

The 50th Annual Montpelier Community Carol Sing Saturday, December 9th, 2023

*Featuring the choirs of Christ Episcopal Church, the Unitarian Church of
Montpelier,
Bethany United Church of Christ, The First Congregational Church of Berlin
and others
Guest musicians, and YOU!*



Prelude: Sleepers, awake
Ron Thompson, trumpet
Lynnette Combs, organ

Ludwig Krebs

Welcome: Donia Prince, director of music at the Unitarian Church of Montpelier

Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful (acc. Lynnette Combs)

1. 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. God from God
Light from Light eternal,
lo! He abhors not the
Virgin's womb;
only begotten
Son of the Father;
Venite, adoremus,
Venite, adoremus,
Venite, adoremus
Dominum.

3. Sing, choirs of angels
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens
Of heaven above;
Glory to God,
Glory in the highest;
Venite, adoremus,
Venite, adoremus,
Venite, adoremus
Dominum.

4. 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.

Come let us

Adore

Him



Interlude from *Ecce Cor Meum*

Paul McCartney

Combined Choir, Christopher McWilliams, director; Kristopher Hammer, oboe,
Lynnette Combs, organ

Hymn: Deck the Hall (acc. Eliza Thomas)

1. Deck the hall with boughs of holly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la
Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la
Don we now our gay apparel,
Fa la la la la, la la la la
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol
Fa la la la la,...

2. See the blazing Yule before us,
Fa la la la la, la la la la
Strike the harp and join the chorus
Fa la la la la, la la la la
Follow me in merry measure,
Fa la la la la, la la la la
While I tell of Yuletide pleasure,
Fa la la la la,...

3. Fast away the old year passes,
Fa la la la la...
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses
Fa la la la la...
Sing we joyous all together,
Fa la la la la...
Heedless of the wind and weather
Fa la la la la, la la la la!

Bell Ringing Op. 54 No.6

Christopher McWilliams, piano

Edvard Grieg

Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High (acc. Lynnette Combs)

1. Angels we have heard on high
Singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their brave delight.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

3. Come to Bethlehem and see
him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

A Testimony from Beth Ann Maier

When The Song of the Angels is Stilled
Combined Choir, Lynnette Combs, director;
Christopher McWilliams, organ

Michael Sitton

Hymn: It Came Upon a Midnight Clear (acc. Eliza Thomas)

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all
from heaven's all-gracious King!"
The world in solemn stillness lay
to hear the angel sing.

2. Yet with the woes of sin and strife
the world has suffered long;
beneath the heav'nly hymn have rolled
two thousand years of wrong;
and warring humankind hears not
the tidings which they bring;
O hush the noise and cease your strife
and hear the angel sing.

3. For lo! The days are hastening on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever circling years
Shall come the time foretold,
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling,
And all the world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

Es ist Ein' Ros' entsprungen
Lynnette Combs, organ

Johannes Brahms

Hymn: Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (acc. Lynnette)

1. Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming
as seers of old have sung.
It came, a blossom bright,
amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

2. Isaiah 'twas foretold it,
the Rose I have in mind,
with Mary we behold it,
the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright
she bore to us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.

Ave Maria

Franz Biebl

Combined Choir, Christopher McWilliams, director

Text:

Angelus Domini nuntiavit Mariae
Et concepit de Spiritu sancto.

Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,
Et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus, Jesus.
Jesus.

Maria dixit: "Ecce ancilla Domini.
Fiat mihi secundum verbum tuum."

Ave Maria, etc.

Et Verbum caro factum est
Et habitavit in nobis.

Ave Maria, etc.

Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

Translation:

The Angel of the Lord announced to Mary
And he conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women.
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus,
Jesus.

Mary said: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Let it be done to me according your word."

Hail Mary, etc.

And the Word was made flesh
And he dwelt among us.

Hail Mary, etc.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen. Amen. Amen.

Hymn: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (acc. Lynnette Combs)

1. 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 angelic host proclaim
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing
“Glory to the newborn King!”**

2. Christ, by highest Heav'n 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 as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald angels sing
“Glory to the newborn King!”**

3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!

**Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings
Ris'n with healing in His wings

Mild, He lays His glory by
Born that man no more may die

Born to raise the sons of earth
Born to give them second birth

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing
“Glory to the newborn King!”**



Peace, Salaam, Shalom
Combined Choir
Donia Prince, director

arr. Pat Humphries and Sandy Opatow

* The congregation is cordially invited to sing the round.

Hymn: Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, & heaven & nature sing.

2. Joy to the world! The Savior reigns;
Let us our songs employ,
While fields & floods, rocks, hills & plains,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, and wonders of his love.

Maestoso from Organ Symphony No. 3
Christopher McWilliams, organ

Camille Saint-Saëns

Hallelujah Chorus from the Messiah
Sung by all! Lynnette Combs and Donia Prince, directors
Christopher McWilliams, organ

G.F. Handel

Parting words: Donia Prince

Parting song: We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a merry Christmas, we wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas, and a happy New Year!
Good tidings we bring to you and your kin,
Good tidings for Christmas and a happy New Year.
We wish you a merry Christmas, we wish you a merry Christmas,
We wish you a merry Christmas, and a happy New Year!

Donations to the Montpelier Community Lunch Program are happily accepted.

A BIG THANK YOU to
the choirs of Montpelier and Berlin,
guest musicians, and
staff and members of The Unitarian Church.