

BEREA COLLEGE CONCERT CHOIR WITH ORCHESTRA

The Berea College Music Department presents

Soprano	Alto	Tenor	Bass
Luci Davis	Kristy Bearden	Rudge Arnold	Denis Burton
Angela Dodson	Marva Blackburn	Damon Babbage	Mike Chappellear
Tricia Feeney	Rhonda Burkholder	Christopher Backe	Josh Eastridge
Katie Galvin	Gretchen Carstens	Greg Begin	Curtis Hance
Heather Huber	Ellice Holly Chick	Keith Bullock	W. Erich Hess
Amberlee Johnson	Melissa Dillenbeck	Jeff Crispin	Aaron D. Hill
Susan Jones	Emily Greene	Derrick Dooley	Clinton Hines
Kristina Juodyté	Esther Greene	Derek Matthew Hamblin	Brent Lovin
Elisabeth McGuire	Brindi Joy	Derek Hickman	Kevin Lowe
Sarah Mitchell	Kari Kelsch	Thomas Johnson	Daniel O'Connell
Paula Nichols	Tiffany Laurens	Lucas Pepke	Sean Anthony Platt
Cara Roecker	Tiffany Loftis	Steven Thompson	Tim Platt
Anna Shepherd	Johnna McNew	Kevin Ward	James M. Poff
Leah Stanton	Catherine Morgan		William Plummer
Anna Stauss	Nuria Peltier		Lowell Sellards
Mary Trumbo	Katherine Racz		Jeremiah Shepherd
Sarah VanEtten	Dana W. Seymour		Michael Weddington
	Karen Stewart		
	Angela Utley		
	Agnes Warren		
	Mary White		
	Stefanie Wilson		



Messiah

• P A R T I •

by George Frederick Handel

and Christmas Carol Sing

Berea College Concert Choir with Orchestra
Stephen Bolster, conductor

Monica Gale Heard, soprano

Ann Solberg, soprano

Carlee Petersen, mezzo soprano

Tim Gregson, tenor

Nathan Platt, bass

John Courter, harpsichord and organ

Violin 1	Bass
Peter Isaacson, concertmaster	Dan Harris
Mason Newman	
Ziva Patt	Oboe
Marina Zelter	Nancy Clauter
	Joseph Colbert
Violin 2	Bassoon
Tara Vinson, principal	Peter Simpson
Sarah Hitch	
Roger Jones	
Missy Ussery	Trumpet
	Jonathan Martin
Viola	Arlo Thompson
Joanna Binford, principal	
J. T. Posadas	Timpani
	Martin Weir
Cello	Harpsichord/Organ
Clyde Beavers, principal	John Courter
Rebecca Kiekenapp	

Choir Officers
President—Sarah Mitchell
Vice President—Gretchen Carstens
Secretary-Treasurer—Derek Matthew Hamblin
Business Manager—Josh Eastridge
Historian—Derrick Dooley
Communications—Angela Dodson
Care Person—Nuria Peltier

Sunday, December 3, 2000
7:30 p.m.
Union Church, Berea, Kentucky

PROGRAM

MESSIAH: PART I (Christmas)

George Frederick Handel

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CAROLS OF THE SEASON

Orchestral arrangements by John Courter

(The congregation is invited to sing with the choir, organ, and orchestra.)

Carol No. 103: O Come, All Ye Faithful

ADESTE FIDELIS

(Stanzas 1, 2, 4 in harmony; omit stanza 3)

Carol No. 109: Once in Royal David's City

IRBY

(Stanzas 1, 4: all, unison; Stanza 2: men, unison; Stanza 3: women, unison)

Carol No. 117: Silent Night! Holy Night!

STILLE NACHT

(All stanzas in harmony)

Carol No. 120: Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

(Stanzas 1, 2, and 4 in harmony; omit stanza 3)

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Program Note
by Stephen Bolster

From the standpoint of social history, the *Messiah* is probably the greatest work of music ever written. The oratorio is probably the most performed and most heard of any piece of music in the Western culture. If greatness in art is defined as the ability of a work to retain its value as a meaningful form of expression for several generations, then the *Messiah* must be considered great. The work has been popular since the mid-eighteenth century, for over 250 years, and is still performed worldwide annually, and in several different languages.

