



Bucks County Choral Society

*A Festival of  
Christmas Music*

Salem United Church of Christ

Doylestown, PA

December 15, 1979 — 8 p.m.



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Prelude	The Brass Ring
Three Christmas Chorales	Samuel Scheidt (1587-1654)
In dulci júbilo Ein kindelein so lobelich O Jesulein suss	
Es is ein Ros' entsprungen	Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
A Festival of Alfred Burt Carols	arr. Hawley Ades
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Fanfare for Christmas	Lloyd Pfausch (b. 1921)
Processional - On This Day	Gustave Holst (1874-1934)

## I

O Magnum Mysterium	Thomás Luis de Victoria (ca. 1549-1611)
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Thomás Luis de Victoria was the greatest Spanish musician of the 16th century. Probably no other single work by Victoria is better known than this four-part nativity motet with its radiant Alleluias. Composed while in his early twenties, the piece was published during his lifetime which is clear proof of his early established reputation.

O magnum mysterium et admirabile sacramentum.	O great mystery and wondrous sacrament.
Ut animalia viderent Dominum natum	That animals might see the birth of the Lord
Jacentem in praesepio	As he lay in the manger
O beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Jesum Christum,	O blessed Virgin, who wast worthy of bearing our Lord Jesus Christ,
Alleluia.	Alleluia.

Lirum, lirum	Thomas Morley (ca. 1558-1602)
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English organist, theorist, and composer Thomas Morley was considered by his contemporaries to be one of the best musicians of the time. His compositions were mainly madrigals, canzonets, and balletts. This ballett fulfills the characteristics of the genre: lightness of character and a fa-la—or in this case lirum, lirum—refrain.

German-born Andreas Hammerschmidt was one of the earliest composers to adopt the new Italian style of writing elaborate instrumental accompaniments to polyphonic vocal works. This cantata, taken from a larger composition which formed a complete cycle of music for Sundays and Festivals of the church year, was designated for use on Christmas. The text is a combination of Luke 2:10-12, 14 and the seventh stanza of Luther's *Vom Himmel hoch*. Considerable use is made of the "rocking" rhythm that accompanies the words "furchtet euch nicht."

O ihr lieben Hirten, ihr  
Lieben fürchtet euch nicht!

Siehe, ich verkündige euch  
grosse Freude,

Die allen Völkern widerfahren  
wird.

Freude, grosse Freude!

Denn euch ist heute der  
Heiland geboren, welcher  
ist Christus, der Herr.

Fürchtet euch nicht!

Und das habt zum Zeugnis:  
ihr werdet finden das Kind  
in Windeln gewickelt und  
in einer krippe liegen.

Fürchtet euch nicht!

Merk auf, mein Herz, und sieh  
dort hin:

Was liegt dort in dem  
Krippelein?

Wes ist das schöne Kindelein?

Es ist das liebe Jesulein.

Ehre sei Gott in der Höhe.

Friede auf Erden, und den  
Menschen ein Wohlgefallen!

O beloved shepherds; beloved,  
be not afraid!

For behold, I bring unto you  
glad tidings,

Which shall be to all people

Joy, great joy!

For unto you the Savior is born,  
which is the Christ and  
our Lord.

Be not afraid!

And this take as a sign:  
you will find the child  
wrapped in swaddling clothes  
lying in a manger.

Be not afraid!

Behold my heart and see

What lies there in the  
little manger?

Whose is this lovely child?

It is the dear Christ Child.

Glory to God in the highest.

Peace on earth  
and goodwill to men!

Heidi Grever, Soprano

## II

Magnificat

Charles Theodore Pachelbel  
(1690-1750)

Charles Theodore Pachelbel was born in Germany, the son of court organist and renowned composer Johann Pachelbel. He emigrated to Boston in the 1730's and in 1733 assisted in the installation of the organ in Trinity Church, Newport, RI. Records exist of his giving organ concerts in New York, the earliest documented concerts in that city. The Magnificat is the only composition of Pachelbel's known to be preserved, and was probably composed before he left Germany. The traditional liturgical text, which has been set by many composers, is from Luke 1:46-55.

Magnificat anima mea Dominum.  
 Et exultavit spiritus meus in Deo  
 salutari meo.  
 Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae  
 suae: ecce enim ex hoc beatam me  
 dicent omnes generationes.  
 Quia fecit mihi magna qui potens  
 est: et sanctum nomen ejus.  
 Et misericordia ejus a progenie in  
 progenies timentibus eum.  
 Fecit potentiam in brachio suo: dis-  
 persit superbos mente cordis sui.  
 Desposuit potentes de sede. et ex-  
 altavit humiles.  
 Esurientes implevit bonis: et divites  
 dimisit inanes.  
 Suscepit Israel puerum suum, re-  
 cordatus misericordiae suae.  
 Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,  
 Abraham et semini ejus in saecula.  
 Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui  
 Sancto.  
 Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et  
 Amen.

