

First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica

~ presents ~

A CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION



First United Methodist Church Chancel Choir
Ty Woodward, Organist

The Mark Twain Ringers

The Los Angeles Concert Orchestra

Sunday
December 8, 2019
7:30 p.m.

First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica
1008 Eleventh Street, Santa Monica, California

A Christmas Celebration

James E. Smith, *Conductor*

Magnificat in C

Franz Schubert

For Choir, Soloists and Orchestra

Barbara Smith, Vera Lugo, William Martinez, Ryan Brown, soloists

In Terra Pax

Gerald Finzi

For Choir, Soloists and Orchestra

Barbara Smith and Ryan Brown, soloists

CAROLS, ETC.

For Choir, Organ, Orchestra and Handbells

Hallelujah Chorus [*from The Mount of Olives*]

Ludwig van Beethoven

O Sanctissima

Sicilian Carol, *arr. Robert Shaw*

*Joy to the World

Lowell Mason, arr. Robert Shaw

~ Spoken Word ~

A Pastoral Christmas

Douglas E. Wagner

This Little Babe [*from A Ceremony of Carols*]

Benjamin Britten

I Saw Three Ships

English Carol, *arr. Mack Wilberg*

*O Little Town of Bethlehem

English Carol

~ Spoken Word ~

Come to Bethlehem [*from Capriol Suite*]

Peter Warlock

Patapan

French Carol, *arr. Howard Helvey*

Christmas Angels

Brian Tervo

Angels From the Realms of Glory

Henry T. Smart, arr. Dan Forrest

Dona Nobis Pacem [*from Lord Nelson Mass*]

Franz Joseph Haydn

Nativity Carol

John Rutter

~ Spoken Word ~

Infant Holy

Polish Carol, *arr. Mack Wilberg*

*O Come All Ye Faithful

John Wade

Ty Woodward, organ & piano

Gary Gray, piano

Ron Theile, director, Mark Twain Ringers

Spoken Words read by Rev. Patricia Farris

***The audience is invited to join in the singing of the carols as marked.**

NOTES

Franz Schubert (1797 – 1828), one of the greatest composers of Romantic *lieder*, lived only a short while, but gave the world a body of music that resonates across time. The son of a schoolmaster, he was born near Vienna. He began his rather spotty musical education with his father, who taught the boy the violin; his brother taught him the rudiments of piano playing. At sixteen, he wrote his first symphony; at seventeen, his first Mass was produced to great success. Schubert composed until his untimely death, at the age of 31.

The *Magnificat in C*, composed during the fall of 1816 and dated September 25, is one of several shorter church compositions that he wrote during the final stage of his youthful period. Stylistically, the *Magnificat* confirms Schubert's knowledge and assimilation of the Baroque/Classical traditions found in the late sacred works of Haydn and Mozart. At the same time, the lyrical writing for vocal quartet in the second movement, the pivotal modulations and the choices of harmonic tensions at cadences, all affirm Schubert's individuality as a composer.

The *Magnificat* is in three distinct movements, forming a triptych, musically and dramatically. The first movement, (*Allegro maestoso*), is constructed on two musical ideas: a chorale-like theme, and a fugal area to contrast texturally with the first. Schubert's unparalleled gift as lyric composer is evident in the Andante second movement in F major. For the finale, Schubert chose to write a *concertante*, which is not unlike the triple-meter finales heard at the end of Haydn or Mozart masses. The mood is one of joy manifested in three different, yet complimentary thematic sections: the first hymn-like, the second polyphonic, and the third, the *Amens*, lyrical, yet dramatic and conclusive.

Gerald Finzi was born on July 14, 1901, and spent his early childhood in London. There, in 1926, he was introduced to Ralph Vaughan Williams whose example he was always to acknowledge. Finzi's burgeoning career was soon thwarted, however, by the outbreak of the Second World War.

