

Music to Illuminate, Challenge, and Inspire

a  
Seraphim  
Christmas

SATURDAY

December 2, 2023, 8:00 pm

Holy Name Parish  
West Roxbury

SUNDAY

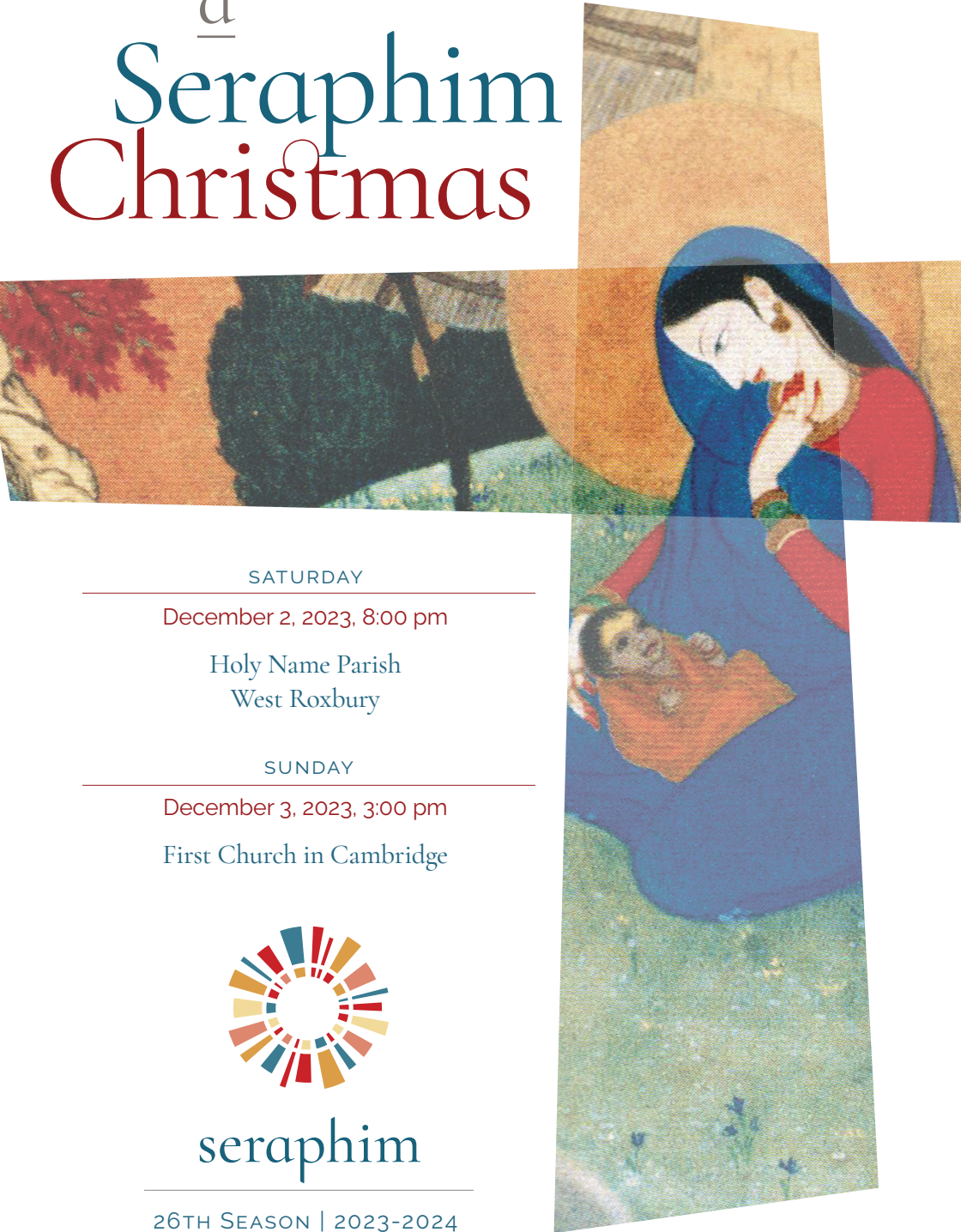
December 3, 2023, 3:00 pm

First Church in Cambridge



seraphim

26TH SEASON | 2023-2024





A HOLIDAY GREETING FROM SERAPHIM:

*With our hearts and voices,  
we wish you peace  
and blessings for Christmas  
and in the new year!*

*Jennifer Lester and the Seraphs*

---

The prelude music on Saturday  
is by The Bitumen Brass Quartet:

Charlie Andersen, *trumpet*

Chris Ten Eyck, *trumpet*

Michael Welles, *horn*

John O'Toole, *trombone*

---

[www.seraphimsingers.org](http://www.seraphimsingers.org)

