



Christmas by   
Candlelight

# *The Heart of Christmas*

4:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m. Sunday, December 12, 2021

*at Music* **50**<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
Abington SEASON 1972 - 2022

# *at Music* Abington

**Michael Kemp (1946-2021)** We were saddened by the death of the original creator of the Christmas by Candlelight programs which are beloved by our congregation and community. The late Michael Kemp served as APC's Director of Music from 1991 to 1998 and grew the community participation in the orchestra and Oratorio choir as part of the strong community connections that continue to mark music ministry and the concert series to this day. We honor his memory and the unique musical connections he created and strengthened in this community with our dedication of the Christmas by Candlelight concerts to his memory.



**Welcome to Christmas by Candlelight**, an annual event in the **Music at Abington concert series** at Abington Presbyterian Church! We are glad that you have come to join us as we celebrate the hope of Christmas through song. We hope your experience is a meaningful one, and if you need any kind of assistance, one of our ushers would be happy to help you.

#### **Safety Protocols from APC's pandemic team:**

We are so glad we have returned to familiar patterns of gathering and celebrating in our community life through these concerts. As we navigate this complex period we thank you for expressing your care and understanding of all those who attend by following these guidelines our pandemic team has established.

- \* Masks worn over mouth and nose for everyone over age 2, at all times in the building
- \* Distanced seating arrangements to assure attendees that may do so with comfort and safety
- \* Gatherings and conversation moved outdoors at the conclusion of the event

**Restrooms** are located nearby: a handicap-accessible restroom can be found through the "arch" doorway off the sanctuary to your left. Additional restrooms are located beneath the sanctuary (reached through the doors at the back) and in the ground level hallway in the education building.

**Music at Abington** and its programming depend upon the generous donations of patrons and offerings received at concerts. Your generous offering supports today's program and makes possible future concerts, as well. Thank you for continued support of this outreach with your attendance today. If you would like to be added to our mailing list or to become a patron of Music at Abington, please inform an usher of your desire or email us after this program. We'd love to add you to our email list or have you friend us on Facebook for future updates.

[www.apcusa.org/MusicAtAbington](http://www.apcusa.org/MusicAtAbington)  
[www.facebook.com/MusicAtAbington](https://www.facebook.com/MusicAtAbington)

**A special word of thanks from John Sall** to all those who make this special event possible. Ruth Sall and Erik Meyer are wonderful colleagues to envision and prepare all the various aspects of such a program in collaboration. More so during the uncertainty of these recent months. This year a new cast of helpers led by Carolyn Koch helped with safety coordination, seating plans, and ushers who have been called on in addition to the volunteers who helped prepare the space, decorating the sanctuary with candelabra and greens. John Dwyer and Lily Sall have aided our livestream outreach and Eric Gildner designed the beautiful flyers and cover for the program produced by staff. Many others are similarly important but too numerous to name here in person: the MAA Committee, singers, players, choir parents, helpers, custodial and office staff, the list might go on and on. We hope that the gift you give to those in attendance will be equally enjoyable to you. Merry Christmas!



This project was supported in part by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. PPA is administered in this region by the Greater Philadelphia Cultural Alliance.

# *Christmas by Candlelight*

## *The Heart of Christmas*

Featuring The Abington Presbyterian Church Oratorio Choir, Chapel Choir, and Carol Choir  
Erik Meyer, organ, Cheryl Cunningham, harp,  
Joan Paltenstein, violin, Jessica Beebe, soprano  
John Sall and Ruth Ideen-Sall, directors

### **Silent Night**

Samuel Barber

*Erik Meyer, organ, and Joan Paltenstein, violin*

### **Hymn 88**

#### **O Come, O Come Emmanuel**

9th C. plainsong antiphon

*All are invited to rise in body or spirit and sing together*

- 1 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.**
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;  
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel.**

### **Welcome**

### **Shepherd's Yodel Carol**

arr. Ronald Nelson

*Carol Choir*

Over fields as we were watching by our sheep through the night,  
Angel choirs opened the heavens with their news of delight. (*Refrain*)  
Singing "Glory to God in the highest, Glory to God and peace on earth!"  
Singing "Glory to God in the highest! Glory and peace to all."

