



# DUNBAR CHORAL PRESENTS

## Noël Noël!

Carols and readings for  
Christmas

Wednesday 9th December 2015  
Belhaven Church Dunbar  
7.30pm

Conductor  
Vaughan Townhill

Accompanist  
David Townhill

Reader  
Gordon Roberts

## Programme

### **Vox clara ecce intonat**

Hymn at lauds during Advent (6<sup>th</sup> century) Gabriel Jackson

Alto Solo — Katrine Townhill

Clarinet — Vaughan Townhill

*From the Feast of St Friend. — Arnold Bennet*

### AUDIENCE CAROL

#### **Once in Royal David's City**

*My Night With Santa — Bob Lazzar-Atwood*

*Pictures of Christmas. — Gervase Phinn*

### **Nowell, nowell!**

Trad. English adapted from the Cornish Songbook. Jonathan Willcocks

### **What sweeter music.**

Words by Robert Herrick (1591-1674). John Rutter

*A Christmas Carol. — G K Chesterton*

*The Gypsy — Edward Thomas*

### **Joseph dearest, Joseph mine.**

Trad. German, arr Imogen Holst

### **The Wellspring.**

Words: Kevin Crossley-Holland. Bob Chilcott

### AUDIENCE CAROL

#### **Unto us is born a Son**

*'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime ( the Huron Carol)*

*— Jean de Brebeuf trans Jesse Edgar Middleton*

*Canadian Christmas Song. — Eric Bogle and John Munro*

**Christmas is coming.**

Trad. English Carol additional lyrics David Warner. Mack Wilberg  
Second Pianist - Marian Thomson

**Tomorrow shall be my dancing day,** Trad. English. John Gardner

*from Favourite Carols " In The Bleak Midwinter — Aled Jones*

AUDIENCE CAROL  
**In the bleak midwinter**

*The Wicked Fairy At The Manger. — U A Fanthorpe*  
*Goodwill to Men- Give Us Your Money — Pam Ayres*  
*Bianca's Baby — Gervase Phinn*

**Myn Lyking** Words: 15<sup>th</sup> century R.R. Terry (1865-1938)

**Bethlehem Down** Words: Bruce Blunt. Peter Warlock

*Luke, Chapter 2, v 1-20*

**The Christ-child** Words: G.K. Chesterton. David Johnson.  
Alto Solo - Katrine Townhill

**Stille Nacht** Josef Mohr, Franz Gruber arr. David Willcocks

AUDIENCE CAROL  
**O come, all ye faithful**



## Once in royal David's city

H.J.Gauntlett harmonized by A.H.Mann,  
descant David Willcocks

Once in royal David's city  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from  
Heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall;  
With the poor, and mean, and  
lowly,  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heaven above?  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him; but in heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high;  
When like stars his children  
crowned  
All in white shall wait around.

## Unto us is born a Son

Piae Contiones, arr.  
David Willcocks

Unto us is born a Son,  
King of Quires supernal:  
See on earth His life begun  
Of lords the Lord eternal,  
Of lords the Lord eternal.

Christ, from heav'n descending  
low  
Comes on earth a stranger;  
Ox and ass their owner know,  
Be cradled in the manger,  
Be cradled in the manger.

This did Herod sore affray  
And grievously bewilder  
So he gave the word to slay,  
And slew the little childer,  
And slew the little childer.

Of His love and mercy mild  
This the Christmas story;  
And O that Mary's gentle child  
Might lead us up to glory!  
Might lead us up to glory!

O and A, and A and O,  
*Cum cantibus in choro,*  
Let our merry organ go,  
*Benedicamus Domino.*  
*Benedicamus Domino.*

## In the bleak mid-winter

words by Christina Rossetti.(1830-1894)  
Gustav Holst

In the bleak mid-winter  
Frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
Snow on snow,  
In the bleak mid-winter  
Long ago.