# a Seraphim Christmas

Jennifer Lester, *Music Director*  
Louise Mundinger, *Organist*

*Kindly hold applause  
to the end of each section.*

---

CAROL: *Sleepers, Wake* (please stand and see carol booklet)

Descant by Theodore Marier (1912-2001)

*There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob* ..... Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Recitative, Trio, and Chorus from *Christus* (1847)

*Surge, illuminare, Jerusalem* ..... Volker Wangenheim (1928-2014)

*O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide* ..... Daryl Bichel (b. 1950)

---

CAROL: *Angels We Have Heard on High* (please stand)

Descant by John Dunn (1943-2022)

*Deutsches Magnificat* ..... Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)

*Meine Seele erhebt den Herren*

*Je suis l'Archange de Dieu* ..... Trad. French Carol

with Noël (organ variations) by Louis-Claude Daquin (1694-1772)

*The Midwife's Tale* ..... James Woodman (b. 1957)

i. The End - ii. Interregnum - iii. The Beginning

---

CAROL: *Silent Night* (please stand)

*Christmas Carol Suite for Organ* ..... arr. T. Marier

*Song of the Pines* ..... Abbie Betinis (b. 1980)

*I Wonder as I Wander* ..... John Jacob Niles (1892-1980)

arr. John Rutter (b. 1945)

*He Stooped to Bless* ..... Edward Margetson (1891-1962)

*Behold That Star* ..... Thomas W. Talley (1870-1952)

arr. Jason M. Robison

---

CAROL: *The First Nowell* (please stand)

Descant by T. Marier

## SINGERS

---

### Sopranos

Sophie Carpenter  
Susanne Feld  
Katy Fickenwirth  
Lauren Hsu  
E.J. Kim  
Rachael Luther  
Leslie Price  
Livia Racz  
Eileen Sweeney

### Altos

Rita Budwey  
Jessica Hu  
Kelvyn Koning  
Claire Mumford  
Ellen Promise  
Nicole Ruttan  
Caroline Scheibe

### Tenors

Leo Balkovetz  
Luca Daniel  
Warren Hutchison  
Jay Lane  
Paul Mattal  
Thomas Valenti

### Basses

Daryl Bichel  
Jádon Brooks  
Michael Budwey  
Bruce Kozuma  
Joshua T. Lawton  
Charles Oliver

### Soloists for December 2

*Mendelssohn:* Rachael Luther,  
Leo Balkovetz, Joshua T.  
Lawton, Michael Budwey  
*Rutter:* Katy Fickenwirth  
*Talley:* Thomas Valenti

### Soloists for December 3

*Mendelssohn:* Susanne Feld,  
Jay Lane, Bruce Kozuma,  
Jádon Brooks  
*Rutter:* Rachael Luther  
*Talley:* Thomas Valenti

## SERAPHIM

---

### Staff

Jennifer Lester, *Music Director*  
Daryl Bichel, *General Manager*  
Rita Budwey, *Chorus Manager*  
Joshua T. Lawton, *Assistant  
Director and Accompanist*  
Teri Kowiak and Jay Lane,  
*Vocal Coaches*  
Mark Nemeskal, *Choral Librarian  
and House Manager*  
Jay Lane and Laurie Szablewski,  
*Box Office Managers*

### Artistic Advisors

Robert Barney  
Carson Cooman  
Patricia Van Ness  
Christina Whitten Thomas

### Board of Directors

Daryl Bichel, *President*  
Jay Lane, *Treasurer*  
Livia Racz, *Clerk*  
Warren Hutchison, *Director*  
Joshua T. Lawton, *Director*  
Jennifer Lester, *Music Director*  
Ryan Lynch, *Director*  
Claire Mumford, *Director*  
Louise Munding, *Director*  
Mark Nemeskal, *Advisor*  
Eileen Sweeney, *Advisor*  
Laurie Szablewski, *Advisor*

### Acknowledgements

William Endicott and  
Holy Name Parish,  
*West Roxbury Venue*  
Dan Smith and First  
Church in Cambridge,  
*Cambridge Venue*  
Michael Mauceri,  
*Graphic Design*  
Shawn Mikkelson,  
*Music Engraving*  
Teri Kowiak and Eileen  
Sweeney, *Program Notes*  
Yachtz Radcliff, *Marketing*  
Nick Welles, *Photography*  
Usher Crew  
Church of Our Saviour,  
*Rehearsal Space*

**Jennifer Lester**, *music director*

Jennifer Lester, Founder and Music Director of The Seraphim Singers, is among the outstanding choral conductors of her generation. Critically acclaimed for creative programming and well-known as an unflinching advocate of new music, Ms. Lester presents emotional and musically engaging performances of challenging but rewarding repertoire. Ms. Lester has commissioned works from both nationally known and local living composers, including Avner Dorman, Shruthi Rajasekar, Christina Whitten Thomas, Carson Cooman, Julian Wachner, and James Woodman. She is committed to diversifying the choral repertoire, programming and commissioning music by women and non-white composers.



