

PROGRAM

*§ indicates that all who are able are requested to stand.
Please withhold applause until after the carol following the Advent Prayer.*

Prelude: Dordt College Brass Quintet

*Joel Schreurs & Jenae VanderWal, trumpet
Zach Vreeman, trombone
Carolyn Langley, French horn
Karsten Finseth, tuba*

Introit

Once In Royal David's City

H.J. Gauntlett (1805-1876)

Choir: Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

Choir: He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

Choir: And through all his wondrous childhood he would honor and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden, in whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.

Choir: For he is our childhood's pattern, day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

All: And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

All: Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;
Where like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.

– C.F. Alexander (1818-1895)

§ The People are Bidden to Prayer

concluding with The Lord's Prayer in unison

Karen DeMol, Department of Music

Carol

What Sweeter Music

John Rutter (b. 1945)

What sweeter music can we bring than a carol for to sing
The birth of this our heav'nly King? Awake the voice! Awake the string!
Dark and dull night fly hence away, and give the honor to this day
That sees December turn'd to May.
Why does the chilling winter's morn smile, like a field beset with corn?
Or smell like a meadow newly shorn thus on the sudden?
Come and see the cause, why things thus fragrant be:
'Tis he is born, whose quick'ning birth gives life and luster, public mirth,
To heaven and the underearth.
We see him come, and know him ours, who, with his sunshine and his show'rs,
Turns all the patient ground to flow'rs.
The darling of the world is come, and fit it is, we find a room to welcome him.
The nobler part of all the house here, is the heart, which we will give him; and bequeath
This holly, and this ivy wreath,
To do him honour; who's our King, and Lord of all this reveling. – *Robert Herrick (1591-1674)*

The First Lesson

Jessica Vande Zandschulp, Chorale Member

*God announces in the Garden of Eden that the
seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head. (Genesis iii)*

Carol

The Truth from Above

English Trad., arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

This is the truth sent from above, the truth of God, the God of love,
Therefore don't turn me from your door, but hearken all both rich and poor.

The first thing which I do relate is that God did man create;
The next thing which to you I'll tell woman was made with man to dwell.

Thus we were heirs to endless woes, till God the Lord did interpose;
And so a promise soon did run that he would redeem us by his Son.

And at that season of the year our blest Redeemer did appear;
He here did live, and here did preach, and many thousands he did teach.

Thus he in love to us behaved, to show us how we must be saved;
And if you want to know the way, be pleased to hear what he did say.

– *Anonymous*

The Second Lesson

Benjamin Kornelis, Chorale Director

God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed. (Genesis xxii)

Carol

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

15th Century French Processional
adapt. David Willcocks (b. 1919)

All: O come, O come, Emmanuel! Redeem thy captive Israel,
That into exile drear is gone far from the face of God's dear Son.
Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel.

Choir: O come, thou Branch of Jesse! Draw the quarry from the lion's claw;
From the dread caverns of the grave, from nether hell, the people save.
Refrain

Choir: O come, O come, thou Dayspring bright! Pour on our souls thy healing light;
Dispel the long night's ling'ring gloom, and pierce the shadows of the tomb.
Refrain

Choir: O come, thou Lord of David's Key! The royal door fling wide and free;
Safeguard for us the heav'nward road, and bar the way to death's abode.
Refrain

All: O come, O come, Adonai, who in thy glorious majesty
From that high mountain clothed with awe gavest thy folk the elder law.
Refrain – T. A. Lacey (18th Century)

The Third Lesson

Fred Van Geest, Department of Political Studies

Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah. (Isaiah ix)

Carol

Zion Hears The Watchmen's Voices (from Cantata 140) J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

Zion hears the watchmen's voices,
With gladness all her heart rejoices,
She eager wakes to greet the day.

See, her Lord from heav'n descending
With grace and truth and power unending,
Her daystar dawns with brightest ray.

O come, thou blessed One, Lord Jesu God's own Son,
Hosianna! We follow there Thy feast to share
And taste the joys beyond compare.

