

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR:

Welcome to Covenant Presbyterian Church and our annual Christmas concert. This year has been a challenging year for most if not all of us, and we have all had to re-think what we do and how we do it. This can be a good thing. When coping with the limitations of this year I am sure many of us have had to make value judgements on the activities of our lives. It is my hope that this re-alignment that has been forced upon us has helped us focus more on our relationship with Jesus Christ. This year's program, *The New Day*, strives to deliver the message of hope – but not a generic, Hallmark hope – a hope grounded in Jesus Christ. As you listen and participate, here is a quote from one of the songs in the program which hopefully shows you Christ, whether you are now a believer or Christ is now working in your heart to the glory of the Father.

When our life is darkest night, hope has burned away; Love, your ray of guiding light, show us the new day. Love of all things great and small, leaving none, embracing all, fold around me where I fall; bring in the new day.

This new day will be a turning point for everyone if we let the Christ-child in and reach for the new day.

Christ the Way, the Truth, the Life; healing sadness, ending strife; you we welcome, Lord of life.

In my 15 years at Covenant I have never been prouder of a group of singers than these in front of you this evening. Singing with masks and six feet away from anyone singing their part has been challenging, but they have exceeded any hope I had for what we as a group could do. We miss our brothers and sisters who cannot sing with us tonight, but if you are or have been one of those who have been up here, know that we miss you and count you as singing with us this evening.

Many thanks are needed to pull off a concert that is safe and accessible for those who wish to hear it. Thank you to our tech crew that is working on our first livestream concert this evening. Thanks to Vangie for always gilding the lily with her musical exploits on the organ. Thank you to my faithful and most essential worker, Alayne, for always being there for not only me but also the choir through her accompaniment and her ear. Thank you to my family, and especially my wife, Meka, for the sacrifice and support given to this group as well as me each and every day.

Merry Christmas, and thanks for your love.

Jeremy Gaines Music and Worship Director

Covenant Presbyterian Church Sanctuary Choir Christmas Concert A New Day December 20, 2020 6:00 p.m.

Prelude

Welcome

Carol

O Savior of Our Fallen Race

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Keith Getty/arr. Daniel Grassi

O Savior of our fallen race, O Brightness of the Father's face, O Son who shared the Father's might before the world knew day or night.

Remind us, Lord of life and grace, how once, to save our fallen race, you put our human vesture on and came to us as Mary's son.

O Jesus, very Light of light, our constant star in sin's deep night:
now hear the prayers your people pray throughout the world this holy day.

Come, Thou redeemer of the earth, and manifest Thy virgin birth:
let every age adoring fall; such birth befits the God of all.
and we are jubilant today, for you have washed our guilt away.
O hear the glad new song we sing on this, the birth of Christ our King!

O Savior of our fallen race, the world will see your radiant face, for you who came to us before will come again and all restore.

Let songs of praise your name adorn, O Christ, Redeemer, virgin-born, Whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore.

2013 Concordia Publishing House

Carol

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Reading

I Am the Light of the World

Heavenly Light

Alexander Kopylow/ arr. Peter Wilhousky

Sent from heaven, thy rays were given on great and small to shine, O Light divine.

May each soul in sorrow's night see the heavenly Light.

Thou blessing to all creation, lead us to our salvation.

All those whose feet may falter, lead unto the sacred altar.

O shine from above, divine Light of love!

Show us the way unto our God, we pray!

Thou our beacon and guide shalt be. Light divine, we praise Thee!

The Glory of the Father

Egil Hovland/ ed. Frank Pooler

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

We beheld the glory of the Father,
full of grace and truth.

In the beginning was the Word.
The Word was with God and the Word was God.
In Him was life; and the life was the light of men.
He came to His own, and His own received Him not.

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

We beheld the glory of the Father,
Full of grace and truth.

1974 Harold Lyche and Company

Reading

from CANTUS DIVERSI

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

Gloria in Excelsis Deo!

Antonio Vivaldi

Glory to God in the highest!