Although labeled as an oratorio, the *Messiah* is unlike most oratorios in many respects. The work is essentially narrative and reflective, with no dramatic element. There is no "action" or "plot," no personages are portrayed, and there is no narrator. There is no poetry or Biblical paraphrase. Rather, the text, by Charles Jennens, consists entirely of direct Biblical quotes chosen from the Old and New Testaments. The work is in three large parts: Part 1: prophesy and incarnation (Christmas), Part 2: passion and resurrection (Lent), and Part 3: reflections on the Christian triumph over death (Easter). We will be performing only Part 1 this evening.

The *Messiah* has an interesting history. It was originally conceived as a benefit concert for three local medical charities in Dublin, Ireland: The Society for Relieving Prisoners, the Charitable Infirmary, and Mercer's Hospital. This may explain the positive outlook of much of the text and the many references to healing and to the triumph of life over death. Handel composed the entire oratorio in the remarkably short span of 24 days. Although the first performance was in Dublin in April, 1741, it was not until two years later, in 1743, that the work received its first performance in London. After a few scattered performances over the next seven years, the work was first presented as a benefit concert in London's Foundling Hospital in 1750, a tradition which has occurred annually until this day, and has led to its unparalleled popularity as a musical masterpiece.

MESSIAH: PART THE FIRST

SINFONY (overture)

RECITATIVE (tenor)

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplish'd, that her iniquity is pardon'd. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness: Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. (Isaiah 40:1-3)

AIR (tenor)

Ev'ry valley shall be exalted, and ev'ry mountain and hill made low: the crooked straight, and the rough places plain. (Isaiah 40:4)

CHORUS

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it (Isaiah 40:5)

RECITATIVE (bass)

Thus saith the Lord, the Lord of Hosts: Yet once, a little while, and I will shake the heav'ns and the earth, the sea and the dry land, and I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come. (Haggai 2:6-7)

The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple: ev'n the messenger of the Covenant, whom ye delight in, behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts. (Malachi 3:1)

AIR (soprano)

But who may abide the day of His coming, and who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner's fire. (Malachi 3:2)

CHORUS

And he shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. (Malachi 3:3)

RECITATIVE (mezzo soprano)

Behold! a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His name Emmanuel; God with us. (Isaiah 7:14) (Matthew 1:23)

AIR (mezzo soprano) AND CHORUS

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountains, o thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength, lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah: Behold your God! (Isaiah 40:9)

Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. (Isaiah 60:1)

RECITATIVE (bass)

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising. (Isaiah 60:2-3)

AIR (bass)

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined. (Isaiah 9:2)

CHORUS

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His Name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:5)

PIFA (Pastoral Symphony)

RECITATIVES (soprano)

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. (Luke 2:8)

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. (Luke 2:9)

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. (Luke 2:10-11)

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly Host praising God, and saying: (Luke 2:13)

CHORUS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men. (Luke 2:14)

AIR (soprano)

Rejoice greatly, o daughter of Zion; shout, o daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, thy King cometh unto thee. He is the righteous Saviour, and He shall speak peace unto the heathen. (Zacharias 9:9-11)

RECITATIVE (mezzo soprano)

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing. (Isaiah 35:5-6)

AIR (mezzo soprano)

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd, and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young. (Isaiah 40:11)

(soprano)

Come unto Him all ye that labour, ye that are heavy laden, and He will give you rest. Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him, for He is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls. (Matthew 11:28-29)

CHORUS

His yoke is easy, and His burthen is light. (Matthew 11:30)

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Hallelujah Chorus

(All those seated in the balcony who have previously practiced this chorus with the choir are invited to stand and to sing.)

CHORUS

Hallelujah, for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. (Revelation 19:6)

The kingdom of this world is become the Kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever. (Revelation 11:15)

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords. (Revelation 19:16)