

Angels Among Us

BOREALIS CHORALE
AND ORCHESTRA

Christmas Concerts

Karina Roth, Director



December 12 & 13, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
of Grand Marais

Dedicated to the memory of

Mark Abrahamson

PROCESSIONAL:

HODIE Music: Gregorian Chant, ancient



Text: antiphon to the Magnificat.

Traditionally sung at vespers on Christmas Day

Hodie Christus natus est:	<i>Today Christ is born:</i>
Hodie Salvator apparuit:	<i>Today the Savior appeared:</i>
Hodie in terra canunt Angeli, laetantur Archangeli	<i>Today on Earth the Angels sing, Archangels rejoice:</i>
Hodie exsultant iusti, dicentes:	<i>Today the righteous rejoice, saying:</i>
Gloria in excelsis Deo.	<i>Glory to God in the highest.</i>
Alleluia.	<i>Alleluia</i>

BEFORE THE MARVEL OF THIS NIGHT..... Carl Schalk

*Before the marvel of this night, adoring, fold your wings and bow,
Then tear the sky apart with light and with your news the world endow.
Proclaim the birth of Christ and peace, that fear and death and sorrow cease.
Sing peace, sing peace, sing gift of peace!*

*Awake the sleeping world with song, this is the day the Lord has made.
Assemble here, celestial throng, in royal splendor come arrayed.
Give earth a glimpse of heav'nly bliss, a teasing taste of what they miss:
Sing bliss, sing bliss, sing endless bliss!*

*The love that we have always known, our constant joy and endless light,
Now to the loveless world be shown, now break upon its deathly night.
Into one song compress the love, that rules our universe above:
Sing love, sing love, sing God is love!*

ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY..... arr. Dan Forrest Tune: REGENT SQUARE

*Angels from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o'er all the earth.
Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the newborn King!*

*Shepherds in the field abiding, Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the newborn King!*

*Sages, leave your contemplation, Brighter visions beam afar.
Seek the great Desire of Nations, Ye have seen His natal star.*

*Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the newborn King!
 All creation join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son.
 Evermore your voices raising To th'eternal Three in One!
 Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ the newborn King!*

--James Montgomery (1816)



IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR..... arr. Tom Trenney
 Tune: CAROL

*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 heav'n's all-gracious king."
 The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

*Still through the cloven skies they come
 with peaceful wings unfurled,
 and still their heav'nly music floats o'er all the weary world*

*And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
 Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow:
 Look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
 Oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!*

Assembly: (Please stand and join in singing)

For lo! The days are has-t'ning on, by proph-ets seen of old,
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years shall come the time fore - told,
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen-dors fling,
 and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

-Edmund H. Sears

WEXFORD CAROL arr. William Beckstrand

Soloists: Eric Anderson, Jake Patten

*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 that morn, There was a blessed Messiah born.*

*The night before that happy tide, the noble Virgin and her guide
Were long time seeking up and down, to find lodging in the town.
But mark how all things come to pass, from ev'ry doorway repelled, alas!
As long fortold, their refuge all was but a humble ox's stall.*

*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, and do not dread;
For there you'll find, the happy morn, a princely babe, sweet Jesus born."*

*With thankful hearts and joyful mind, the shepherds went the babe to find,
And as God's angel had foretold, they did our Savior Christ behold.
Within a manger he was laid, and by his side the virgin maid,
Attending on the Lord of Life, who came on earth to end all strife.*



WE TOAST THE DAYS Linda Kachelmeier

Soloists: Kristin Ferrier, Don Grant

*When the clock strikes twelve and another year has gone, I give a kiss to you.
As remembrance of the past we have shared and the future yet to come.
We toast the days, both good and bad, the old friends and the new.
When the clock strakes twelve and another year has gone, I give a kiss to you.*

*While the night is long and the bitter cold has come, we lengthen our embrace
To sustain us as we mourn our regrets and the fear of days unknown.
We toast the days, both good and bad, the old friends and the new.
While the night is long and the bitter cold has come, I give a kiss to you.*

*As we stand on the edge of another bright new year, I take your hand in mine
With assurance of the courage we will find and the hope that leads us on.
We toast the days, both good and bad, the old friends and the new.
As we stand on the edge of another bright new year, I give a kiss to you.*

STAY WITH US..... Egil Hovland

*Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us.
Stay with us, it soon is evening.
Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us, it soon is evening,
and night is falling.*

*Jesus Christ the world's true light!
Shine so the darkness cannot overcome it!
Stay with us, Lord Jesus, it soon is evening.
Stay with us, Lord Jesus, for night is falling
Let your light pierce the darkness and fill your church with its glory.*

*Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us.
Stay with us, it soon is evening.
Stay with us, Lord Jesus, stay with us, it soon is evening,
and night is falling.*



FROM *THE MESSIAH*..... G. F. Handel

RECITATIVE: THERE WERE SHEPHERDS ABIDING IN THE FIELDS

Soloist: Erika Ternes

*There were shepherds abiding in the fields,
Keeping watch over their flocks by night.*

RECITATIVE: AND LO, THE ANGEL OF THE LORD CAME UPON THEM

*And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them.,
And the glory of the Lord shone round about them,
And they were sore afraid.*

RECITATIVE: AND THE ANGEL SAID UNTO THEM

*And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for behold,
I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
For unto you is born this day, in the city of David,
A Savior, which is Christ the Lord.*

RECITATIVE: AND SUDDENLY THERE WAS WITH THE ANGEL

*And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heav'nly host,
Praising God, and saying:*

CHORUS: GLORY TO GOD

*Glory to God, glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth.
Goodwill towards all, towards all.*

ALL EARTH IS HOPEFUL arr. William Beckstrand
Soloists: Amy Schmidt, Erik Hahn, Erika Ternes

*All earth is hopeful, the Savior comes at last!
Furrows lie open for God's creative task:
This, the labor of people who struggle to see how
God's truth and justice set ev'rybody free.*

*People of Israel, you heard the prophet tell:
"A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel";
She conceived him, "God with us," our brother,
whose birth restores hope and courage to children of this earth.*



*Mountains and valleys will have to be prepared:
New highways opened, new protocols declared.
Almost here! God is nearing, in beauty and grace!
All clear ev'ry gateway, in haste, come out in haste!*

Assembly: (Please stand and join in singing)

We first saw Je-sus a ba-by in a crib. This same Lord Je-sus to-day has come to live in our
world; he is pre-sent, in neigh-bors we see our Je-sus is with us, and ev-er sets us free.

GREENSLEEVES arr. by Alfred Reed

WINDS THROUGH THE OLIVE TREES Linda Kachelmeier
Barb LaVigne, flute

*Winds through the olive trees softly did blow
Round little Bethlehem, long ago.
Sheep on the hillside lay whiter than snow,
Shepherds were watching them, long, long ago.*

*Then from the happy skies, angels bent low.
Singing their songs of joy: long, long ago.
For in a manger bed, cradled we know,
Christ came to Bethlehem, long, long ago.*



--Anonymous 16th century

RIU RIU CHIU..... ed. by Noah Greenberg
Soloists: Peter Bennett, Elunia Steckelberg

*Riu, riu, chiu,
la guarda ribera.
Dios guardo el lobo
de nuestra cordera.*

*Este qu'es nascido es el gran monarca,
Christo patriarca de carne vestido;
Hanos redimido con se hazer chiquito,
Aunqu'era infnito, finito se biziera.*

*Este viene a dar a los Muertos vida,
Y viene repararar de todos la caida;
Es la luz del dia aqueste mucuelo;
Este es el Cordero que San Juan dixera*

*Yo vi mil garcones que andavan cantando,
Por aqui bolando, haziendo mil sonos,
Diziendo a gascones Gloria sea en el
Cielo,
Y paz en el suelo ques Jesus nasciera.*

*Pues que ya temenos lo que deseamos
Todos juntos vamos presents llevemos
Todos le daremos nuestra voluntad
Pues a se igualar con nosotros viniera.
Riu, riu, chiu,*

*Riu, riu, chiu,
Guard our homes in safety.
God has kept the black wolf
From our lamb, our Lady.*

*He who's now begotten Is our mighty
Monarch, Christ our Holy Father in
human flesh embodied. He has brought
atonement by being born so humble;
though He is immortal, as mortal was
created.*

*He has come to offer Life to dead and
dying. He comes to atone for the fall of all
mankind; Light of hope, far-shining. Is He,
this baby boy, Lamb of God, our joy,
Just as good Saint John related.*

*Hérons by the thousand I see flying,
singing; High above me sounding
A thousand songs of praise. In sweet
voices saying, May glory be on High.
Peace on earth, they cry. Born is Jesus
long awaited.*

*We have now the very one we've always
prayed for, Le's all go as neighbors and
presents we will hear. Let's no longer
tarry, our love and faith to give.
Since He came to live Here among us
as our Savior.*

Anonymous from "Villancicos de diuersos Autores," Venice, (1556)



LISTEN TO THE ANGELS..... by Neal Hagberg

Arr. by Abbie Betinis

Soloist: Tina Hegg Raway

*If they told you he was a poor boy, would you come?
If they looked you in the eye, said, "Do not fear, he is the one"
And they told you he was a poor boy, would you still come?*

Chorus:

Oh, listen to the angels, Oh, listen to the angels.

