

## CHRISTMAS with THE SINGERS

St George's, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne

18 December 2021, 7 pm

### PROGRAMME

#### The Singers

conductor Donald Halliday

with

James Clark piper

### PART ONE

#### 1. INTRODUCTION & SAFETY INFORMATION

(from St George's)

#### 2. O come, O come Emmanuel

Arranged Paul Hillier (b. 1949)

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny ...

O come, Thou Dayspring, from on high,  
And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh ...

O come, Thou Key of David, come  
And open wide our heav'nly home ...

O come, Adonai, Lord of might,  
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height ...

---

#### 3. Ding Dong merrily on high

Words: anon 15 Century

G R Woodward (1848 – 1934)

arr. Charles Wood (1866 – 1926)

Ding dong merrily on high,  
In heav'n the bells are ringing:  
Ding dong! verily the sky  
is riv'n with angel singing

*Gloria*

*Hosanna in excelsis!*

E'en so here below, below let steeple bells be  
swungen.

And i-o i-o by priest and people sungen ..

Pray you dutifully prime your matin chime, ye  
ringers,

May you beautifully rime, your Evetime Song, ye  
people ..

---

#### 4. Joseph and the angel

Music by Hafliði Hallgrímsson (b. 1941)

As Joseph was a-walking, he heard an angel sing,  
This night shall be born our heavenly king.  
He neither shall be born, in housen nor in hall,  
Nor in the place of Paradise, but in an ox's stall.  
Noe, Noe, Noe

... He neither shall be clothed, in purple not in pall,  
But all in fair linen, as wear babies all.

... He neither shall be rocked, in silver nor in gold,  
But in a wooden cradle, that rocks on the mould.

... He neither shall be christened in white wine not  
in red, but in the fair spring water as we were  
christened.

---

#### 5. It came upon the midnight clear

Irish tune, arranged for male voices by Samuel  
Underwood

It came upon a midnight clear  
That glorious song of old  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold ...

---

#### 6. Northumbrian pipes set

played by **James Clark**

**Sir John Fenwick**

from the Bewick Manuscript c.1830

7. **O magnum mysterium**

Music by Tomás Luis de Victoria (1518 – 1611)  
Sung in Latin

O great mystery and wonderful sacrament,  
that animals should see the new-born Lord  
lying in a manger!  
O blessed Virgin, whose womb  
was worthy to bear Christ the Lord.  
Alleluia!

8. **In dulci jubilo**

German, arr. Robert Pearsall (1795 – 1856)  
Sung in English and Latin

*In dulci jubilo* let us our homage shew:  
Our heart's joy reclineth *in praesepio*;  
And like a bright star shineth *matris in gremio*,  
*Alpha es et O!*

*O Jesu parvule*, my heart is sore for Thee!  
Hear me, I beseech Thee, *O puer optime*;  
My praying let it reach Thee, *O princeps gloriae*.  
*Trahe me post te*.

*O patris caritas! O Nati lenitas!*  
Deeply were we stained. *per nostra crimina*:  
But Thou for us hast gained *coelorum gaudia*,  
*O that we were there!*

*Ubi sunt gaudia*, if that they be not there?  
There are Angels singing *nova cantica*;  
And there the bells are ringing *in regis curia*.  
O that we were there!

9. **Stille Nacht**

Sung in German  
Words: Joseph Mohr (1792 – 1848)  
Music Franz Gruber (1787 – 1863)  
arr. Heather Harrison

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.

Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the  
sight. Glory streams from heaven afar,  
Heav'nly hosts sing Alleluia  
Christ the Saviour is born.

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.

10. Carol for All

**We wish you a Merry Christmas**  
West Country traditional

We wish you a Merry Christmas (X3)  
and a Happy New Year.

REFRAIN

*Good tidings we bring to you and your kin,*  
*We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New*  
*Year.*

O bring us a figgy pudding (x3)  
and a cup of good cheer.

REFRAIN

And we won't go until we get some (x3)  
so bring some out here.

REFRAIN

**INTERVAL:** 15 minutes

*Mulled wine and mince pies will be served at the back  
of the church. Many thanks to the Friends of St  
George's for providing this.*

**PART TWO**

11. Carol for all

**Joy to the World**

Words: Isaac Watts (1674 – 1748)  
Music: Handel (1685 – 1759)

Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let Earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

-----  
12. **There is a flower**

*Words by John Audelay (15th century)*  
*John Rutter (b. 1945)*  
*Soprano soloist: Lindsey Nicholls*

There is a flow'r sprung of a tree,  
The root thereof is callèd Jesse,  
A flow'r of price;  
There is none such in paradise.