My soul magnifies the Lord.  
 And my spirit rejoices in God my  
 Savior.  
 For he has regarded the low estate of  
 his handmaiden: for behold, hence-  
 forth all generations will call me  
 blessed.  
 For he who is mighty has done great  
 things for me: and holy is his name.  
 And his mercy is on those who fear  
 him from generation to generation.  
 He has shown strength with his arm,  
 he has scattered the proud in the  
 imagination of their hearts.  
 He has put down the mighty from  
 their thrones, and exalted those of  
 low degree.  
 He has filled the hungry with good  
 things, and the rich he has sent  
 empty away.  
 He has helped the servant Israel, in  
 remembrance of his mercy.  
 As he spoke to our fathers, to Abra-  
 ham, and to his posterity forever.  
 Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
 and to the Holy Spirit.  
 ever shall be; world without end,  
 Amen.

Barbara Kaler, Ann McNamie, soprano; Martha Long, alto

### III

#### Six Carols for Choir

God rest you merry, gentlemen  
 A great and mighty wonder  
 O little one sweet  
 Shepherds, shake off your drowsy sleep  
 Away in a Manger

*English*  
*German*  
*German*  
*Becançon*  
*Normandy*

Selma Ehrlich, soprano

Ding dong, merrily on high

*French*

Carols for choir, audience, and brass

### HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING

1. 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.  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King.
2. *Choir alone*
3. Hail the heav'nborn Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, Risen 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.  
Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King.

### SILENT NIGHT

1. Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright.  
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace!
2. *Choir alone*
3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light.  
Radiant beams from thy holy face, With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth!

### O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

1. 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:  
O come let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord!
2. Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above;  
Glory to God in the highest glory,  
O come let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord!
3. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, Born this happy morning,  
Jesus to thee be glory giv'n,  
Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing.  
O come let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord!

New England-born Daniel Pinkham is chairman of the Performance of Early Music department at New England Conservatory of Music and is organist of historic King's Chapel in Boston. In addition to a significant number of choral compositions, Pinkham has written orchestral works, chamber music, and solo songs. The design of his music is strong, featuring interesting harmonies and stimulating rhythmic elements. Texts for the three movements of this cantata are taken from the Liber Usualis and have had long historical usage.

Quem vidistis pastores?	Shepherds, tell us your story.
Dicite:	Speak to us!
Annuntiate nobis in terris quis apparuit.	Again describe the vision which on earth appeared.
Natum vidimus natum	Born for as was Christ Jesus
Et chorus angelorum collaudantes Dominum.	We heard the angel chorus singing praises to the Lord.
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
O magnum mysterium et admirabile sacramentum.	O great mystery and wondrous sacrament.
Ut animalia viderent Dominum natum	That animals might see the birth of the Lord
Jacentem in praesepio	As he lay in the manger
O beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Jesum Christum,	O blessed Virgin, who wast worthy of bearing our Lord Jesus Christ.
Alleluia.	Alleluia.
Gloria in excelsis Deo et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.	Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace to men of goodwill.
Jubilate Deo omnis terra, Servite Dominum in laetitia.	Be joyful in the Lord all ye nations, Serve the Lord with gladness.
Introite in conspectu ejus, in exultatione,	Come before his presence with singing,
Scitote quoniam Dominus ipse est Deus:	Know ye that the Lord he is God:
Ipse fecit nos, et non ipsi nos.	He created us and not we ourselves.
Alleluia!	Alleluia!

\* \* \* \* \*

Elma S. Heckler, *Musical Director*  
Joan E. Gurniak, *Accompanist*  
Audrey E. Close, *President*

The Brass Ring  
Charles Evans, Bobbie Sue Baker, *trumpet*  
Derek Foster, *French horn*  
J. William Moore, *trombone*  
Karl Kramer, *tuba*

*Please refrain from applause until the conclusion of each section. You are invited to greet the choir at a Holiday Reception in the social room of the church immediately following the concert.*

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**FUTURE BUCKS COUNTY CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERTS:**  
March 29, 8 p.m. — Durufle' Requiem, Salem UCC, Doylestown  
May 31, 8 p.m. — Folk Music Festival, Holicong Junior High School