– P. Nicolai (1556-1608), trans. John Rutter

The Fourth Lesson

Carl Dragt, Department of Sociology

The peace that Christ will bring is foreshown. (Isaiah vi)

Carol

It Came Upon The Midnight Clear English, adap. Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900)

Choir: 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, goodwill to men, from heav'n's all-gracious king!'
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Choir: Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hov'ring wing;
And ever o'er it's Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

Choir: Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel strain have rolled two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not the love song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife, and hear the angels sing!

All: For lo! The days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

– E. H. Sears

The Fifth Lesson

Lorna Van Gilst, Department of Communications

The angel Gabriel salutes the Blessed Virgin Mary. (Luke i)

Carol

The Linden Tree Carol

German, arr. Reginald Jacques (1894-1969)

There stood in heav'n a linden tree, but, tho' t'was honey laden,
All angels cried, 'No bloom shall be like that of one fair maiden.'

Sped Gabriel on winged feet, and pass'd through bolted portals
In Nazereth, a maid to greet, blest o'er all other mortals.

'Hail Mary!' quoth the angel mild, 'Of womankind the fairest;
The Virgin ay shalt thou be styled, a babe although thou bearest.'

'So be it!' God's handmaiden cried, 'According to thy telling.'
Whereon the angel smartly hied up homeward to his dwelling.

This tidings fill'd his mates with glee: 'twas pass'd from one to other,
That 'twas Mary, and none but she, and God would call her Mother. – *Trans. G. R. Woodward*

§ Recessional Carol

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

William H. Monk (1823-1889)

All: Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
"Cast away the works of darkness, all you children of the day!"

All: Startled at the solemn warning, from the darkness we arise;
Christ, our sun, all ill dispelling, shines upon the morning skies.

All: See, the Lamb so long expected comes with pardon down from heaven.
Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, one and all, to be forgiven;

All: So when next he comes in glory and the world is wrapped in fear,
He will shield us with his mercy and with words of love draw near.

All: Honor, glory, might, dominion to the Father and the Son,
With the everliving Spirit while eternal ages run.

– *Latin, 6th century, trans. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861*

Offertory: Dordt College Brass Quintet

*During the Offertory, an offering will be received, followed by a 5-minute intermission.
Offering designated for music scholarships.*

§ Processional Carol

O Come, All Ye Faithful

attrib. John F. Wade (c. 1710-1786)

arr. David Willcocks

All: 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!

Choir: God of God, Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created:
Refrain

All: Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above;
Glory to God in the highest:
Refrain

All: Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
Refrain – attrib. John F. Wade, trans. Frederick Oakeley

The Sixth Lesson

Jasper Lesage, Department of Economics

St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus. (Luke ii)

Carol

How Still He Rests

Brent Pierce (b. 1940)

How still the child rests in quiet splendor.
How peacefully he lies in the manger so bare.
He rests in peace while the angels in heaven sing
Glory to God on the night of his birth.

Sleep on, sleep on, Oh infant divine. How quiet the night.
Sleep, sleep, oh sleep, little child, sleep on.

Oh holy child, Son of God, hear us praise thee.
Our hearts sing with joy on this night of your birth.
How still he rests. How still he rests.
How still he rests. How still he lies asleep. Sleep.

Allison Fuerst, oboe

The Seventh Lesson

Duane Bajema, Department of Agriculture
The shepherds go to the manger. (Luke ii)

Carol

The Shepherd's Cradle Song Karl Leuner, arr. Charles MacPherson (1870-1927)

O sleep thou heav'nborn treasure thou, sleep sound, thou dearest child;
White angel wings shall fan thy brow with breezes soft and mild.
We shepherds poor are here to sing a simple lullay to our King.
Lullaby, lullaby, sleep, sleep softly, lullaby.

See, Mary has with mother's love a bed for thee out spread,
While Joseph stoops him from above, and watches at thy head,
The lambkins in the stall so nigh, that thou may'st sleep, have hush'd their cry.
Lullaby, lullaby, sleep, sleep softly, lullaby.

