciples would deprive
The least of these of joy and peace,
Then how can love and joy survive?
And how can there be peace on earth?

And yet, the ringing did not cease,
The bells sang on more loud and deep;
Their rolling thunder did increase:
A louder cry for peace on earth.

“God is not dead; Love does not sleep!”
And then, through the prevailing grey,
A rainbow ‘cross the sky did sweep:
A clarion call for peace on earth

Benediction James Early (b. 1947)

Dane Schmidt, *reader*

May your heart hear the songs of angels,
and may the star of Bethlehem
shine on the gift you bring the Christ Child.

Carol: O Come, All Ye Faithful (please stand and sing)

1. (All)

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!

2. (All)

God of God, Light of light,
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, Begotten not created:
O come, let us adore him...

3. (All)

Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God, glory in the highest:

O come, let us adore him...

Night of Silence (1984).....David Kantor

Postlude: Toccata on "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme," op. 8, no. 2..... Hugo Distler (1908-1942)

Justin Murphy-Mancini, *organ*

University Singers

Raul Dominguez, *conductor*

Amy Boers, *piano*

Soprano

Natalie Bastida
Jade Brunner
Mia Caldwell
Elliot Capron
Janelle Chin
Caitlin Collins
Allison Geary
Abigail Hartman
Daisy Homer
Kennadi Jones

Teghan L. Kelley
Paulina Kormos
Juliyana Mandzyuk
Miranda Manning
Katherine Marchant
Amara McCorkle
Hannah McVay
Kaitlyn Owen
Celia Pitt
Katia Yeager

Alto

Makenzie Barber
Vanessa Bassi
Abigail Caprye
Jessica Garcia
Kristen Hewett
Paulette Juarez
Kaitlynn Koehn
Makayla Lu
Reanae Maleport
Lainey McCarl

Melody Molina-Vazquez
Ash Monroe
Elizabeth Oie
Natalia Parmly
Alicia Lasley Pineda
Sophia Ramos
Chloe Sheehan
Faye Stock
Ali Tyrell-Smith

Knights Chorus

Barry Johnson, *conductor*

Mariyka Vasilchuk, *piano*

Tenor

Joel Barkman
Samuel Brown
Samuel Johnson
Ryan Lelli
Yakov Lychik
Joaquin Makinster
Zyreal Oliver-Chandler
Dane Schmidt
Joseph Stitzel
Abigail Thompson

Bass

Hudson Groom
Carlos Harman
Paul Kuhn
Will Morgan
Luke Neumeister
Casper Schaefer
Blake Swales
Cade Tate
Isaiah Utto-Galarneau
Dominic Walker
Parker Zieschang

Fall Events

at Pacific Lutheran University

ALL MUSIC EVENTS ARE IN MARY BAKER RUSSELL MUSIC CENTER, LAGERQUIST CONCERT HALL UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

SEPTEMBER

- 8 Sunday, 3pm**
Faculty Recital: Erik Steighner, Saxophone, free admission
- 14 Saturday, 7:30pm**
Faculty Recital: Dawn Sonntag, Composer, free admission
- 29 Sunday, 3pm**
Richard D. Moe Organ Recital Series: Justin Murphy-Mancini,
Organist

OCTOBER

- 6 Sunday, 6pm**
Jubilee Day Celebration Concert, in partnership with Seattle Opera,
free admission
- 9 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille
Phillips Center
- 13 Sunday, 3pm**
University Wind Ensemble
- 15 Tuesday and 16 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Choral Concert
- 19 Saturday, 5pm**
PLU Faculty Brass Showcase
- 25 Friday, 12pm**
Orchestra Festival concert, free admission
- 27 Sunday, 3pm**
South Sound Saxophone Ensemble, free admission

NOVEMBER

- 3 Sunday, 3pm**
Angela Meade Vocal Competition, free admission
- 4 Monday, 7:30pm**
University Symphony Orchestra
- 6 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Keyboard Students Recital, free admission
- 10 Sunday, 3pm**
Faculty Recital: Korine Fujiwara and Family, free admission
- 13 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Early Music Concert, free admission
- 16 Saturday, 3pm**
Woodwind Students Recital, free admission
- 16 Saturday, 4:30pm**
Brass Students Recital, free admission
- 17 Sunday, 3pm**
University Wind Ensemble
- 19 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
University Concert Band
- 20 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Piano Ensemble, free admission
- 21 Thursday, 6:30pm**
Steel Band. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips Center, free
admission
- 22 Friday, 7:30pm**
University Jazz Ensemble. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille
Phillips Center
- 23 Saturday, 3pm**
Sølvvinden Flute Ensemble, free admission
- 23 Saturday, 7:30pm**
Percussion Ensemble, free admission
- 24 Sunday, 12pm**
Guest Artist Recital: April Clayton, Flute & Miguel del Aguila,
Composer and Piano, free admission
- 24 Sunday, 2:30pm**
April Clayton Flute Masterclass and Burkhart Flutes Exhibit. Room
322, Mary Baker Russell Music Center, free admission
- 24 Sunday, 3pm**
Choral Union
- 24 Sunday, 5pm**
PLUtonic/Gold Rush. The Cave, Anderson
University Center, free admission

NOVEMBER, Cont.

- 24 Sunday, 7:30pm**
Guitar Orchestra & Guitar Ensemble, free admission
- 26 Tuesday, 6pm**
Chamber Music Kaleidoscope, free admission
- 26 Tuesday, 7:30pm**
String Kaleidoscope, free admission

DECEMBER

In excelsis Deo, A PLU Christmas Concert

Tickets go on sale Wednesday, October 30

Friday, December 6, at 7:30pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
Saturday, December 7, at 2pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
Saturday, December 7, at 7:30pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
Sunday, December 8, at 2pm - Lagerquist Concert Hall
Monday, December 9, at 7:30pm - Benaroya Hall, Seattle

- 3 Tuesday, 6pm**
Saxophone Quartets & Jazz Combos. The Cave, Anderson
University Center, free admission
- 4 Wednesday, 7:30pm**
Sounds of Christmas, featuring University Singers and Knights
Chorus

JANUARY

- 11 Saturday, 4:30 and 6:30pm**
Northwest High School Honor Band, free admission
- 19 Sunday, 5pm**
PLU Honor Orchestra for Strings, free admission
- 31 Friday, 7:30pm**
Great Moments in Opera. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips
Center

FEBRUARY

- 1 Saturday, 7:30pm**
Great Moments in Opera. Eastvold Auditorium, Karen Hille Phillips
Center

To Order Tickets:

On Line: www.plu.edu/music/tickets

At the Concert: Lobby Desk in Mary Baker Russell Music Center
or Karen Hille Phillips Center (depending on performance location)

*CONCERTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE
All ticket sales are final - no refunds*

MUSIC EVENT TICKET PRICES: \$16 GENERAL PUBLIC; \$12 PLU FACULTY/STAFF, ALUMNI, MILITARY,
SENIORS (60); \$8 IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF PERFORMERS, PATRONS UNDER 18; FREE TO PLU STUDENTS
WITH STUDENT ID. **CONCERTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND SOME CONCERTS MAY BE ADDED
AFTER PUBLICATION.** www.plu.edu/music/calendar (updated October 22, 2024)