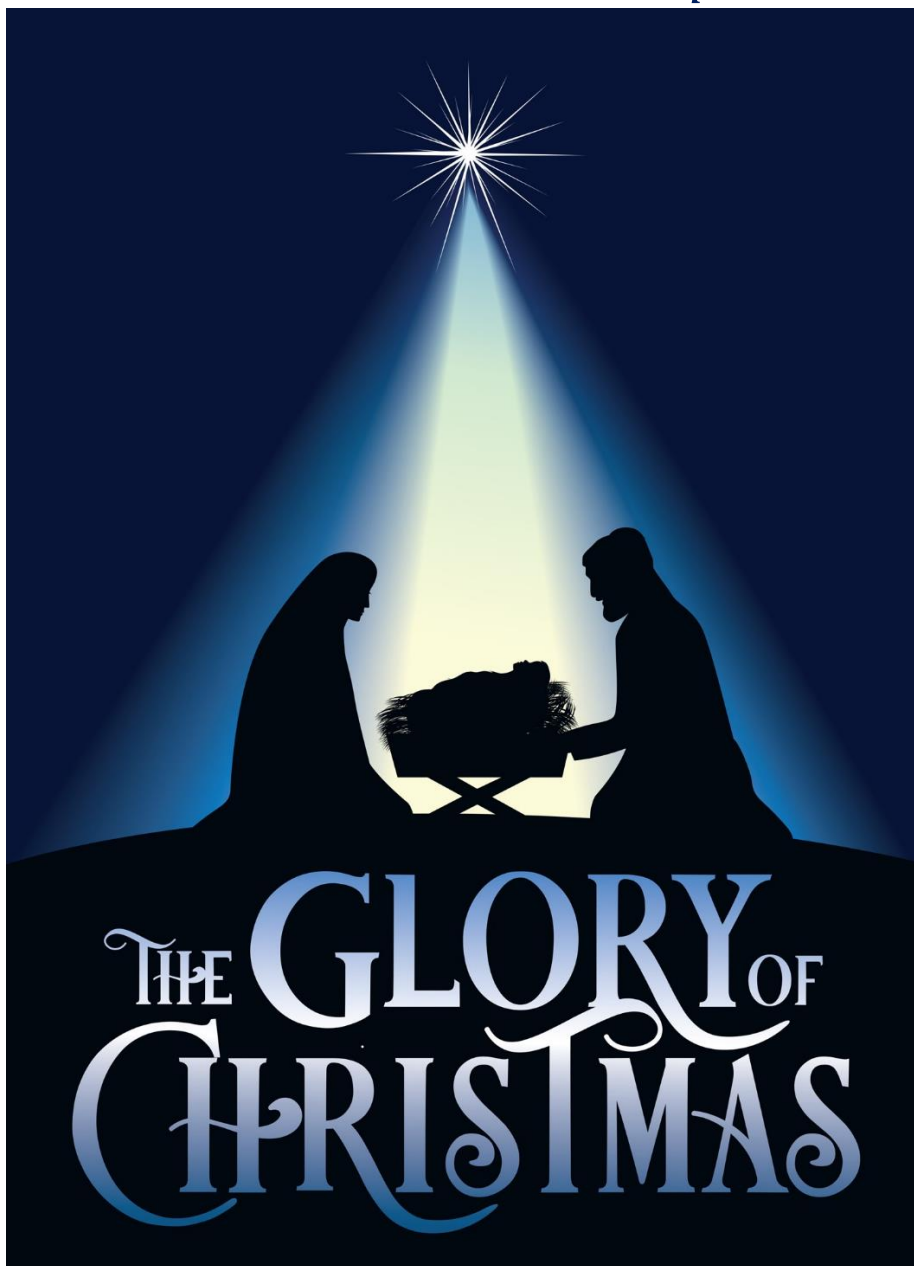


The 2022-2023 Concert Series presents...



Sunday, December 18, 4:00 pm



Rev. Alex Lang, Pastor/Head of Staff

302 N. Dunton Ave | Arlington Heights, IL 60004 | firstpresah.org

Free will offering

THE GLORY OF CHRISTMAS

Presented by

The Choirs of First Presbyterian Church of Arlington Heights
Adam Lance Hendrickson, conductor

Welcome and Invocation

Rev. Alex Lang

*Congregational Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

arr. John Rutter

- 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!**

**REFRAIN: O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.**

- 2. Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!**
- 3. Yea, Lord we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!**

Wexford Carol

arr. Elaine Hagenberg

Good people all, this Christmas time, consider well and bear in mind, what our good God for us has done, in sending His beloved Son. With Mary holy we should pray to God with love this Christmas Day; In Bethlehem upon the morn, there was a blessed Messiah born. Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep; To whom God's angels did appear which put the shepherds in great fear. 'Prepare and go,' the angels said, 'To Bethlehem, be not afraid. For there you'll find, this happy morn, a princely babe, sweet Jesus born.' With thankful heart and joyful mind, the shepherds went the babe to find, and as God's angel has foretold, they did our Savior Christ behold. Within a manger He was laid, and by His side the virgin maid attending to the Lord of Life, who came on earth to end all strife.