And when thou'rt big and art a man full woes in store of thee;
For cruel men they death will plan, and hang thee on a tree.
So sleep, my baby, whilst thou may, 'twill give thee rest against that day.
Lullaby, lullaby, sleep, sleep softly, lullaby. – Trans. A. Foxton Ferguson

The Eighth Lesson

Roger Henderson, Department of Philosophy
The wise men are led by the star to Jesus. (Matthew ii)

Carol

How Far Is It To Bethlehem English, arr. David Willcocks

How far is it to Bethlehem? Not very far.
Shall we find the stable room lit by a star?
Can we see the little child, is he within?
If we lift the wooden latch may we go in?
May we stroke the creatures there, ox ass, or sheep?
May we peep like them and see Jesus asleep?
If we touch his tiny hand will he awake?
Will he know we've come so far just for his sake?
Great kings have precious gifts, and we have naught,
Little smiles and little tears are all we brought.
For all weary children Mary must weep.
Here, on his bed of straw sleep, children, sleep.
God in his mother's arms, babes in the byre, [a barn for cattle]
Sleep, as they sleep who find their heart's desire. – Frances Chesterton (1901-1938)

The Ninth Lesson

Mary Dengler, Department of English
St. John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation. (John i)

Carol

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

John Gardner (b. 1917)

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day: I would my true love did so chance
To see the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance:

Refrain Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love;
This have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took fleshly substance;
Thus was I knit to man's nature, to call my true love to my dance:

Refrain

In a manger laid and wrapped I was, so very poor this was my chance,
Betwixt and ox and a silly poor ass, to call my true love to my dance:

Refrain

Then afterwards baptized I was; the Holy Ghost on me did glance,
My Father's voice heard from above, to call my true love to my dance:

Refrain

– *Traditional*

Scott Dunwoody, snare drum; Melanie Marcus, tambourine

§ Advent Prayer

All: Lord Jesus,
Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.
We who have so much to do seek quiet spaces
to hear your voice each day.
We who are anxious over many things
look forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways
long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy
seek the joy of your presence.
We are your people, walking in darkness,
yet seeking the light.
To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!"
Amen.

– *Henri J.M. Nouwen (1932-1996)*

Carol

To Him We Sing

Robert H. Young (b. 1923)

A babe is born all of a maid, to bring salvation unto us.
To Him we sing both night and day; Veni creator Spiritus. [*O come, Creator Spirit*]

At Bethlehem that blessed place, the Child of Bliss, now born was He,
And him to serve, God give us grace; O lux beata Trinitas. [*O Trinity of blessed light*]

There came three kings out of the East, to worship the King that is so free,
With gold and myrrh and frankincense: A solus ortus cardine. [*Risen from the quarter of the sun*]

The angels came down with one cry, a fair song that night sung they
In the worship of that Child: Gloria tibi Domine. [*Glory to Thee, O Lord*] – *English Traditional*

§ Recessional Carol

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

All: 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 th'angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem.
Refrain Hark! The herald angels sing glory to the newborn King.

All: 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.
Refrain

All: Hail the heav'nborn 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.
Refrain – *Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

Postlude: Dordt College Brass Quintet

Note on the Nine Lessons:

“The service of Nine Lessons and Carols was first drawn up by Archbishop Benson when Bishop of Truro for use in that Cathedral, and was later simplified and modified for use in the King’s College Chapel, Cambridge, in 1918 by its then Dean, the Very Reverend Eric Milner-White.”