In 1951, Finzi learned that he was suffering from Hodgkin's Disease, and was given between five and ten years to live. The discovery in no way lessened his activities. An all-Finzi concert in the Royal Festival Hall in 1954 at last acknowledged his standing in Britain's musical life.

In *Terra Pax*, written in 1954, just two years before Finzi's death, skillfully juxtaposes words of Robert Bridges with the familiar Christmas passage from St. Luke. With a childlike serenity of style, the work unites all its feelings, images and familiar events into one simple, shapely musical narrative.

Gerald Finzi finally lost his fight against illness in September 1956, having said, "*The artist is like the coral insect, building his reef out of the transitory world around him and making a solid structure to last long after his fragile and uncertain life.*"

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The Mark Twain Ringers, from Mark Twain Middle School, L.A.U.S.D., offers a supporting environment for young people who are growing and maturing in an ever changing, complex world. This group is now an important part of The Boys and Girls Club of Venice. As you will hear and see, they are a very talented group of English Handbell Ringers, who perform regularly in Los Angeles, and have performed across the United States. These musicians have also given five concerts at the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London, England, as well as Paris, France. More importantly, they are a group who has learned to depend on each other for the love and support they need to make it through everyday situations, when not with their families. This group always looks forward to performing as part of the Christmas Celebration for the First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica, and thanks everyone for their continued support.

– Ron Theile, director

TEXTS

MAGNIFICAT

“The Song of Mary” (Luke 1:46-55)

I.

*Magnificat anima mea Dominum;
et exsultavit spiritus meus in Deo
salutari meo, Quia respexit humilitatem
ancillae suae, ecce enim ex hoc me
beatam dicent omnes gentes.*

My soul doth magnify the Lord. And
my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded the lowliness of
his handmaiden: For behold, from
henceforth, all generations shall call
me blessed.

II.

*Deposuit potentes de sede,
exultavit humiles,
esurientes implevit bonis,
et divites dimisit inanes.*

He hath put down the mighty from their
seat, and hath exalted the humble and
meek. He hath filled the hungry with
good things, and the rich he hath sent
empty away.

*Suscepit Israel, puerum suum
recordatus misericordiae suae,
sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,
Abraham et semini ejus in saecula.*

He remembering his mercy hath
holpen his servant Israel:
as he promised to our forefathers
Abraham and his seed forever.

III.

*Gloria Patri et Filio et Spiritui sancto,
sicut erat in principio et nunc
et semper et in Saecula saeculorum.
Amen.*

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:
Amen.

IN TERRA PAX

Words by Robert Bridges
And from Luke 11: 8-14

*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.*

*And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field,
Keeping watch over their flock by night.
And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them,
And the glory of the Lord shone round about them,
And they were sore afraid.*

*And the angel said unto them:
"Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy,
Which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day, in the city of David,
A Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
And this shall be a sign unto you;
Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes,
Lying in a manger."*

*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,
Good will towards men."*

*But to me heard afar it was starry music
Angels' song, comforting as the comfort of Christ
When He spake tenderly to his sorrowful flock:
The old words came to me by the riches of time
Mellow'd and transfigured as I stood on the hill
Heark'ning in the aspect of the eternal silence.
"And on earth peace, good will towards men."*

CAROLS, ETC.

HALLELUJAH CHORUS

Hallelujah unto God's Almighty Son.

Praise the Lord, ye bright angelic choirs, in holy songs of joy.

Man, proclaim his grace and glory.

Praise the Lord in songs of joy, in holy songs of joy.

O SANCTISSIMA

O sanctissima,

O piissima,

Dulcis Virgo Maria.

Mater amata, intemerata,

Ora pro nobis.

Holy of Holies

Most loved,

Sweet virgin Mary,

Loving Mother, pure undefiled,

Pray for us.

*JOY TO THE WORLD

(Audience and Choir)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come

Let earth receive her King.

Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room.

And heav'n and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace,

And makes the nations prove

The glories of His righteousness

And wonders of His love.