What Strangers Are These?

arr. Dan Forrest

What strangers are these that wander through the town? Hush, 'tis Joseph and weary Mary. And what does he seek so hopeless and in vain? He is seeking shelter for Mary. For she is the blest and chosen of the Lord, Who will bear to us a goodly King. And who is this king of whom ye proudly sing? Know ye not the Christ, Jesus the Saviour? What wee child is this that in a manger lies? Hush, 'tis Jesus Christ, Son of Mary. Say what fair maid is this whose joy is mixed with awe? O 'tis Mary, mother of Jesus. O these are the shepherd and these the magi kings Who have brought Him their gifts of gold and myrrh. But why kneel in homage here before a babe? They adore their King, Jesus the Savior. Who are these that march from death unto life? These are they who love Jesus the Christ Child. And ho do they triumph over the gates of hell? Through the grace of Him, Jesus the Saviour. He is born to redeem mankind from sin and strife, To bring peace, joy, love and brotherhood. O where shall I find Him? Where shall I seek? He is here and now, Jesus your Savior.

Star Carol

John Rutter

Sing this night, for a boy is born in Bethlehem, Christ our Lord in a lowly manger lies; Bring your gifts, come and worship at his cradle, Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary! See his star shining bright in the sky this Christmas Night! Follow me joyfully; Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary! Angels bright, come from heaven's highest glory, Bear the news with its message of good cheer: "Sing, rejoice, for a King is come to save us, Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary!" See his star shining bright in the sky this Christmas Night! Follow me joyfully; Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary! See, he lies in his mother's tender keeping; Jesus Christ in her loving arms asleep. Shepherds poor, come to worship and adore him, offer their humble gifts before the son of Mary. See his star shining bright in the sky this Christmas Night! Follow me joyfully; Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary! Let us all pay our homage at the manger, Sing his praise on this joyful Christmas Night; Christ is come, bringing promise of salvation; Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary! See his star shining bright in the sky this Christmas Night! Follow me joyfully; Hurry to Bethlehem and see the son of Mary!

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

Jack Schrader

There's a star in the east on Christmas morn. Rise up, shepherd, and follow. It will lead to the place where the savior's born. Rise up, shepherd and follow. If you take good heed to the angel's word, Rise up, shepherd, and follow. You'll forget your flock, you'll forget your herd. Rise up, shepherd and follow.

Men's Chorus

Christmas Lullaby

John Rutter

Clear in the darkness a light shines in Bethlehem: Angels are singing, their sound fills the air. Wise men have journeyed to greet their Messiah; But only a mother and baby lie there. "Ave Maria, ave Maria": Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing. "Ave Maria, ave Maria, Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King." Where are his courtiers, and who are his people? Why does he bear neither scepter nor crown? Shepherds his courtiers, the poor for his people, With peace as his scepter and love for his crown. "Ave Maria, ave Maria": Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing. "Ave Maria, ave Maria, Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King." What though your treasures are not gold or incense? Lay them before him with hearts full of love. Praise to the Christ child, and praise to his mother Who bore us a Saviour by grace from above. "Ave Maria, ave Maria": Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing. "Ave Maria, ave Maria, Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King.

Christ is the Morning Star

John Rutter

Christ is the morning star, The light of God that shines from afar; The Son of God in human form revealed, The wound of Adam's sin forever healed. For God, who formed mankind of clay will bring forth our salvation that day. When he, who made all things since time began, will send his Son, to live on earth as man. And when he comes, a child on earth, the sun and stars will shine at his birth, to light a world that long in darkness lay; the light of God, the gift of Christmas Day. And when he comes again as King, Then heaven and all creation shall sing; with saints in glory seated round his throne, we'll see his face, and know as we are known."

*Congregational Carol O Little Town of Bethlehem arr. John Rutter

1. **O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in the dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**
2. **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.**
3. **How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given! So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heaven. No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin, where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.**
4. **O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing arr. Dan Forrest
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 the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!" Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity, pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!" Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings. Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die, born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Featuring: Chancel Handbell Choir

Excerpts from *The Nutcracker* Peter Ilyitch Tchaikovsky
Scored by William McDermott
Revised and Edited by R. Mark Rogers

- 12a. Chocolate (Spanish Dance)
- 12b. Coffee (Arabian Dance)
- 12c. Tea (Chinese Dance)
- 12d. Candy Canes – Trépak (Russian Dance)

First Pres Orchestra

÷ Offering ÷

1. The first Nowell the angels 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:

***REFRAIN:* Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.**

2. 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.

3. Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heavenly Lord That hath made heaven and earth of nought, and with His blood mankind hath brought:

Dreamweaver

Music by Ola Gjeilo

Text by Charles Anthony Silvestri

1. Prologue

*I sing the sacred vision
Of the All-Wise Wanderer,
The Weaver of Dreams*

*On Christmas Eve he fell asleep,
So deep, so deep,
And woke upon Epiphany
With tales to tell.*

*He hurried to the holy Mass
And stood upon the threshold;
The warp and weft of wandering
He wove into his tale.*

2. Dreamsong

*Listen!
And this was his dreamsong:
"My journey began
In a rugged land,
Hard and fast
And unforgiving.
I made my way."*

3. The Bridge

*Beasts there were,
And wilder things,
And shades of night
Were in that land;
I was afraid.*

*The monsters claws
Tore at my cloak;
With piercing eyes
They saw my soul.
I ran away.*

*For many leagues
I traveled west
Until at last –
My journey's end –
I saw the Bridge!*

*Stretching out
Across the sky,
The way was barred
To all but wise.
I went across.*

*This bridge was spanned across a sea of ice –
A silver band, a way to Paradise.
A fair wide land did open up at last;
I stopped to stand where Future reckons Past.*

*And in that place the Pilgrim Church did rise
Where, full of grace, our Holy Mother wise
Bade me embrace her heart of gold and red;
And o'er her face a loving smile was spread.*

*This was his dreamsong:
I sing the sacred vision
Of the All-Wise Wanderer,
The Weaver of Dreams*

*I met a man, whose coat was stained in blood,
All mired was he, up to his knees in mud;
He held a frightened child under his arm,
And bitterly he wept for causing harm.*

4. Intermezzo

5. Paradise

*She spoke in gentle tone and bade me go
Where every sin is known, where cold winds blow,
Unto the very throne of God to see
Where sorrow is unknown, forgiveness, free.*

6. Dominion

*And through the darkness appeared the Christ,
wreathed in light, flanked by saints and angels beyond number,
and crowned as King and Judge over all the earth.
The Deceiver turned in fear,
and fled from before the Glory of the Lord and the Host of
Heaven.*

*Among the souls
Who trembled there
Burdened down
With sin and fear
I took my placed.*

*To Christ the Judge
St. Michael spoke,
Defending us
Despite our shame.
I hung my head.*

*So one by one
We stood alone
Before our Maker
And our Judge
He called my name.*

*His burning heart
Loved away my shame,
And forged my soul
Anew by Grace –
I was redeemed!*

7. Epilogue

*Cloaked all in lead another fell,
Laden with burdens heavy;
She lost her soul in fear of hell
In hope that she might be free.*

*Others there were by pain ensared
By their grief and tribulation
Hoping that they may yet be spared
And praying for salvation*

*He forged their souls
Anew by Grace –
And all were redeemed.*

*Congregational Carol Silent Night arr. Dan Forrest

- 1. 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.**
- 2. 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.**
- 3. 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.**

THE CHOIR

Soprano

Jan Ashley
Alison Harrald
Megan Hendrickson
Donna Holmes
Nancy Johnson
Diana Richardson
Kathy Sobeski
Rosalie Stoike
JoAnn Thompson
Kris Ward
Karen Wilson

Alto

Jo Christian
Jenn Fick
Liana German
Mary Hebden
Julie Nagel Hennessy
Marjorie Lock
Kristen Walter

Tenor

Roger Anderson
Curt Chandler
Nick Falco
Don Johnson
Nick Pulikowski
Chris Urban

Bass

Ron Conner
Bill Dillon
Dimitri German
Ken Hockenberry
Tim Lock
Larry Olson
Tom Pardo
Dan Richardson
Richard Scott
Rich Vane