CHORALE PERSONNEL

SOPRANO I

Renee Bosma, Holland, MN
Amanda DeWit, Rock Valley, IA
Natalie Draayer, Sioux Center, IA
Erin Houtsma, South Holland, IL
Kelly Kuiken, Tinley Park, IL
Rebecca Marie Schlabaugh, Kalona, IA
Shanna Smit, Twin Falls, ID
Jessica Vande Zandschulp, Sioux Center, IA
Miriam Van Niejenhuis, Edmonton, AB
Kelli Van Zee, Pella, IA

SOPRANO II

Heidi Bolkema, Sheldon, IA
Kearsen Boman, Manhattan, MT
Jessie Cooper, Brookfield, WI
Heather den Hoed, Hull, IA
Valerie DeVries, Salt Lake City, UT
Bethany Ehlers, Newell, IA
Jessica Geleynse, Clinton, ON
Tricia Groenenboom, Pella, IA
Brenda Janssen, Beamsville, ON
Katie Kroese, Boyden, IA
Lori Nibbelink, Sioux Center, IA
Stacey Rozema, Byron Center, MI
Heidi Sorensen, Newport News, VA
Stephanie Stiemsma, Randolph, WI
Sheena Van Boom, Edmonton, AB
Sarah Vanderaa, Edgerton, MN
Alyssa Van Der Lugt, Hudsonville, MI
Jenae Vander Wal, Pella, IA
Sarah Van Egdom, Doon, IA
Kim Van't Hul, Pipestone, MN

TENOR I

Mitchell Andringa, Clinton, IA
Stephen DeWit, Sioux Center, IA
Jeremy Dreise, Sioux Center, IA
Brent Hartemink, Surrey, BC
Myron Kamper, Oakdale, CA
Christopher Maust, Bay Port, MI
Paul Olsen, Albert Lea, MN
Ian Ross, Kalispell, MT
Wesley Van Dyken, Ripon, CA

TENOR II

Kyle Bleeker, Sioux Center, IA
Josh Bowar, Faulkton, SD
Daniel DeBoer, Rock Valley, IA
Brian Dengler, Rock Rapids, IA
Corey Kempers, Sioux Center, IA
Nathan Pasma, Ripon, CA
Ryan Schaap, Lansing, IL
Curtis Van Dam, Edgerton, MN
Jeremy Van Engen, Spicer, MN
Justin Van Niejenhuis, Toronto, ON
Aaron Van Zee, Lynden, WA

ALTO I

Rebecca Boender, Oskaloosa, IA
Katie Boer, South Holland, IL
Brittany Bouma, Edgerton, MN
Melanie Bruin, Willmar, MN
Rachel De Bruin, Fremont, IA
Melissa Drake, Griswold, IA
Jeanette Epley, DeMotte, IN
Bethany Haan, Sioux Center, IA
Brenda Henderson, Oostburg, WI
Engela Heystek, Rocky Mountain House, AB
Rebecca Koedam, Hudsonville, MI
Anna Kooi, Huntsville, AL
Karen Memmelaar, Escondido, CA
Lori Philipsen, Modesto, CA

ALTO II

Reanna Baker, Kalamazoo, MI
Rachel Fikkert, Sussex, WI
Karlyn Geleynse, Randolph, WI
Jasmine Moeller, Strawberry Point, IA
Mandy Phelps, South Holland, IL
Orpah Schiebout, Pella, IA
Karissa Stel, Rocky Mountain House, AB
Amanda TeKrony, Castlewood, SD
Abby Van Kley, Orange City, IA

BASS I

Matt Deppe, Holland, MI
Andrew De Young, Bloomington, MN
Dane Hibma, Sioux Center, IA
Joe Hoksbergen, Tracy, IA
Ethan Huizenga, Orange City, IA
Brandon Karls godt, Atwater, MN
Leroy Kleimola, Janesville, MN
Tim Mulder, Bellflower, CA
Tom Mulder, Bellflower, CA
Michael Ochsner, Maurice, IA
Kevin Vander Spek, Embro, ON
Carl Van Stryland, Pella, IA
Mark Zwart, Sioux Center, IA

BASS II

Kyle Fey, Edgerton, MN
Ethan Koerner, Pueblo West, CO
Reid Marvin Rozeboom, Leota, MN
Brian Schaap, Edgerton, MN
Jacob Te Winkel, Oostburg, WI
Josh Vander Plaats, Sioux Center, IA
Daniel Zylstra, Lansing, IL

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Tricia Groenenboom, Pella, IA

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