Ms. Lester has served as Music Director at the Church of Our Saviour in Brookline and as Associate Music Director and Organist of Saint Paul Parish in Cambridge. She is a past Dean of the Boston Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Also a Fulbright scholar, Ms. Lester holds a Bachelor's degree from the New England Conservatory of Music, and a Master of Music in choral conducting from Yale University.

**Louise Munding**, *organist*

Louise Munding is Music Director at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston, where she conducts the Choral Scholars and convenes a weekly meeting of musicians from the Diocese of Massachusetts. She has recently launched a series of concerts called "Embrace Ambiance" to showcase the acoustics at the Cathedral. She is grateful to her teachers from Valparaiso University, where she studied with William Eifrig and Philip Gehring, and the New England Conservatory, where she studied with Yuko Hayashi and Christa Rakich. She is a past Dean of the Boston Chapter of the American Guild of Organists (AGO), and was chair of the New Music Committee for the 2014 AGO National Convention, and director of the National New Music Committee for the AGO.

## ARTIST BIOS

---

She works to introduce music for the pipe organ to new audiences and loves it when people hear the stories music tells in her performances. "I heard that!" is what she wants for all audience members. Mundingher has performed organ recitals in France and Germany, and facilitated a biannual music exchange between Milton Academy and *L'Ecole de Musique de Persan* (France) for twenty years, supported in part by the Florence Gould Foundation.



Louise Mundingher was a recipient of the Frank Huntington Beebe award for musicians, which allowed her to study organ performance with Zsigmond Szathmáry in Freiburg, Germany and perform concerts. She was a prize winner in the San Anselmo Organ Improvisation Competition and has been commissioned to write new music by, among others, the American Guild of Organists, The American Composers Forum (the Faith Partners Program), and the Diocese of Massachusetts. Her articles have appeared in *The American Organist* and *Musforum*. In 2008 Louise Mundingher was awarded the Talbot Baker Teaching Award at Milton Academy.

## SERAPHIM

**S**eraphim concerts explore diverse composers and varied repertoire, with newly commissioned pieces performed alongside timeless gems. The organ, with its myriad colors and dynamic levels, is usually featured in both accompaniment and solo roles. The north star that guides our programming is the exploration of deeply human themes: longing, protest, suffering, transcendence, hope, and joy. We use choral music to illuminate and challenge us to act on pressing issues in our world, including homelessness, climate change, and racial justice.

## PROGRAM NOTES

---

### **Felix Mendelssohn** (1809–1847) – *There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob*

Jakob Ludwig Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, widely known as Felix Mendelssohn, was a German organist, conductor, and composer of the early Romantic period. After a long period of denigration following his death, because of his Jewish heritage and growing anti-Semitism, his music is now frequently performed and highly regarded. On today's program is the well-known SATB chorus, "There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob" from the unfinished oratorio *Christus*. To close the movement, Mendelssohn employs the chorale "How brightly shines the morning star," still sung in churches today.

### **Volker Wangenheim** (1928–2014) – *Surge Illuminare Jerusalem*

Volker Wangenheim was a Berlin-based conductor, professor, and composer. The text of this five-voice motet, *Surge, illuminare, Jerusalem*, is from the Book of Isaiah. Wangenheim uses a longer version than most composers, telling a deeper story with changing affects throughout. To tell that story, he uses a variety of harmonic textures and effects. Listen, for example, for the shimmery chords on "*illuminare*" and the complex harmonies on "tenebrae".

### **Daryl Bichel** (b. 1950) – *O Savior Rend the Heavens Wide*

Daryl Bichel, organist, singer, and president of the board for Seraphim, composed this setting of the German chorale, "*O Heiland reiss die Himmel auf*," capturing both the gloom and darkness of night and sin as well as the joyous expectation of the light as reflected in the season of Advent. The opening and conclusion of the work feature trumpet fanfares and the organ in dialog with energetic singing by the choir. The organ, with its many colors and dynamic levels, plays both supportive and independent roles in this piece.

### **Heinrich Schütz** (1585–1672) – *Magnificat (Meine Seele erhebt den Herren)*

Heinrich Schütz, often referred to as the "father of German music," was the first German composer of international stature, known primarily for his sacred vocal music. *The Magnificat* or *Canticle of Mary* is a text attributed to Mary, the mother of Jesus, found in the Gospel of Luke. Schütz's setting features two four-part choirs accompanied by basso continuo. The two choirs frequently echo each other, and within each choir staggered entrances create sections of energetic polyphony, as if each entering voice was catching the excitement of the others.