"You must go now to the stable," said the heavenly voice,  
"There the Christ-child you will worship, and the world will rejoice." (*Refrain*)

We have found you, like a poor boy, in a manger so small.  
Lord of sheep and Lord of shepherds, little child: Lord of all. (*Refrain*)

*All are invited to rise in body or spirit and sing together*

**Refrain:** Go, tell it on the mountain,  
over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born!

- |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>1</b> While shepherds kept their watching<br/>o'er silent flocks by night,<br/>behold, throughout the heavens<br/>there shone a holy light. <i>(Refrain)</i></p> | <p><b>2</b> The shepherds feared and trembled<br/>when lo! above the earth<br/>rang out the angel chorus<br/>that hailed our Savior's birth. <i>(Refrain)</i></p> |
| <p><b>3</b> Down in a lowly manger<br/>the humble Christ was born,<br/>and God sent us salvation<br/>that blessed Christmas morn. <i>(Refrain)</i></p>                 |                                                                                                                                                                   |

### In the Bleak Midwinter

G. Holst, arr. Alan Smith

*Chapel Choir*

In the bleak midwinter,  
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 midwinter, long ago.

Angels and archangels  
may have gathered there;  
cherubim and seraphim  
thronged the air;  
but his mother only,  
in her maiden bliss,  
worshiped the beloved with a kiss.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him,  
nor earth sustain;  
heaven and earth shall flee away  
when he comes to reign:  
in the bleak midwinter  
a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

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.

## The First Nowell

arr. Mack Wilberg

*All are invited to remain seated and to join the choirs to sing as indicated*

*Lower voices:* **The first Nowell the angel did say  
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,  
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

*Refrain:* **Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,  
born is the King of Israel.**

*Higher voices:* **They looked up and saw a star  
shining in the east beyond them far;  
and to the earth it gave great light,  
and so it continued both day and night. (Refrain)**

*All:* **Then let us all with one accord  
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,  
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
and with his blood our life hath bought. (Refrain)**

## Ceremony of Carols

Benjamin Britten

*The Oratorio Choir with Cheryl Cunningham, harp, and Jessica Beebe, soprano*

### Hodie Christus natus est

Hodie Christus natus est:	<i>Today Christ is born.</i>
hodie Salvator apparuit:	<i>Today the savior appears.</i>
hodie in terra canunt angeli:	<i>Today on earth the angels sing;</i>
laetantur archangeli:	<i>Archangels rejoice;</i>
hodie exsultant justi, dicentes:	<i>Today the righteous exult, saying:</i>
Gloria in excelsis Deo.	<i>Glory to God in the highest.</i>
Alleluia!	<i>Alleluia!</i>

### Wolcum Yole!

Wolcum, Wolcum,  
Wolcum be thou hevenè king,  
Wolcum Yole!  
Wolcum, born in one morning,  
Wolcum for whom we sall sing!

Wolcum be ye, Stevene and Jon,  
Wolcum, Innocentes every one,  
Wolcum, Thomas marter one,  
Wolcum be ye, good Newe Yere,  
Wolcum, Twelfth the Day both in fere,  
Wolcum, seintes lefe and dare,  
Wolcum Yole, Wolcum Yole, Wolcum!

Candelmesse, Quene of Bliss,  
Wolcum bothe to more and lesse.  
Wolcum, Wolcum,  
Wolcum be ye that are here, Wolcum Yole,  
Wolcum alle and make good cheer.  
Wolcum alle another yere,  
Wolcum Yole. Wolcum!

### There is no rose

There is no rose of such vertu  
As is the rose that bare Jesu.  
Alleluia.

For in this rose containèd was  
Heaven and earth in litel space,  
Res miranda. (*wondrous sight*)

By that rose we may well see  
There be one God in persons three,  
Pares forma. (*equal in form*)

The aungels sungen the shepherds to:  
Gloria in excelsis, gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gaudeamus. (*let us rejoice*)

Leave we all this werldly mirth,  
and follow we this joyful birth.  
Transeamus. (*let us cross over*)

Alleluia    Res miranda    Pares forma    Gaudeamus    Transeamus.

### That yongë child (solo)

That yongë child when it gan weep  
With song she lulled him asleep:  
That was so sweet a melody  
It passèd alle minstrelsy.