SPOKEN WORD

RENEWAL by Sandra Parker

From Advent Meditations and Reflections for 1996, FUMC SM

THIS LITTLE BABE

This little babe so few days old,

Is come to rifle Satan's fold;

All hell doth at his presence quake,

Though he himself for cold do shake;

*For in this weak unarmèd wise
The gates of hell he will surprise.*

*With tears he fights and wins the field,
His naked breast stands for a shield;
His battering shot are babish cries,
His arrows looks of weeping eyes,
His martial ensigns Cold and Need,
And feeble Flesh his warrior's steed.*

*His camp is pitchèd in a stall,
His bulwark but a broken wall,
The crib his trench, haystalks his stakes;
Of shepherds He his muster makes;
And thus, as sure his foe to wound,
The angels' trumps alarum sound.*

*My soul, with Christ join thou in fight,
Stick to the tents that He hath pight,
Within His crib is surest ward;
This little Babe will be thy guard.
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy,
Then flit not from this heavenly Boy.*

I SAW THREE SHIPS

*I saw three ships come sailing in,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
I saw three ships come sailing in,
On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*And what was in those ships all three?
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
And what was in those ships all three?
On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*Our Savior Christ and His lady,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
Our Savior Christ and His Lady
On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*Pray, whither sailed those ships all three?
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
Pray, whither sailed those ships all three?
On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*O, they sailed in to Bethlehem,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
O, they sailed in to Bethlehem,
On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*And all the bells on earth shall ring,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
And all the bells on earth shall ring,
On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*And all the angels in Heav'n shall sing,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
And all the angels in Heav'n shall sing,
On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*All the souls on earth shall sing,
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
And all the souls on earth shall sing,
On Christmas Day in the morning.*

*Then let us all rejoice amain!
On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day,
Then let us all rejoice amain!
On Christmas Day in the morning.
And all the bells on earth shall ring,
All the souls on earth shall sing this Day!*

***O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM**

(Audience and Choir)

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.*

*For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together, proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth!*

SPOKEN WORD

Christmas Thoughts for All The Year

From Christmas IDEALS, 2019 (Editors of McCalls)

PATAPAN

*Willie, take your little drum; with your whistle, Robin, come!
When we hear the fife and drum, tu-re-lu-re-lu, pat-a-pat-a-pan,
When we hear the music play, Christmas comes to us this day.*

*Thus the men of olden days loved the King of kings to praise:
When they hear the fife and drum, tu-re-lu-re-lu, pat-a-pat-a-pan,
When they hear the fife and drum, all the children with joy shall come.*

*God and man are now become more at one than fife and drum.
When you hear the fife and drum, tu-re-lu-re-lu, pat-a-pat-a-pan,
When the music has begun, all the people sing as one.*

ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

*Angels from the realms of glory wing your flight o'er all the earth.
Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ the newborn King!*

*Shepherds in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, . . .*

*Sages, leave your contemplation, brighter visions beam afar.
Seek the great Desire of Nations, ye have seen His natal star.
Come and worship, . . .*

*All creation join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son.
Evermore your voices raising to th'eternal Three in One!
Come and worship, . . .*

DONA NOBIS PACEM

*Dona nobis pacem.
Agnus Dei.*

Grant us peace.
Lamb of God.

NATIVITY CAROL

*Born in a stable so bare
Born so long ago;
Born 'neath light of star
He who loved us so.
Far away silent He lay,
Born today, your homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye,
Born on Christmas Day.*

*Cradled by mother so fair
Tender her lullaby;
Over her son so dear
Angels fill the sky.
Far away, silent He lay,
Born today, your homage pay,
For Christ is born for aye,*

SPOKEN WORD

Meditations and Reflections for the Season, Advent 1998 FUMC SM

EXPECTATION – Mary Burnett

PHOTOSYNTHESIS – Patricia Farris

INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY

Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall,

Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the Babe is Lord of all.