Reading

All My Heart This Night Rejoices

Alleluia

Elaine Hagenberg/ text St. Augustine

Alleluia!

All shall be Amen and Alleluia.
We shall rest and we shall see.
We shall see and we shall know.
We shall know and we shall love.
Behold our end which is no end.
Alleluia! Amen.
2020 Elaine Hagenberg Music

Carol

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Reading

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Brightest and Best

Southern Harmony/arr. Shawn Kirchner

Hail the bless'd morn, see the great Mediator down from the regions of glory descend!

Shepherds, go worship the babe in the manger, lo, for his guard the bright angels attend.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning, dawn on our darkness, and lend us Thine aid; Star in the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining; low lies His bed with the beasts of the stall; angels adore Him, in slumber reclining, Maker, and Monarch, and Savior of all.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning, dawn on our darkness, and lend us Thine aid; Star in the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Shall we not yield Him, in costly devotion, odours of Edom and offerings divine, gems of the mountains, and pearls of the ocean, myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning, dawn on our darkness, and lend us Thine aid; Star in the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

2016 Boosey and Hawkes

Born on a New Day

John David/ arr. Peter Knight

You are the new day. You are the new day.

Meekness, love, humility come down to us this day: Christ, your birth has proved to me you are the new day. Quiet in a stall you lie, angels watching in the sky whisper to you from on high "You are the new day."

When our life is darkest night, hope has burned away; Love, your ray of guiding light, show us the new day. Love of all things great and small, leaving none, embracing all, fold around me where I fall; bring in the new day.

This new day will be a turning point for everyone if we let the Christ-child in and reach for the new day.

Christ the Way, the Truth, the Life; healing sadness, ending strife; You we welcome, Lord of life, born on a new day.

You are the new day.

2017 Hornal Brothers Music Ltd.

Carol

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Silent Night

Hans Grüber/arr. Dan Forrest

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, 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.

Silent night, holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing "Alleluia" to our King, "Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior is born."

Good Christians All, Rejoice!

Arr. Gilbert Martin

Good Christians all, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say; Jesus Christ is born today. Ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now. Christ is born today, Christ is born today!

Good Christians all, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this! He hath op'ed the heav'nly door and all are blessed evermore. Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!

Good Christians all, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall. Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!

Good Christians all, rejoice, with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say; Jesus Christ is born today. Ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now. Christ is born today, today, today! 1980 Hinshaw Music

Closing Remarks

Hallelujah (from Messiah)

George Frideric Handel

Hallelujah! For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth!
The kingdom of this world is become
the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ.
And He shall reign forever and ever.
King of kings and Lord of lords.
Hallelujah!
Public Domain

O Come, All Ye Faithful



O Come, O Come, Emmanuel



Hark! the Herald Angels Sing



Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



Covenant Christmas Choir 2020

Jenny Armao, alto Bonnie Folkening, alto Dory George, alto Tammy Higgins, alto Becky Pearce, alto Susan Steere, alto Jeremy Armao, baritone Daniel Fowler, baritone Jay Spalding, baritone Dan Steere, baritone Geff Adams, bass James Creamer, bass Duane Ferrel, bass Steve Lewin, bass John Morrison, bass Jeremy Gaines, director Alayne Griffin, piano

Christine Armao, soprano Camille Calloway, soprano Susan Close, soprano Catherine Coffey, soprano Dianne Cosby, soprano Melissa Ferrel, soprano Domekia Gaines, soprano Linda Lander, soprano Diane Lazor, soprano Nicole Lewin, soprano Phyllis Massey, soprano Maggie Wade, soprano Jason Collins, tenor Jonah Gaines, tenor Tom Runkle, tenor Phil Wade, tenor

Instrumentalists

Mary Benno, violin
Rebecca James, violin
Steven James, violin
Rachael McFarlane, violin
Casie Runkle, viola
Susan Whitacre, viola
Rachel Beckmann, cello
Suzanne Sims, cello
Bryan Holland, bass
Evangeline Wykoff, organ