Our God, Heav'n cannot hold him  
Nor earth sustain;  
Heav'n and earth shall flee away  
When he comes to reign:  
In the bleak mid-winter  
A stable place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty  
Jesus Christ.

Enough for him, whom cherubim  
Worship night and day,  
A breastful of milk  
And a mangerful of hay;  
Enough for him, whom angels  
Fall down before,  
The ox and ass and camel  
Which adore.

What can I give him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd  
I would bring a lamb,  
If I were a Wise Man  
I would do my part,  
Yet what I can I give him,  
Give my heart.

## O come, all ye faithful

words & melody: J.F.Wade (c.1711-1786)  
arr. David Willcocks

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,*  
*O come, let us adore Him,*  
*O come, let us adore Him,*  
*Christ the Lord!*

God of God,  
Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's  
womb;  
Very God,  
Begotten, not created:  
*O come, let us adore Him...*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in  
exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n  
above;  
Glory to God  
In the highest:  
*O come, let us adore Him..*

## Notes on the Carols

Some of our carols are well known, some less so. Here are some notes to help you enjoy the evening.

### Vox clara ecce intonat

This is a modern setting by Gabriel Jackson of a very old advent hymn and was given its first performance two years ago in St John's College, Cambridge.

“Setting the original Latin text of the hymn better known as 'Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding', Jackson creates an Advent piece of beautiful stillness. The largely homophonic choral parts, with a soloist supplying a gentle contrapuntal line, are contrasted with light and graceful interjections from the woodwind solo. The result is a quietly moving piece ideally suited for a reflective moment during an Advent service.” OUP

There are various translations of the Latin we are singing. This version “Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding” is by Edward Caswall from 1849.

<i>Vox clara ecce intonat, obscura quaeque increpat: procul fugentur somnia; ab aethere Christus promicat.</i>	Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding; “Christ is nigh,” it seems to say, “Cast away the works of darkness, O ye children of the day.”
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<i>Mens iam resurgat torpida quae sorde exstat saucia; sidus refulget iam novum, ut tollat omne noxium.</i>	Wakened by the solemn warning Let the earthbound soul arise; Christ, her Sun, all ill dispelling, Shines upon the morning skies.
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<i>E sursum Agnus mittitur laxare gratis debitum; omnes pro indulgentia vocem demus cum lacrimis,</i>	Lo, the Lamb, so long expected, Comes with pardon down from Heav'n; Let us haste, with tears of sorrow, One and all to be forgiven.
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*Secundo ut cum fulserit  
mundumque horror  
cinxerit,  
non pro reatu puniat,  
sed nos pius tunc  
protegat.*

That when next He comes in glory,  
And the world is wrapped in fear,  
With His mercy He may shield us,  
And with words of love draw near

*Summo Parenti gloria  
Natoque sit victoria,  
et Flamini laus debita  
per saeculorum saecula.  
Amen.*

Honor, glory, might, and blessing  
Be to God: the Father, Son  
And the everlasting Spirit,  
While eternal ages run.  
Amen.

Katrine Townhill has sung with us at several of our Spring concerts and is joining with us tonight to sing a solo part in this piece in which Vaughan hands over the conductor's baton to David so that he can play clarinet

## **Nowell, nowell**

This is another new carol, published in 2014. Sir David Willcocks' name has appeared as the composer and arranger of many of the carols we have sung. With John Rutter he edited 100 Carols for Choirs, known affectionately to many singers as 'the white book' and is used by many choirs at this time of year..

This carol is written by his son, Jonathan, also a conductor and composer. The dedication says "To David, with love and admiration." and it appears in a collection of carols published to celebrate Sir David's 95<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

## **The Wellspring**

This gentle piece was written by Bob Chilcott, another of Britain's foremost modern choral composers. A few years ago we enjoyed performing his "Little Jazz Mass" and this brand new carol is a setting of a poem by Kevin Crossley-Holland which has also become one of our favourites.

