

Moravian College Christmas Vespers

MORAVIAN COLLEGE CHOIR

RICHARD SCHANTZ, *conductor*
MONICA SCHANTZ, *organ*
WILLARD R. HARSTINE, *presiding*

THE PRELUDE

<i>Toccata</i>	Lodovico da Viadana 1564-1645
<i>Carillon</i>	Louis Couperin 1626-1661
<i>Prelude</i>	Giovanni Croce 1557-1609
<i>Air and Allegro</i>	Henry Purcell 1659-1695
<i>Fantasia</i>	John Okeover c. 1600-1650
<i>Suscepit Israel</i>	Johann Sebastian Bach 1685-1750
<i>Galliard</i>	Anthony Holborne ?-1602
<i>Canzona Per Sonare No. II</i>	Giovanni Gabrieli 1554-1612
<i>Allegro</i>	Antonio Vivaldi 1678-1741

Moravian College Brass Ensembles
Lawrence Wright, *director*

Kurt Barlieb, Patrick Brady, Joseph Gartner, Bryan Hay, Harris Hoke, Lawrence Kleintop, M. Beth Lohner, David Mitchell, Daniel Sbardella, Randy Ziegenfuss

THE CHOIR

Gloria

Giacomo Puccini
1858-1924

*Gloria in excelsis Deo. Et in terra pax
hominibus bonae voluntatis.*

Glory be to God on high. And on earth
peace to men of good will.

Central Moravian Church Bethlehem, Pennsylvania

December 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 1984 at 8:00 p.m.

THE LITURGY

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up unto the Lord!

Sing, O heaven, and be joyful, O earth, for the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together;

For the mouth of the Lord has spoken it!

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for He has visited and redeemed His people. The dayspring from on high has visited us, to give light to those who sit in darkness,

And to guide our feet into the way of peace.

God so loved the world that He gave his only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

Thanks be to God for his inexpressible gift!

In Him was life, and the life was the light of humanity. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world knew Him not. He came to His own home, and His own people received Him not.

But to all who received Him, He gave power to become children of God.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

St. Theodulph

Paul Gerhardt, 1653

Oh, how shall I receive Thee,
How greet Thee, Lord, aright?
All nations long to see Thee,
My hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord, most holy,
Thy lamp within my breast,
To do in spirit lowly
All that may please Thee best.

Love caused Thy incarnation,
Love brought Thee down to me;
Thy thirst for my salvation
Procured my liberty;
O love beyond all telling,
That led Thee to embrace,
In love all love excelling,
Our lost and fallen race!

A GREETING

Willard R. Harstine, chaplain

THE CHOIR

Benedictus

Antonin Dvořák
1841-1904

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING—Isaiah 9:2-7 *Read by students of the Theological Seminary*

First Vesper—Craig Atwood

Third Vesper—William Hosking, Jr.

Fifth Vesper—John Kent

Second Vesper—Sara Aker

Fourth Vesper—Richard Beck

Sixth Vesper—Clark Pfaff

THE NEW TESTAMENT READING—Luke 2:1-14 *Read by students of the College*

First Vesper—Pamela Greeno

Third Vesper—Valerie Hand

Fifth Vesper—Albert Schrack

Second Vesper—Carol Schlaefer

Fourth Vesper—Lori Skripek

Sixth Vesper—Catharine Furlow

THE PRAYER *Offered by members of the Faculty and Administration*

First Vesper—Martha Reid

Third Vesper—Arthur Freeman

Fifth Vesper—Anne Sinnott Skutches

Second Vesper—Thomas Minor

Fourth Vesper—Kathleen Steele

Sixth Vesper—Susan Gangwere

THE CONGREGATION

Jesu, rufe mich

Adam Drese, 1698

Jesus, call Thou me, from the world to Thee;
Speed me ever, stay me never.
Jesus call Thou me.
Not Jerusalem—lowly Bethlehem
'Twas that gave us Christ to save us;
Not Jerusalem.

Favored Bethlehem! honored is that name;
Thence came Jesus to release us;
Favored Bethlehem!
Wondrous Child divine! warm this heart of mine;
Keep it burning, for Thee yearning,
Wondrous Child divine!

The celebration of Christmas has always been an important part of life in Bethlehem and at Moravian College. The first settlers singing Not Jerusalem—lowly Bethlehem on Christmas Eve, 1741, in the first log house, inspired the name Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. The college has celebrated Christmas with special services since its founding in 1742.

THE CHOIR

Sing, All Men!

Sing, all men! 'tis Christmas morning,
Jesus Christ the Son's aborning;
Heigh, the holly! Ho, the heather!
Carol voices all together!