The nightingalë sang also:  
Her song is hoarse and nought thereto:  
Whose attendeth to her song  
And leaveth the first then doth he wrong.

### Balulalow

O my deare hert, young Jesu sweit,  
Prepare thy creddil in my spreit,  
And I sall rock thee to my hert,  
And never mair from thee depart.

But I sall praise thee evermoir  
with sangës sweit unto thy gloir;  
The knees of my hert sall I bow,  
And sing that richt Balulalow!

### As Dew in Aprille

I sing of a maiden  
That is makèles:  
King of all kings  
To her son she ches.

He came also stille  
There his moder was,  
As dew in Aprille  
That falleth on the grass.

He came also stille.  
To his moder's bour,  
As dew in Aprille  
That falleth on the flour.

He came also stille  
There his moder lay,  
As dew in Aprille  
That falleth on the spray.

Moder and mayden  
was never none but she;  
Well may such a lady  
Goddess mother be.

### This Little Babe

This little Babe so few days old,  
Is come to rifle Satan's fold;  
All hell doth at his presence quake,  
Though he himself for cold do shake;  
For in this weak unarmèd wise  
The gates of hell he will surprise.

With tears he fights and wins the field,  
His naked breast stands for a shield;  
His battering shot are babish cries,  
His arrows looks of weeping eyes,  
His martial ensigns Cold and Need,  
And feeble Flesh his warrior's steed.

His camp is pitched in a stall,  
His bulwark but a broken wall;  
The crib his trench, haystacks his stakes;  
Of shepherds he his muster makes;  
And thus, as sure his foe to wound,  
The angels' trumps alarum sound.

My soul, with Christ join thou in fight;  
Stick to the tents that he hath pight.  
Within his crib is surest ward;  
This little Babe will be thy guard.  
If thou wilt foil thy foes with joy;  
Then flit not from this heavenly Boy!

### **Interlude (harp solo)**

### **In Freezing Winter Night**

Behold, a silly tender babe,  
in freezing winter night,  
In homely manger trembling lies  
Alas, a piteous sight!

The inns are full; no man will yield  
This little pilgrim bed.  
But forced he is with silly beasts  
In crib to shroud his head.

This stable is a Prince's court,  
This crib his chair of State;  
The beasts are parcel of his pomp,  
The wooden dish his plate.

The persons in that poor attire  
His royal liveries wear;  
The Prince himself is come from heav'n;  
This pomp is prized there.

With joy approach, O Christian wight,  
Do homage to thy King,  
And highly praise his humble pomp,  
which he from Heav'n doth bring.

### **Spring Carol (duet)**

Pleasure it is to hear iwis the Birdès sing,  
The deer in the dale, the sheep in the vale,  
the corn springing.

God's purvayance For sustenance.  
It is for man.

Then we always to him give praise,  
And thank him than.

### **Deo gracias – Adam lay i-bounden**

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
Adam lay i-bounden, bounden in a bond;  
Four thousand winter thought he not too long.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
And all was for an appil, an appil that he tok,  
As clerkès finden written in their book.

Deo gracias! Deo gracias!  
Ne had the appil takè ben, the appil takè ben  
Ne haddè never our lady a ben hevenè quene.

Blessèd be the time that appil takè was.  
Therefore we moun singen.  
Deo gracias!

### **Hodie Christus natus est**

Hodie Christus natus est:  
hodie Salvator apparuit:  
hodie in terra canunt angeli:  
laetantur archangeli:  
hodie exsultant justi, dicentes:  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Alleluia!

*Today Christ is born.  
Today the savior appears.  
Today on earth the angels sing;  
Archangels rejoice;  
Today the righteous exult, saying:  
Glory to God in the highest.  
Alleluia!*

### **Hymn 132**

### **Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**

14th Cent. German folk melody

*All are invited to rise in body or spirit to sing together*

**1 Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say:  
Jesus Christ was born today.  
Ox and ass before him bow,  
and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!**

**2 Good Christian friends, 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 blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!**

**3 Good Christian friends, 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!**



## A Child is Born in Bethlehem

Philip Stopford

*Chapel Choir*

A child is born in Bethlehem, Alleluia! And joy is in Jerusalem, Alleluia!  
Rejoice, rejoice sing high, sing low, Alleluia! Benedicamus Domino, Alleluia!  
To thee O Lord be glory paid, Alleluia. Thou Son of Mary , Mother maid, Alleluia!  
To Holy Trinity give praise, Alleluia, Alleluia! With Deo gracias always, Alleluia!