## NOTES

---

### **Louis-Claude Daquin** (1694–1772) – Noël/Je suis L'Archange de Dieu

Louis-Claude Daquin (also called D'Aquino, d'Aquin, or d'Acquin) was a virtuoso organist and harpsichordist and a composer. A child prodigy and celebrity in his own time, his dazzling performances drew large crowds and the attention and admiration of the aristocracy. His compositions were admired for their gentle charm.

"Je suis L'archange de Dieu" is a cheerful, child-like traditional French carol. The music uses simple, catchy rhythms mirroring the lighthearted French poetry it sets. As we hear the repetition back and forth between the upper and lower voices, we can picture Daquin at the harpsichord, playfully passing the repeated motif from hand to hand. The result is a lively carol that is fun to sing and hear.

### **James Woodman** (b. 1957) – The Midwife's Tale

James Woodman was the first composer-in-residence at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul in Boston and is frequently commissioned as a composer of organ and choral works. *The Midwife's Tale*, written for choir and organ or string quartet, was commissioned by The Boston Cecilia in 1996. The composer's notes on the piece introduce us to the text:

Although they have faded from view now, vibrant legends about the life of Christ flourished in medieval times, frequently eclipsing the Bible itself in influencing art and literature. The text of *The Midwife's Tale* is derived from one such narrative found in the Arundel manuscript, a compilation of earlier sources which dates from the 8th century. It contains an extraordinary account of the Nativity by the apocryphal figure of Zachel, a midwife enlisted by Joseph to attend to Mary at the time of birth. Against a dramatic background of cosmic upheaval Zachel tells the story of her astonishing experience: the birth she has witnessed is not one of a human child, for Mary has given birth to Light! Her awe, comprehension, and delight warmly invite our empathy."

This moment of Divine transformation is so pivotal that time seems to stop, and echoes of past promises and the hopes of thousands of people across thousands of years find fulfillment. Woodman has subverted the expectations in the nativity story, naming the first movement "The End" and the last movement "The Beginning." The birth of the Christ child marks the end of the long wait for the promised Messiah and the beginning of the gift of Jesus' life on earth.



## NOTES

---

### **Abbie Betinis** (b.1980) – Song of the Pines

Composer Abbie Betinis comes from a family of composers. Her great-grandfather composed original Christmas carols that he included with Christmas greeting cards and Abbie restarted the family tradition. "Song of the Pines" was her new carol for 2005.

She writes, "The inspiration for...'Song of the Pines' came this year from my mother, a visual artist who designs our annual card...a simple pinecone image on white and silver paper mounted on dappled light blue card stock..." evoking the shores of Lake Superior, where her great-grandfather raised his family.

The melody of the carol, carried by the altos, evokes the wistful and reflective mood of a snowy winter night. The other voices enter with countermelodies one at a time, creating an organic increase in volume and intensity throughout the first four verses. In the last verse the voices enter softly in exact unison, growing in volume and diverging into harmony, only to calm and settle into the final major chord.

### **John Jacob Niles** (1892-1980) (*arr.* John Rutter, b. 1945) – I Wonder as I Wander

John Rutter is an English composer and conductor known for his sacred choral works. His shorter pieces and arrangements of Christmas carols have become choral standards.

"I Wonder as I Wander" was inspired by the fragment of a song collected by musical folklorist and singer John Jacob Niles, who heard it sung by a girl in Appalachian North Carolina. Rutter's arrangement of Niles' song begins with a solo voice. Other parts enter with their own melodic lines, giving the piece more movement and impetus as it develops. The sopranos sing the tune in the final verse, this time with the other voices humming an accompaniment, as the piece comes to a quiet and peaceful end.

### **Edward Henry Margetson** (1891–1962) – He Stooped to Bless

Edward Margetson was a pianist, organist, and composer originally from St. Kitts in the West Indies. Along with his sister Marie, he organized the Schubert Society in the interest of raising standards of sacred music in the African American community, and the society is credited with opening doors for black classical musicians in established orchestras in New York.

At first, "He Stooped to Bless" sounds much like a hymn or chorale, but it complicates the form with sections suggesting multiple voices and melodies and moving through different tonalities. This fluidity allows Margetson to employ text painting in his setting, notably for the repeating phrase "may rise," which moves higher each time, and in the use of a descending motif for "Because he stooped."

### **Thomas W. Talley** (1870 – 1952) (arr. Jason Robison) – Behold That Star

Although Thomas W. Talley was researcher of chemistry at Fisk University, he was also a skilled musician who made great contributions to the study of Black folk music and folk tales. Talley sang and toured with the New Fisk Jubilee Singers, an ensemble of Black singers that included many former slaves among its members. While seeking a Christmas spiritual for the Jubilee Singers, he realized that none of the jubilee songs he knew pertained to Christmas, so he created an original carol, "Behold That Star," written in the spiritual style.