Swiftly winging angels singing, nowells ringing, tidings bringing:

Christ the Babe 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 Babe was born for you.

***O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL**

(Audience and Choir)

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, all glory in the highest;

O come let us adore him, O come let us adore Him,

O come let us adore Him,

Christ the Lord!

Mark Twain Ringers

Lulya Araya	Angel Perez Ortega
Catherine Baldwin	Araceli Parada
Genesis Bonilla	Emelia Pineda-Salazar
Naila Ezekiel	Daniel Pioli
Malia Fowler	Breanna Ramirez-Cobbs
Elizabeth Graciano	Natalie Reyes
Josie Grippe	Noelle Romero
Angelica Jimenez	Ingrid Sanchez
Kaeli Kennedy	Bella Sklar
Susanna Melara	Maranda Soto
Nora Mesinas	Talissa Soto
Emma Thomas Morales	Ruby Spilkoman
Taylor Nagamine	Samantha Vasquez
Esmeralda Olivera	

Orchestra

Violin I

Anna Kostyuček
Mui-Yee Chu
Clayton Haslop
Elizabeth Wilson

Violin II

Kirstin Fife
Johana Krejci
Ruth Bruegger
Ami Levy

Viola

Marcy Vaj
Robert Berg
Sharon Jackson

Cello

Kevan Torfeh
Vahe Hayrikyan

Bass

John Hester
Jeff Bandy

Flute

Cathy Larson
Emily Senchuk

Oboe

David Kossoff
Linda Muggeridge

Clarinet

Arthur Naito
Julian Yapkowitz

Bassoon

Leslie Lashinsky
Christin Phelps Webb

Horn

Jon Titmus
Tim Battig

Trumpet

David Searfoss
Stephen Billington

Percussion

Megumi Smith

Tympani

Aaron Smith

Harp

Amy Wilkins

First United Methodist Church Chancel Choir

Denise Adams*
JoAnne Bailey
Elreen Bower*
David Bremer
Ryan Brown+
Bee Campbell
Beverly Cohn*
Richard Crawford
Karen Cronquist
Anand Darcie+
Jim Dodd
David Dunlap*
Jan Ellis
Michael Eskridge
Patty Eskridge
Laura Farrand
Tina Feiger*
Claudia Flanders
Randy Garrou*
Patricia Gilmore*
Ann Givin*
Shauna Hellewell*
Rosalie Huntington Fox*
Karen Ing
Edwin Jaffe*
Hannah Joseph*
Loong Kong*
Michael Lamb
Ernie Leonard
Vera Lugo+

Philip Mabunga*
Michael McClish
William Martinez+
Leslie Monsour*
Kathy Naylor
Ruth Peeples
Holly Pitrago*
Tom Price*
Robin Ramsdell*
Jeanie Riddell*
Emilie Robertson*
Martha Ross
Janet Searfoss
Barbara Smith+
Robert Spich*
Jane Spiegel
Christine Stumpf
Johanna Stutsman
Ron Theile
Rhoda Tuit*
Emy Lou Winkler
Ann Wilson
Debi Jenkinson Wong

+Section Leader

*Guest Singer

MUSIC CONCERT FUND 2019

The Music Department extends special thanks to the following people who help to make our programs possible:

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Betsy and Henry Jex Fund	Jane Spiegel and Michael Beltramo
Ermie and Jim Leonard	Barbara and James Vail
Methodist Foundation of Santa Monica	Donald Wagner

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Leslie and John Monsour	John Wilbourne
June and Mark Oh*	Emy Lou Winkler



We are glad you joined us for an evening of music, which ushers in the Advent and Christmas season.

First United Methodist Church invites you to join us for Christmas Eve family worship at 4 p.m., and Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 11:00 p.m.

Rev. Patricia Farris, *Senior Minister*

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A RECEPTION IN SIMKINS HALL IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CONCERT