## Hymn 133

### O Come, All Ye Faithful

arr. David Willcocks

*All are invited to rise in body or spirit to sing together*

**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. (Refrain)**

*Refrain:*

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

**3 Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest: (Refrain)**

## Carol of the Children

John Rutter

*Carol Choir*

One for the star in the sky over Bethlehem;  
Two for the hands that will rock him to sleep;  
Three for the kings bringing gold, bringing myrrh, bringing incense;  
Four for the angels that watch over his bedside.

Blue for the robe of the sweet Virgin Mary;  
White for the dawn of the first Christmas Day;  
Red for the blood that he shed for us all on Good Friday;  
Black for the tomb where he rested till Easter.

Lullaby! See Jesus asleep;  
Angels and shepherds their watch on him keep;  
Lullaby! he soon will awake,  
For the oxen are stirring and morning will break.

One for the star in the sky over Bethlehem;  
Two for the hands that will rock him to sleep;  
Three for the kings bringing gold, bringing myrrh, bringing incense;  
Four for the angels that watch over his bedside.

And one for the heart, one for the heart,  
One for the heart that I give as my offering to Jesus.

## Night of Silence

Daniel Kantor

*Carol choir and combined choirs. Please join at the director's invitation.*

**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, Sleep in heavenly peace.**

## Recessional: Paeon on Divinum Mysterium

John Cook

*Erik Meyer, organ*

## ✧ Merry Christmas ✧

### Carol Choir of Abington Presbyterian Church

Ruth Ideen-Sall, director, Erik Meyer, accompanist

Sawyer Boyd  
Shane Boyd  
Anna Colt  
Cole Constable

Xander Constable  
Claire Enama  
Alton Jones  
Baxter Jones

Charlotte Jones  
Brady Kelly  
Juliet Palumbo  
Taylor Richardson

### Chapel Choir of Abington Presbyterian Church

John Sall, director, Erik Meyer, accompanist

Zene Colt  
Christian Feil  
Eliza Feil  
Ethan Fey  
Elizabeth Hyczko

Allie McMahon  
Maddie McMahon  
Lukas Meyer  
Lydia Meyer  
Gabriela Nhlapo

Alex Orlevitch  
Lily Orlevitch  
Jenny Parsons  
Miriam Sall  
Ruby Sall

Jazmine Stevens  
Samantha Thomas  
Andrew Waite  
Alli Wysocki

### Oratorio Choir of Abington Presbyterian Church

John Sall, director, Erik Meyer, accompanist

#### Soprano

Marie Barnhurst  
Lynda Ewald  
Susan High  
Jeanne Hyczko  
Grace Karschner  
Bernice Keebler  
Kathy Messina  
Anna Meyer  
Lynn Seeholzer  
Ashley Tsung

#### Alto

Cynthia Browne  
Jennie Colt  
Carol Gabay  
Nancy Lawrence Hill  
Lauren Keiter  
Shirley Keiter  
Paula Meyer  
Carole Jeanne Nicholson  
Joanne Welsh

#### Tenor

Gilbert High  
James Holt  
Alan Keiter  
Ken Meyer  
Rob Nicholson

#### Bass

Zene Colt  
John Dean  
Craig Nicholson  
David Perelman  
William Price  
Steven Seeholzer

## Music at Abington 2021 – 2022, our 50th season

October 24, 4:00 p.m.	Glassbrook Vocal Ensemble
November 5, 7:30 p.m.	Abington Symphony Orchestra: Mozart! With John Frazier, clarinet
December 12, 4:30 & 7:00 p.m.	Christmas By Candlelight: The Heart of Christmas
January 23, 3:00 p.m.	Eric Meyer, Organ
February, Tuesdays at Noon	AGO Organ Recitals
February 27, 4:00 p.m.	Lyra Ensemble Flute Quartet
March 18, 7:30 p.m.	Abington Symphony Orchestra With Lloyd Shorter, oboe d'amore
April 3, 4:00 p.m.	Annual Memorial Concert: Fauré <i>Requiem</i> The Oratorio Choir
May 20, 7:30 p.m.	Abington Symphony Orchestra With Sandra Rivers, piano & Tim Schwarz, violin
June 12, 7:30 p.m.	Quakertown Band

Thank you to these generous donors for supporting Music at Abington 2021-22!