Robison's arrangement of Talley's carol features three sections—a beginning section that alternates between a soloist and a choral refrain, a second section where a choral ostinato is built from the bass up to soprano before the soloist comes in on top of it all, and a third section in which the "solo line" is sung by the choir in harmony while the soloist soars above them in a joyful conclusion.

## There Shall a Star Come Out of Jacob

Mendelssohn

### *Recitative*

When Jesus our Lord was born in Bethlehem,  
in the land of Judaea, behold,  
from the East to the city of Jerusalem  
there came wise men, and said:

### *Trio*

Say, where is he born, the king of Judaea?  
For we have seen his star and are come to adore him.

### *Chorus*

*Text* by Christian Karl Josias von Bunsen from Numbers 24:17

There shall a star come out of Jacob,  
and a scepter shall rise out of Israel;  
with might destroying princes and cities!

As bright the star of morning gleams,  
so Jesus shedeth glorious beams  
of light and consolation.

Thy Word, O Lord, radiance darting,  
truth imparting, gives salvation;  
Thine be praise and adoration!

## Surge, illuminare, Jerusalem

Wangenheim

*Text:* Isaiah 60:1-3, 10, 14-16 (sung in Latin)

Arise, shine, for your light has come,  
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.  
See, darkness covers the earth  
and thick darkness is over the peoples,  
but the Lord rises upon you  
and his glory appears over you.  
Nations will come to your light,  
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Foreigners will rebuild your walls,  
and their kings will serve you.  
Though in anger I struck you,  
in favor I will show you compassion.

The children of your oppressors  
will come bowing before you;  
all who despise you will bow down  
at your feet  
and will call you the City of the Lord,  
Zion of the Holy One of Israel.  
Although you have been forsaken and hated,  
with no one traveling through,  
I will make you the everlasting pride  
and the joy of all generations.  
You will drink the milk of nations  
and be nursed at royal breasts.  
Then you will know that I, the Lord,  
am your Savior, your Redeemer,  
the Mighty One of Jacob.

---

## O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide

*arr.* Bichel, *words:* Latin, ca. 7th century

O Savior rend the heavens wide;  
come down, come down with mighty stride;  
unlock the gates, the doors break down;  
unbar the way to heaven's crown.

O Morning Star, O radiant Sun,  
when will our hearts behold your dawn?  
Oh, come, arise: without your light  
we grope in gloom and dark of night.

Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies;  
grim death looms fierce before our eyes.  
Oh, come lead us with mighty hand  
from exile to our promised land.

There shall we all our praises bring  
ever to you, our Savior King.  
There shall we laud you and adore  
forever and forever more.

## Deutsches Magnificat

Schütz

*Text:* Luke 1:46-49, 51-55 (sung in German)

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm,  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel,  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,  
The promise he made to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his children for ever. Amen.

---

## Je Suis l'Archange de Dieu

French carol (sung in French)

The archangel sent by God  
spoke to the shepherds,  
imploing them to go to  
the manger and sing:

On this joyful day  
a child is given to us,  
He is here, in the stable,  
sleeping on the fresh straw.

Go, dear friends,  
before daybreak and  
find the Savior promised to you,  
He is born for you,  
therefore go and pay him homage...

Follow the star with great haste  
and you shall find him.  
See the people in the stable  
on their knees praying...

## The Midwife's Tale

James Woodman

*Text adapted from the Arundel Manuscript by Mr. Woodman*

### i. *The End*

The end drew near—time, nearly gone—  
all felt strangely, beautifully wrong.

*All felt strangely, beautifully wrong.*

From deepest Heaven God flew racing  
toward us, fearful, Judgment facing.

*All felt strangely, beautifully wrong.*

The winds dropped to earth—  
like stones stood the trees—  
the streams slowed—then stopped—  
still fell the seas—  
voices were hushed, as if  
withered by frost—  
great Earth itself stood  
motionless—lost—

Perfect silence, perfect fear,  
time exhausted, world's end near:  
*All felt strangely, beautifully wrong.*

### ii. *Interregnum*

Transfigured, rapt, of brilliance white,  
she bore the child: the child was Light.

“Amen!” A thousand voices cried;  
a hidden throng Light magnified.

Heavenly dew, fragrance rare  
arose from Light and bathed the air.

The Light increased—outshone the sun—  
The child was Light: the Light, the One.

### iii. *The Beginning*

Witness to Light's birth,  
I stood lost in wonder,  
marveling, fearful,  
Light's new Life beholding:  
Child, born of starlight,  
God's new world, an infant,  
lightning incarnate.