CHANCEL HANDBELL CHOIR

Roger Anderson
Jo Christian
Carol Frieburg

Ken Hockenberry
Jean Imburgia
Barbara Martin

Pauline Pohl
Kris Ward
Lin Willour

THE ORCHESTRA

Violin

Emily Nash*
Sam Battista
Renee Henley
Annarita Tanzi

Cello

Joshua Zajac
Malik Johnson

Bassoon

Vincent Disantis

Horn

Courtney Lewis+
Phil Lewis+
Joan Morrone+

Bass

Dominic Azkoul

Flute

Leane Snyder

Organ

Chris Urban

Viola

Robert Hasspacher
Kina Ono

Oboe

Michelle Fielder+

Trumpet

Eric Allen+
Jered Montgomery

Piano

Don Mead
Chris Urban

Guitar

Steve Walter+

Clarinet

Howard Green

Trombone

Todd Smith+

*Concertmaster

+First Pres Member

MUSIC STAFF

Adam Hendrickson
Director of Music
and Worship

Christopher Urban
Associate Director of
Music and Organist




Nick Pulikowski
Director of Handbell
and Children's Choirs

ABOUT DREAMWEAVER

The text for *Dreamweaver* is based on parts of the Norwegian medieval folk poem *Draumkvedet*, an epic ballad that has a lot in common with Dante's *The Divine Comedy*. The protagonist, Olav Åsteson, falls asleep on Christmas Eve and sleeps for thirteen days. He wakes up and rides to church to describe his dreams to the congregation about his brave, beautiful, terrifying, and ultimately redeeming journey through the afterlife. For this composition, the *Draumkvedet* poem has been adapted into a playful interpretation in English penned by Charles Anthony Silvestri.

WELCOME TO FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

We believe in building the Kingdom of God in this world. We strive to be a welcoming and inclusive church that celebrates the diversity existing in our community. That means bringing good news to the poor, freedom to the oppressed, welcoming the stranger, and loving one another as Jesus loves us. We do this by choosing love and being the light that changes the world. Thank you for being with us this evening. If you would like more information about the ministries at First Presbyterian, please visit the literature rack at the back of the Sanctuary.

 Choose love.  Be the light.  Change the world.

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH FIRST PRES



Saturday, December 24

4:00 pm Children's Pageant & Candlelight

Music: Children's Choir & Middle School Chime Choir

8:00 pm Lessons, Carols & Candlelight

Music: Chancel Choir; Prelude begins at 7:40 pm

10:00 pm Communion & Candlelight

Music: High School & College Ensemble

Sunday, December 25

10:30 am Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

UPCOMING EVENTS



Concert for International Holocaust Remembrance Day

January 27, 7:00 pm

Chamber orchestra and Megan Hendrickson, soprano, present Henryk Górecki's *Symphony No. 3, the Symphony of Sorrowful Souls*. The symphony is set in three movements: the first is a 15th-century Polish lament of Mary, mother of Jesus; the second a message written on the wall of a

Gestapo cell during World War II; and the third a Silesian folk song of a mother searching for her son killed by the Germans in the Silesian uprisings.



February 1, 12:10 pm

Chris Urban, organ
*Organist, First
Presbyterian Church*



March 1, 12:10 pm

Michael Rees, organ
*Organ Scholar, Fourth
Presbyterian Church*

CONCERT SERIES CONTRIBUTORS

LEGACY

Nancy Ady
Roger Anderson
Robert & Liza Churchill

Mr Larry Olson
Mr & Mrs Richard Santeler
Mr Christopher Urban

ANGEL

Mrs Susan Campbell
Mr & Mrs Thomas Carroll
Mr & Mrs William Christian
Drost, Kivlahan, McMahon
and O'Connor
Mrs Lois Hartung

Mr & Mrs Robert Lincoln
Ms Karen Lindquist
Jim and Mary Mayer
Ms Kathryn Sobeski
Ms Kristine Ward

SPONSOR

Mr & Mrs Donald Howard
Mr & Mrs Donald Johnson
Mr Thomas Krigas
Mr & Mrs Frank Lopuszynski
Mrs Zoe Mather

Mr & Mrs Gary McClung
Mr & Mrs John Olszewski
Mr M Schneider & Mrs M Kelly
Mr & Mrs Allen Wilson

PATRON

Mr Robert Ahrens
Ms Jan Ashley
Mr & Mrs Ron Baker
Mr & Mrs Michael Beecher
Mr & Mrs William Borthwick
Ms Barbara Broud
Mrs Jan Cikra
Ms Jennifer Fick
Mr & Mrs Dale Freres
Cynthia Goldsberry
Mrs Mary Halatek
Mr Richard S. Hamilton
Ms Jane Hershman
Mrs Susan Kogan

Ms Marlene Kucera
Mr Ralph Larsen
Mr & Mrs Terry Layton
Dr & Mrs Richard Levinsky
Mr & Mrs Matthew Meisterheim
Rhoda Merilatt
Ms Kirsten Olson
Mr & Mrs Richard Reinschmidt
Mr & Mrs Donald Ross
Mrs Carolyn Schmidt
Ms JoAnn Thompson
Mr & Mrs Dale Urban
Mr Richard Vane
Mr & Mrs Ken Weller

FRIEND

Mr Gerald Bolin
Mr Carl Burklund
Mr & Mrs William Dillon
Mr John Goode
Jim & Susan Henderson
Mr Ronald Herron
Mr & Mrs Donald Holmes

Mr & Mrs Jeff Leach
Mr & Mrs James Monroe
Jack & Donna Myers
Mr Jerry Peterson
Mr & Mrs Edward Sudlow
Mr & Mrs Wayne Tsutsumi