

December 13th Christmas Choral Program

“Messengers of Joy”

Prelude

- Ring the Bells (Alaina, Phil and Band)

Choral Call to Worship and Processional Hymn

- Antiphonal Choral introit with Chamade
- Hark the Herald Angels Sing (HGOY, p.78) (3 vs.)

Welcome/Bidding Prayer (UMBOW, p.263) – Pastor Carter

- Carols of Gathering (SOW, p.4)
- O, Come All Ye Faithful (3 vs.) (SOW, p.14) (w/congregation)

The Messenger of the Ancients (David Hager)

And it came to pass that people said in their hearts, “If the Lord is with us, where are all His wonders that our fathers told us about? We have been given no miraculous signs; no prophets are left, and none of us knows how long we must wait. O Lord, our souls yearn for You in the night; our spirits long for You in the morning. We wait for You, for You are the desire of our hearts.”

- Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus (SOW, p.20)

The Messenger of Promise (Pam Barnes)

Then the Lord said, “Before you, I will do wonders never before done in any nation in all the world. And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means the least; for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of my people Israel.”

- Great Joy A-Comin’! (JV, p.33) (a cappella) (Emily solo)

The Messenger of Favor (David Hager)

And in the sixth month, the Angel Gabriel appeared to a virgin named Mary. And he said to her, “Do not be afraid, for you have found favor with God and will give birth to a son. The Lord God will give Him the throne of his father David and His Kingdom will never end.” Then Mary glorified the Lord and rejoiced. For the prophet Isaiah had foretold these things; “A virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son.” Therefore, the daughters of Zion, rejoice! Your King is coming, the holy One, the Savior of the world.

- Rejoice, All Ye Daughters (SOW, p.44) (Segue into The First Noel)
- The First Noel (HGOY, p.46) (w/ Congregation) (v. 1,2,6 desc)

Pastoral Meditation – Pastor Grieb

The Messenger of Salvation (Pastor Grieb)

And Mary went to Bethlehem with Joseph, to whom she was pledged to be married. While they were there, she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. And she wrapped Him in cloth and placed Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. There were shepherds living in the fields nearby, watching their flocks under the starry skies of night. An angel of the Lord appeared and told them, "I bring good news of great joy. This day a Savior has been born, who is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you; You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Offertory

- Joy (Octavo)(Traci and Alaina Soloists, Phil and Band)

The Messengers of Praise (Pam Barnes)

The shepherds said to one another, "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened." And they hurried and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. When they had seen Him, the shepherds returned, glorifying God for all that they had heard and seen. And all who heard of it were amazed by what the shepherds told them.

- All on a Starry Night (SOW, p.56) (a Cappella)

The Messengers of Joy(David Hager)

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him." And the star went ahead of them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. And when they saw it, they were overjoyed. They bowed down before the child and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, incense, and myrrh. And all this was to fulfill the words of the prophet; "I who created the stars in the heavens and stretched them out, I will make you a light for Gentiles. Nations will come by your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn."

- O Holy Night (SOW, 89) (Libby solo vs. 1)

Closing Hymn

- Joy to the World (HGOY, 60)

Sending Forth – Pastor Grieb

Postlude

- Rob Vanover, organ