Oh, listen to the angels, High over Bethlehem.

*If they told you she wasn't married, would you come?
If they said this teenaged mother, would be the chosen one
And they told you she wasn't married, would you still come?*

Chorus

*If it was a long, long road to get there, would you come?
Like the wise men on their camels, one by one,
Well it's a long, long road back to the child's faith you came from.
If they told you it was a long way, would you still come?*



Assembly: (Please stand and join in singing—3 times)



CLIMB TO THE TOP OF THE HIGHEST MOUNTAIN.....

Carolyn Jennings

Soloists: Eva Ternes, Anja Ternes, Erika Ternes

*Climb to the top of the highest mountain. Joyous tidings proclaim to the world.
Lift up your voice, shout the good news; Behold, your Lord comes to you.*

*He will feed his flock like a shepherd, He will carry the lambs in his arms,
He will ever keep them safe from harm. Behold, your Lord comes to you.*

*He who made the stars in the heaven. He who fashioned the earth and the sea,
From time eternal, He was Alpha and Omega. He. Behold, behold, your Lord!*

*He will come in power and glory, He will rule with mercy and truth,
Hope of the nations, Light of the world, Light of all the world.*

*He will love the little children, He will hold them in his arms.
Love him and trust him as a child, Behold, your Lord comes to you.*

--adapted from Isaiah 40

SONG OF THE EARTH Frode Fjellheim
arr. Emily Crocker

This song is inspired by Indigenous Saami and Norwegian culture, a combination of Saami yoiking and the Silesian folk hymn Beautiful Savior. Yoik is a very old vocal tradition among the Saami people of Scandinavia and Russia, characterized by short melodic phrases that repeat again and again, with small variations. The Saamis themselves say that the "Yoik" (which has no specific linguistic meaning) has no beginning and no end.

The **FREEWILL OFFERING** at the door is the primary source of revenue for the **BOREALIS CHORALE AND ORCHESTRA**. Your gift will help defray the considerable expense of producing this concert. We hope you will give generously, as you are able. Checks made out to **The North Shore Music Association**, noting BCO in the memo line, are tax deductible. **THANK YOU!**



Dedicated to
Mark Abrahamson

1954 - 2025

An Angel

Among Us

BOREALIS MUSICIANS

CHORALE PARTICIPANTS

Soprano

Nicole Banitt
Bobbie Collins
Janet Ditmanson
Tina Hegg Raway
Cheryl Hovde
Marlys Johnson
Mari LaMoore
Cheryl Larsen
Liz O'Brien
Laura Dahl Popkes
Janet Simonen
Elunia Steckelberg
Erika Ternes
June Tveekrem
Sarah Waddle

Alto

Jane Alexander
Alex Blust
Tracey Cullen
Jenny Delfs
Joan Ege
Amanda Engstrom

Kristin Ferrier
Anne Swallow Gillis
Bonnie Hromidko
Karen Krittta
Libby Larson
Jessica Markusen
Alice McFarlane
Cindy Muus
Susan Scherer
Amy Schmidt
Deb Veit
Catherine Wilson
Marie Zubinski

Tenor

Peter Bennett
Carl Dgar
Bob Evans
Don Grant
Gerry Grant
Jon Gunderson
Mike Roth
Ann Russ
John Silliman

Bass

Larry Dean
Mike DeBevec
Mark Delamater
Steve Frykman
Scott Mehlhaff
Rolf Morck
Nathan Muus
Paul Muus
Chris O'Brien
Mark Schultz
John Shelley
Bruce Tyler

ORCHESTRA PARTICIPANTS

Violin

Sue Anderson
Rovena Claxton
Myra Theimer

Viola

Molly Hicken
Erika Ternes

Cello

Karen Schultz
Bob Shannon
Ashley Sivertson

Double Bass

Mike Roth

Oboe

Philis Anderson

Clarinet

Kathy Bolstad
Scott Sater

Flute

Barb LaVigne

Saxophones

Erik Hahn

Horn

Alyssa Hedstrom
Chris Holland-Mehlhaff
Lisa Sater

Trumpet

Don Grant

Trombone

Dave Coleman
Lorelei Livingston

Euphonium

Jon Moe

Tuba

Eric Anderson

Percussion

Yvonne Mills
Mike Roth

Keyboards

Mike DeBevec
Chandler Litterst
Scott Mehlhaff

Electric Bass

Jonathan Steckelberg