Come ye brave and come ye strong,
Repent your sins, give up your wrong:

In that manger, all alone,
The virgin mother did atone:

Prophesies

*Velo yadoo raz nihiya
Oovekadmoniyut lo hitbonanu.
Velo yadoo ma asher yavo aleyheyima
Venafshama lo miltoo meraz nihiya.*

*Veze lachem ha-ot,
Ki yihiye behisager moldei-avla:
Vegala haresha mipnei hatzedek;*

Seek not earthly power and pelf,
But thro' your Jesus save yourself:

See the ox and see the kine,
And see afar the heav'nly sign:

He who came to earth so low,
Soon to man's estate will grow:

And upon the cruel tree,
Will die in place of you and me:

Appalachian Carol

Larry Lipkis

Composer-in-Residence

*Kiglot choshech mipnei or;
Oochetom ashan v'enu od—
Ken yitam haresha la-ad,
Vehatzedek yigale kashemesh,
Tikon teyvel.*

Nachon hadavar lavo v'emet hamasah!

Book of Mysteries, from The Dead Sea Scrolls (c. 100 B.C.)

Eoo lucebit sydus ab ore mirificum.

Anonymous, c. 1545. Set by Orlando di Lasso in *Prophetiae Sybillarum* (1545)

And they do not know the mystery to come;
they have not brooded over the past;
they do not know what will befall them;
they have not saved their lives from the mystery to come.

And this shall be the sign for you,
for it will come to pass when the birthgates of evil are shut:
wickedness will then fly before righteousness
as darkness flies before light;
and as smoke disappears and is no more,
so shall wickedness disappear forever
and righteousness be revealed like a sun
governing the world.

This word is sure to come; this prophesy is true!
A wondrous star will arise from the mouth of dawn.

Robin Kani, Dawn King, Pamela Pavlik, Julie Swift—*soloists*

(First Performances)

The White Dove

Johannes Brahms
1833-1897

A white Dove flew from heaven
To earth here below
And came in shining raiment
To Mary long ago.
His sweet angelic voice
filled all the room;
Her soul o'er flowed with gladness
And blessed was her womb.
Kyrie eleison.

On Jesse's stem this maiden
Brought forth a lovely Rose
And Paradise is opened
Since He from death arose.
With God the Father
and the Holy Dove
He waits for us in heaven
In everlasting love.
Kyrie eleison.

Our days on earth are numbered
And soon we must depart.
O Lord, we humbly pray Thee,
With mind and soul and heart,
To bear us gently
from this world of pain,
To live with Thee for ever
Where joy and gladness reign.
Kyrie eleison.

A Hunter

Johannes Brahms

A hunter came from heaven
In search of a spotless maid.
Thus he hailed the sweet virgin Mary,
"Blessed thou, be not afraid!"

This hunter was an angel;
He told her, "Fear thou not
For thou shalt bear a Savior!"
She replied, "Magnificat."

O blessed be thou, Mary,
And blessed be thy Son,
For He died to save us from Satan's pow'r
And for us the vict'ry won.

Magnificat

Henry Purcell
1659-1695

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit rejoiceth in God my Savior. For He hath regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden. For behold henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For He that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is His Name. And His mercy is on them that fear Him throughout all generations. He hath shewed strength with His arm. He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He hath sent empty away. He remembering His mercy hath holpen His servant Israel, as He promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed, for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen.

Luke 1: 46-55

Carol Wigfield, Dawn King, *soprano*
Julie Swift, *alto*
Kurt Anchorstar, *tenor*
Brian McAfee, *bass*

Canite tuba

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina
1525-1594

*Canite tuba in Sion, quia prope est
dies Domini: ecce venit ad salvandum
nos. Erunt prava in directa, et aspera
in vias planas: veni, Domine, et noli
tardare. Alleluia.*

Sound the trumpet in Sion, for the day
of the Lord is near. See, He is coming
to save us. Winding paths will be made
straight and rough places smooth. Come,
O Lord, and do not delay. Alleluia.