Now filled with boldness,  
I reached out to touch him,  
lifted him gently, seeking God to cradle:  
child, born of moonlight, peaceful,  
blissful, shining,  
weightless as lightning.

I gazed, adoring, in the child-god's  
bright eyes;  
intent, he gazed back—my delight,  
my heaven!—  
child, born of sunlight, radiant,  
laughing, perfect,  
eyes flashing lightning!

## Song of the Pines

Betinis

*Text by Abbie Betinis*

Night, and the world asleep,  
All the silver pines are still,  
Here the moonlit earth lies bleak and chill,  
Mirabile Mysterium, a child is born.

Now, a celestial song,  
Shivering down from lofty cones,  
Drops, bough by bending bough  
in whispered tones:  
Mirabile Mysterium, a child is born.

Blow! You Great North wind,  
Carry this song of long ago,  
And on your way redeem us all in snow,  
Mirabile Mysterium, a child is born.

Lo! How immortal hymns  
Fall from the lips of wakened souls,  
Hail! Arise and greet the babe  
the choir extolls,  
Mirabile Mysterium, a child is born.

Night, and the world asleep,  
But for the song of the snowy pine,  
O! Yet here is God's own evidence divine,  
Mirabile Mysterium, a child is born.

---

## I Wonder as I Wander

*arr. Rutter; words and original music by John Jacob Niles*

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,  
How Jesus, the Savior, did come for to die,  
For poor ornery people like you and like I:  
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus,  
'twas in a cows' stall,  
With wisemen and farmers  
and shepherds and all.  
But high from God's heaven  
a star's light did fall,  
And the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing:  
A star in the sky, or a bird on the wing;  
Or all of God's angels in heaven to sing,  
He surely could have had it,  
'Cause he was the King!

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,  
How Jesus, the Savior, did come for to die.  
For poor ornery people like you and like I:  
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.



## TEXTS

---

### He Stooped to Bless

Margetson

*Text:* Anon.

He stooped to bless, and stooping raised us,  
And the tenderness which looked in pity on a world of sin,  
Long years ago, still waits in love to call the nations in,  
Till all shall know that all may rise in him to holiness,  
Because he stooped so low.

---

### Behold That Star

Talley

*arr.* Robison

Behold that star up yonder,  
It is the star of Bethlehem.

There was no room found in the inn  
For Him who was born free from sin.

The wise men came on from the East,  
To worship Him, the Prince of Peace.

I wanna see that star, take me to that star.  
Hallelu, hallelu, I'm gonna see that star!

A song broke forth upon the night.  
From angel hosts all robed in white.

Behold that star up yonder,  
It is the star of Bethlehem.



**Beauties Joynd Together:  
Music of the British Isles**

**Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023 at 8 PM**

First Church in Cambridge  
11 Garden Street, Cambridge

**Sunday, Dec. 3, 2023 at 3 PM**

Second Church in Newton  
60 Highland Street, West Newton

**Music for Double Choir**

F. Martin: *Mass for double choir a cappella*  
J.S. Bach: *Singet dem Herrn ein neues Lied*

**Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 8 PM**

First Church in Cambridge  
11 Garden Street, Cambridge

**Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 3 PM**

Second Church in Newton  
60 Highland Street, West Newton



[jamesonsingers.org](http://jamesonsingers.org)

❖ [info@jamesonsingers.org](mailto:info@jamesonsingers.org)

# Concord Women's Chorus

THE POWER OF WOMEN'S VOICES | JANE RING FRANK, DIRECTOR

## A Celebration of Glorias: Vivaldi's Signature and More

Vivaldi's Gloria is one of the world's beloved musical treasures. Most often sung with mixed chorus, Concord Women's Chorus offers a special view of Vivaldi's world, as composer for the Ospedale della Pietà – a convent, orphanage, and music school for founding girls in early 18th century Venice. Accompanied by strings, organ, oboe, and soloists, hear the shimmer, radiance, and vitality that women's voices bring to

Vivaldi's signature work. The program includes a stunning and rhythmic Festival Gloria from composer Craig Courtney and Ola Gjeilo's luminous works for women's voices, piano, and string quartet.