Infant of the bubbling spring.  
Well in my heart.  
Child of the sighing marsh  
Breathe in my head.  
Son of the keen light  
Quicken my eyes.  
Rebel of the restless creeks  
Tumble in my ears.  
Disciple of the rising tide  
Dance in my heart.  
Teacher of the gruff salt wind  
Educate my tongue.  
Infant of the bubbling spring.  
Well in my heart.

## **Christmas is coming**

"Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat" is a well-known carol, but we are singing a new arrangement by the American Mack Wilberg, which was first performed in 2013 by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir and Orchestra. We don't have room for a 50 piece orchestra but we do need four hands on the piano so Marian will be joining David.

The younger members of the audience may not be familiar with some of the words.



A ha'penny or half penny was not quite the smallest value coin in Britain before decimalisation in 1971 (there was also a coin worth half as much) but it took four hundred and eighty of them to make a pound.

Half a crown was a lot more money and for most ordinary people would have been a significant donation. Only the richest would have been able to give a guinea (£1.05)

“If you haven't got a ha'penny then God bless you!”

## **The Christ-child**

This piece will be new to us all. A duet for alto voice and clarinet by Edinburgh composer David Johnson gives us another opportunity to hear Katrine and Vaughan perform together.

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If you have been to all our recent concerts with Vaughan in charge you will have heard all the other carols we are singing tonight, but we make no apology for that.

We enjoy singing them and we know that you will enjoy hearing them and also joining in.

RS

# **Dunbar Choral**

**Musical Director – Vaughan Townhill**

## **Members of the Choral**

### **Sopranos**

Audrey Affleck  
Rosemary Bain  
Vicki Brown  
Jo Campbell  
Liz Cairns  
Maggie Dougal  
Beth Elliott  
Marion Goodfellow  
Joan Halpin  
Anne Jackson  
Diane Kerr  
Joyce Patrick  
Nesta Sparksman  
Rachel Traynor

### **Altos**

Sally Cleaver  
Shay Cleaver-Bundy  
Margaret Croft  
Beryl Goodall  
Pauline Haig  
Vanessa Hawthorn  
Jackie Knox  
Valerie McAdam  
Alison McCreadie  
Mary Macfarlane  
Lorna McLeod  
Ute Penny  
Judy Pilley  
Lucy Pumphrey

### **Basses**

Malcolm Baker  
Brian Dale  
Grahame Jackson  
Douglas Kerr  
Neil McNaught  
Ogilvie Pretsell  
Hugh Pumphrey  
Robin Strain  
Simon Williams

### **Tenors**

Derek Brown  
Ian Ferguson  
George Turnbull  
Louise Hardy  
Lucy Spratt  
Moyra Wright

### **Rehearsal accompanists**

David Townhill  
Marian Thomson

# Dunbar Choral

If you enjoyed singing along with our carols tonight and perhaps have been inspired by Gareth Malone why not come along to one of our rehearsals and give singing in a choir a try. We have no auditions and anyone who can sing in tune is welcome. Our repertoire ranges from choral classics to Broadway favourites, jazz and operetta. We meet at 7.15pm on Tuesday evenings in the music department of Belhaven Hill School.

We would love to see you there any Tuesday from 12<sup>th</sup> January 2016 onwards when we will be practising Bach's St John Passion for our Spring concert.

To find out more about joining us, or just to make contact before you come along, please phone our secretary Joyce Patrick on 01368 863070 or email [joyce.patrick@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:joyce.patrick@tiscali.co.uk)



If you have enjoyed our concert please like us on Facebook or tweet using the tag @dunbarchoral



More information about the Society and about future concerts can be found on our website [www.dunbarchoral.org.uk](http://www.dunbarchoral.org.uk)

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## Dunbar Choral

Our Next Concert

Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Dunbar Parish Church at 7:30pm

## St John Passion – J S Bach

Tickets (£10 and £2) will be available in advance from choir members,  
online at [www.dunbarchoral.org.uk](http://www.dunbarchoral.org.uk) or at the door.