Two French Noels

*Tous les bourgeois de Chastres
et de Montlehéry,
Menerent grande de joie cette
journe éci.
Que nas quit Jésus Christ de
la vierge Marié
Près le boeuf et l'as non, don, don,
entre les quels coucha, la, la,
en une bergerie.
Les anges ont chanté une belle
chanson,
Aux pasteurs et bergers de
cette région
Qui gardient leur moutons paisant
sur la prairie
Disaient que le mignon, don, don,
était né près de la, la, la,
Jésus le fruit devie.
A la venue de Noël
chacun se doit bien réjouir,
Car c'est un testament nouvel,
que tout le monde doit tenir.*

The villagers of Chastres
and of Montlehéry,
Today are filled with joy and
now would be merry.
For born is Jesus Christ this day
of blessed Marie
Beside the ox and ass, la, la,
between which slept some sheep, la, la,
a whole menagerie.
A song of praise and joy, the angels
sang on high,
To shepherds there below, who all
were standing by,
And watching o'er their sheep agrazing
in the fields,
They learned that now the babe, la, la,
was born close by, la, la,
'tis Jesus come to heal us.
With the return of Christmastide,
let us rejoice and give great cheer,
And by the testament abide
which all the world now holds so dear.

*Gaudete omnes, et laetamini, quia
ecce desideratus advenit. Introite
in conspectu eius in exultatione,
scitote quoniam ipse est expectatio
nostra. Alleluia.*

Rejoice all ye, and be glad, for behold
your desire is come. Enter into His
sight with exultation. Know that this
is He whom we await. Alleluia.

THE CONGREGATION AND CHOIR

On this day earth shall ring

Gustav Holst
1874-1934

1. On this day earth shall ring
With the song children sing
To the Lord, Christ our king,
Born on earth to save us;
Him the Father gave us.

2. His the doom, ours the mirth;
When He came down to earth,
Bethlehem saw His birth;
Ox and ass beside Him,
From the cold would hide Him.

Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

3. God's bright star, o'er His head,
Wise men three to Him led,
Kneel they low by His bed,
Lay their gifts before Him,
Praise Him and adore Him.

4. On this day angels sing;
With their song earth shall ring.
Praising Christ, Heaven's King,
Born on earth to save us.
Peace and love He gave us.

Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

F.F. Hagen, Moravian College, Class of 1835, composed 1836

Johann Scheffler, 1657

1. Morning star, O cheering sight!
Ere Thou cam'st how dark earth's night!
Jesus mine, in me shine;
Fill my heart with light divine.

3. Thy glad beams, thou Morning Star,
Cheer the nations near and far;
Thee we own, Lord alone,
Our great Saviour, God's dear Son.

2. Morning Star, Thy glory bright
Far excels the sun's clear light:
Jesus be, constantly,
More than thousand suns to me.

4. Morning Star, my soul's true Light,
Tarry not, dispel my night;
Jesus mine, in me shine;
Fill my heart with light divine.

John Glew, soloist

THE SERVICE OF CANDLES

The Moravian candle service originated in Marienborn, Germany, on Christmas Eve, 1747, when lighted tapers with red trimming were distributed at a children's service under the supervision of Bishop Johannes von Watteville. Bethlehem's first candle service took place in 1756. Originally only the children received candles; today children and adults participate together in one of the most universally beloved Moravian traditions.

Vom Himmel hoch

1. Behold, a great, a heavenly light,
From Bethlehem's manger shining bright,
Around those who in darkness dwell,
The night of evil to dispel.

2. What heights, what depths of love divine,
In Thy blest incarnation shine!
Let heaven and earth unite their lays,
To magnify Thy boundless grace.

3. Incarnate God, exert Thy power;
Arise, Thou glorious Conqueror;
Subdue sin, death, and every foe,
Erect Thy kingdom here below.

Picardy

Liturgy of St. James
Gerard Moultrie, tr., 1864

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand,
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth
Our full homage to demand.

2. King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture—
In the body and the blood—
He will give to all the faithful
His own Self for heavenly food.

(continued)

3. Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away.

4. At His feet the six-winged seraph;
Cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluia, Alleluia,
Alleluia, Lord Most High!

In Dulci Jubilo

Medieval Latin carol, John Mason Neale, tr., 1853

Good Christian folk, rejoice, with heart, and soul, and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before Him bow, and He is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian folk, rejoice, with heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian folk, rejoice, with heart, and soul, and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain His everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Regent Square

James Montgomery, 1815

1. 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:

3. Sages, leave your contemplations,
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 new-born King.

2. Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night.
God incarnate now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light:

4. All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising
To the endless Three in One:

THE CLOSING RESPONSE

Rejoice now in God our Saviour! For He who is mighty has done great things for us,

And holy is His name!

Lord, now let thy servant depart in peace. For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation which Thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples.

Praise be to you, O Lord!

THE BENEDICTION

THE POSTLUDE

Christians, Sing Out with Exultation

Navarre

The 6,000 tapers which will illuminate the sanctuary this year were hand-poured and trimmed by members of the students' service organizations, Sigma Tau Sigma and Alpha Phi Omega. Arrangements for the services are made by the Sacristans.