**Saturday, December 16, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.**

Trinity Episcopal Church  
81 Elm Street, Concord, MA

For tickets and information: [www.concordwomenschorus.org](http://www.concordwomenschorus.org)

# Music Director John W. Ehrlich's Farewell Season

Celebrating his 44 years at the helm of The Spectrum Singers



NOVEMBER 18, 2023 | 7:30PM

## A Christmas Prelude

Respighi's *Laud to the Nativity*, with soloists Sarah Yanovitch Vitale, Katherine Maysek and Marcio de Oliveira, plus other favorite seasonal choral works

MARCH 16, 2024 | 7:30PM

## A Great SPECTRUM of Repertoire!

A concert reprising several of John Ehrlich's favorites from the chorus's 44-year history, including Brahms's *Liebeslieder Waltzes*, Schubert, Fauré, and other works from the Renaissance to the present day

MAY 18, 2024 | 8PM

## Time, Space, Peace, Music, God

Vaughan Williams: *Toward the Unknown Region* and *Serenade to Music*, Schoenberg: *Friede auf Erden* and Ives: *Psalm 90*

*\*Programs subject to change*



John W. Ehrlich, Music Director

All concerts Saturday evenings

First Church Congregational, 11 Garden St., Cambridge

Tickets and more information: [www.spectrumsingers.org](http://www.spectrumsingers.org)



Jason Iannuzzi  
Artistic Director

# CANTEMUS

SMALL CHORUS. GRAND SOUND.

## 2023-2024 Season

### **Annelies**

A choral work based on Anne Frank's *The Diary of a Young Girl*. Composed in 2005 by British national James Whitbourn, *Annelies* is the only major choral-orchestral work based on her words, and features a soprano soloist, piano, violin, cello and clarinet.

**January 20 & 21, 2024**



### **Love Is Love Is Love**

Featuring songs about love in all its forms: love between a parent and child, romantic love, love in friendship and love for all humankind.

**May 11 & 12, 2024**

*Celebrating 42 Years of Song on the North Shore*

Beverly • Newburyport • Swampscott

[www.cantemus.org](http://www.cantemus.org)



Scott Metcalfe, Artistic Director

# BLUE HERON

2023/2024

• 25TH SEASON •



OCTOBER 14

**Le Rossignol  
musical /  
The Musical  
Nightingale**

DECEMBER 15 & 16

**Christmas  
in Medieval  
England**

JANUARY 20

**Renaissance  
Portraits**

MARCH 23

**Tasso & Wert**

APRIL 13

**The World  
of Johannes  
Okeghem**



BLUE HERON

First Church in Cambridge, Congregational  
11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA

[blueheron.org](http://blueheron.org)

## CONVIVIUM • MUSICUM

CHOIR FOR RENAISSANCE MUSIC

ALLEGRA MARTIN, MUSIC DIRECTOR

### Music for a French Cathedral

Convivium will feature works by Dufay, Ockeghem and Josquin, including movements from Ockeghem's *Missa pro defunctis* and Josquin's beloved motet *Déploration sur la mort d'Ockeghem*.

Sunday, Feb 25, 2024 - 3 pm: Christ Church, Andover

Saturday, Mar 2, 2024 - 7 pm: Harvard Epworth Church, Cambridge

### Draw on Sweet Night

Enjoy a variety of composers meditating on the thoughts and emotions that arise between dusk and dawn, including Wilbye, Lasso, Aleotti, Palestrina, and more. We hope you join us for a glorious season of music!

Saturday, June 1, 2024 - 7 pm: First Unitarian Church, Worcester

Sunday, June 2, 2024 - 4 pm: Trinity Parish of Newton Centre

*For tickets and season details, visit [WWW.CONVIVIUM.ORG](http://WWW.CONVIVIUM.ORG)*



## JOIN US FOR MUSICA SACRA'S FALL 2023 CONCERTS!

All performances on Saturdays at  
First Church Congregational  
11 Garden Street  
Cambridge, Massachusetts  
*and LIVE STREAMED*



MUSICA SACRA  
P. O. Box 381336  
Cambridge, MA  
02238-1336

[www.musicasacra.org](http://www.musicasacra.org)  
617-349-3400

MARY BEEKMAN  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Photo copyright © 2017 Holbrook Robinson



## FROM THE OLD WORLD TO THE NEW WORLD

Choral music of Tomás Luis de Victoria  
and Juan de Lienas

**OCTOBER 21, 2023, 8:00 PM**

## THE CHRISTMAS STORY IN CAROLS AND POEMS

Four centuries of Christmas music  
and poetry from Europe

**DECEMBER 9, 2023, 7:00 PM**  
*(Note the time: to accommodate families)*

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT  
**SPRING 2024 CONCERTS!**

*"... uncommonly fresh and direct —  
almost like breaking news."*  
—THE BOSTON GLOBE



# Boston Early Music Festival

Paul O'Dette & Stephen Stubbs, Artistic Directors

## 2023/24 SEASON

LEARN MORE AT  
**BEMF.org**

■ **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8 | 8PM**

The Tallis Scholars

■ **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3 | 8PM**

Opera Prima

■ **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23 | 8PM**

Le Consort

■ **SATURDAY, MARCH 2 | 8PM**

BEMF Vocal & Chamber Ensembles

■ **FRIDAY, APRIL 5 | 8PM**

Jordi Savall & Hespèrion XXI

■ **FRIDAY, APRIL 19 | 8PM**

Stile Antico

## PARTNERS

---

### **The Friday Café at First Church in Cambridge**

Seraphim is pleased to be partnering with The Friday Café at First Church in Cambridge again this year in a winter wear clothing drive. We thank you for your participation.