This flow'r is fair and fresh of hue,  
It fadeth never, but ever is new;  
The blessed branch this flow'r on grew  
Was Mary mild that bare Jesu,  
A flow'r of grace;  
Against all sorrow it is solace...  
....

-----  
13. **When to the temple Mary went**

*Words: John Troutbeck (1832 – 1899)*  
*Music: Johannes Eccard (1553 – 1611)*

When to the temple Mary went, and brought the  
Holy Child, Him did the aged Simeon see, as it had  
been revealed.  
He took up Jesus in his arms and blessing God he  
said:  
In peace I now depart, my Saviour having seen,  
The Hope of Israel, the Light of men.

Help now thy servants, gracious Lord, that we may  
ever be as once the faithful Simeon was, rejoicing  
but in Thee; and when we must from earth  
departure take, departure take, may gently fall  
asleep and with Thee wake.

-----  
14. **The Holly & the Ivy**

*Music arr. H. Walford Davies (1869 – 1941)*

The holly and the ivy,  
When they are both full grown,  
Of all the trees that are in the wood,  
The holly bears the crown.  
O, the rising of the sun,  
And the running of the deer,  
The playing of the merry organ,  
Sweet singing in the choir ...

-----  
15. **Northumbrian pipes set**

Played by James Clark

- i. **Highland laddie**
- ii. **Gang to the ky with me**
- iii. **Prince of Wales**

-----  
16. **God so loved the World**

*Words: John 3:16-17*  
*Music: John Stainer (1840 – 1901)*

God so loved the world, that He gave His only-  
begotten Son, that whoso believeth in Him should  
not perish, but have everlasting life.  
For God sent not His Son into the world to  
condemn the world; but that the world through  
Him might be saved. Amen.

-----  
17. **Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child**

*Words: 15 Century, Pageant of the Shearmen and  
Taylors, Coventry*  
*Music: 16th cent. France, arr. Charles Wood (1866  
– 1926)*  
Soloist: Suzanne Longley

Lully lulla thou little tiny child,  
By by lully lullay  
Oh sisters too, how may we do

For to preserve this day?  
This poor youngling for whom we sing  
By by lully lullay

Herod the king, in his raging  
Charg'd he hath this day  
His men of might in his own sight  
All children young to slay

That woe is me, poor child for thee  
And ever mourn and say  
For thy parting, nor say nor sing  
By by lully lullay....

18. Carol for All

**On Christmas Night**

*The Sussex Carol, West Country traditional*

On Christmas night all Christians sing,  
To hear the news the angels bring. (x2)  
News of great joy, news of great mirth,  
News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be sad,  
Since our Redeemer made us glad  
When from our sin He set us free,  
All for to gain our liberty.

All out of darkness we have light  
Which made the angels sing this night (x2).

"Glory to God and peace to men,  
Now and for evermore. Amen."

**END**

-----

Thank you so much for supporting this concert. All The Singers wish you a joyous Christmas and a very happy 2022.

Many thanks to all at St George's for their help and support, and, in particular, to the Friends of St George's.

**JAMES CLARK**

James started playing the pipes 8 years ago and is self-taught, learning by spending time with musicians from the folk music scene. His playing has been highly influenced by the pipers he has met and border pipe manuscripts. This music is from the 18th century and was developed and played on early Northumbrian pipes, which only had 8 notes. The music is characterised by this limited scale and the tunes were often highly ornamented to compensate for that. James learned from pipe makers and is now a professional pipe maker.

**THE SINGERS** ([singers.org.uk](http://singers.org.uk))

The Singers is a chamber choir based in Newcastle. Singers come mainly from Newcastle and Northumberland but others travel considerable distances to participate. The choir rehearses one weekend a month in Newcastle. This is our eighth Christmas with The Singers.

In 2018 The Singers premiered Edmund Hunt's *Vita Hominum* here in St George's, and this was broadcast on BBC Radio 3 in 2019. The choir sings regularly in Cologne Cathedral, Durham Cathedral, St Giles Cathedral, Holy Trinity Church in Coventry and Coventry Cathedral. The choir's next performance will be for the Epiphany service in Durham Cathedral on 6 January 2022 at 7.30pm.

*Sopranos*

Miriam Cummins, Rachel Elliot, Suzanne Longley, Lindsey Nicholls, Charlotte Treglown

*Altos*

Pamela Cummins, Ann Hill, Edmund Hunt, Lisa McMaster, Alison Rudd, Alice Ward

*Tenors*

Jonny Clarkson, Chris Hunwick, Martin Lay, Philip Mountain

*Basses*

Matthew Dunford, Richard Kerr, Steven Locks

*Conductor*

Donald Halliday