The Friday Café, a weekly daytime drop-in program, offers a welcoming space where homeless and housed adults can gather and get to know each other. Serving about 100 guests a week, it offers food and coffee, rest and resources to people living on the margins—but most importantly, community. At the Friday Café, people experiencing a wide variety of life circumstances can relax, share a meal, and talk together as friends.

For people going through hardship, community can make all the difference. Visit [www.thefriday.cafe](http://www.thefriday.cafe) to explore what community looks like at the Friday Café, and consider participating—by providing a homemade dish occasionally, donating gently used clothing, helping in person for a couple of hours on a Friday, or making a gift to support our work.



---

**GREATER  
BOSTON  
CHORAL  
CONSORTIUM**

The Seraphim Singers is a member of the Greater Boston Choral Consortium, a cooperative association of diverse choral groups. To learn more, visit [www.bostonsings.org](http://www.bostonsings.org).

# MANY THANKS TO OUR DONORS!

---

## First Sphere

\$7,500 and up

---

## Second Sphere:

\$4,000–\$7,499

---

Daryl Bichel  
Clark Charitable Trust  
Sarah & Staffan Ericsson  
Leslie Price & Michael Welles  
Beth Spaulding & Joshua Tauber

## Third Sphere

\$2,000–\$3,999

---

Jennifer Lester & Greg Merklin  
Sue Lester  
Livia Racz & Bruce Kozuma  
Eileen Sweeney  
Richard & Phyllis Whitten  
James Woodman

## Seraph

\$1,000–\$1,999

---

George Bard  
Michael & Rita Budwey  
Susanne & Myron Feld  
Warren & Janet Hutchison  
Louise Munding  
Mark Nemeskal  
Vincent & Mary Stanton  
Laurie Szablewski

---

You can support Seraphim any time by making a donation.  
Visit [www.seraphimsingers.org/donate](http://www.seraphimsingers.org/donate)

To inquire about partially or fully supporting a special project, such as a collaboration with a visual artist or a dance ensemble, commissioning a choral piece, or supporting a concert, send an email to [info@seraphimsingers.org](mailto:info@seraphimsingers.org).

Seraphim Singers, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.  
Gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

## Cherub

\$500–\$999

---

Judith Beatrice  
Dennis Duquette  
Robert Henry  
Lisa & Jonathan Lewis  
John & Sara McLaughlin  
Richard Tarrant

## Virtue

\$200–\$499

---

Charles & Sheila Donahue  
Hermine Drezner  
Russell Khederian  
Susan & David Lawrence  
Margaret Michaud  
Randolph Nichols  
Leslie Patton  
Frank & Madeleine Porcelli  
Lee Ridgway  
Karl Saur  
Emily Smith-Sturr & Ted Sturr  
James & Maude Terry  
William Valletta

## Archangel

\$100–\$199

---

Valerie Anastasio  
Alex & Theresa Buiel  
Julie Button  
Michele Caniato  
Paul Cravedi  
Eleanor Cress  
Barbara & David Ehrmann  
Sara Karwacki  
Alison LaRosa  
Stefanie Lubkowski  
Fred Merklin  
Deirdre O'Donnell-Griswold  
Martin & Cynthia Offenbauer  
Wendy Perrotta  
Nicole Ruttan  
Mary Lou Sallee  
Barbara Swist  
Peter Watchorn

## Angel

up to \$99

---

Judith Albee  
James Beck  
Doug Kowiak  
Thomas Manguem  
Linda McNeil  
Orr Michaely  
Rosalind Mohnsen  
Lynne Montross  
Francisco Nahoe  
John Nesby  
Judy Norsigian  
Charles Oliver  
Ellen Promise  
Lois & Quentin Regestein  
John & Sue Roll  
Polly Scannell  
David Scheibe  
Catherine & Nathaniel Stalberg  
Alley Stoughton



COMING IN 2024



*Choral Music to Illuminate, Challenge, and Inspire*



**INSPIRED TO JOY**

SATURDAY

March 2, 8:00 pm  
*in West Roxbury*

SUNDAY

March 3, 3:00 pm  
*in Cambridge*



**STARS AND PLANETS**

FRIDAY

April 26, 8:00 pm  
*in Chestnut Hill*

*In collaboration with the Boston Chapter  
of the American Guild of Organists*

For details and in person and virtual tickets, visit [www.seraphimsingers.org](http://www.seraphimsingers.org)



[www.seraphimsingers.org](http://www.seraphimsingers.org)