### **Guarantor (\$1000)**

Pennsylvania Council on the Arts  
Sue Aemisegger  
Gilbert & Susan High  
Rev. Keith & Mary Lou Provost  
Bill & Mary Stock

### **Underwriter (\$500)**

Jeffrey & Joanne Bates  
Benjamin & Karen Hoyle  
Dorothy Martin

### **Benefactor (\$250)**

Virginia Castor  
Mary L. Felley  
Eleanor K. Given  
Jack & Dorothy Graham  
Bill R. Gustafson  
Nancy & Kirby Lawrence Hill  
Alan & Shirley Keiter  
Charles & Joan Lane  
Joan R. Paltenstein & Donald M. Wolf  
Susan & Robert Parsons  
Edward & Paula Snipes

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Nancy Bell  
Leland & Sarah Bowie  
Lynne Cummings

### **Patron (cont'd)**

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Lisa Kimbro  
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Lydia Macht-Parke  
Thembeka C. Mason  
Catherine G. Messina  
Edward & Kathryn Messina  
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Bruce & Lois Peiffer  
Richard & Cynthia Raff  
Diane Reed  
Alan & Kara Silverman  
Duane G. Sonneborn, Jr.  
Dorothy Whitbeck

### **Contributor (\$50)**

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Carolyn K. Burrell  
Rebecca Fellerman  
Amy E. Gould  
Jeanie Hagis

### **Contributor (cont'd)**

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Richard M. Lamont  
Robert Nicholson  
John & Ruth Sall  
Timothy & Kathy Waite  
Lois G. Wilson  
Dr. Samuel M. & Dorothy H. Wilson

### **Friend (\$25)**

Peggy Acker  
Scott Boutcher  
Cynthia Jamroz  
Raymond Lorah  
Peter C. & Marjorie D. Johnson  
Edie A. Miller

## **Christmas Worship Services**

### **December 19 Fourth Sunday in Advent**

8:00 am Simple Gifts Worship and Communion  
10:00 am Celebration Worship

### **December 24 Christmas Eve**

4:30 pm Christmas Eve Preludes by APC kids  
**5:00 pm Children & Family Christmas Eve Worship**  
6:30 pm Christmas Eve Choir Rehearsal (all are welcome!)  
7:00 pm Christmas Eve Preludes  
**7:30 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship**  
9:00 pm Christmas Eve Choir Rehearsal (all are welcome!)  
9:30 pm Christmas Eve Preludes  
**10:00 pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Worship**

### **December 26 First Sunday after Christmas**

8:00 am Simple Gifts Worship and Communion  
10:00 am Christmas Carol Celebration Worship

### **January 2 Second Sunday after Christmas/Epiphany of the Lord**

8:00 am Simple Gifts Worship and Communion  
10:00 am Celebration Worship and Communion

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Grace and peace to you in this deeply meaningful season. Abington Presbyterian Church welcomes you. Our faith community celebrates God's infinite love and believes all people are equal in the eyes of God. We welcome all to worship and serve with us. We seek to work together to oppose intolerance, racism, and injustice that threaten the unity of humankind, as we serve the One whose birth we celebrate this season. Hallmarks of our life together include worship, music, education, and service, with opportunities for all ages to participate and live out their faith. Sunday morning worship is at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Christmas Eve services will be at 5 (family service), 7:30 (traditional), and 10 (traditional communion).

-Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill, Pastor

### **ABINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Founded 1714**

**1082 Old York Road, Abington, PA 19001**

**(215)887-4530    [www.apcusa.org](http://www.apcusa.org)**

**The Rev. Dr. Kirby Lawrence Hill, *Head of Staff***

**John Sall, *Director of Music Ministries***

**Erik Meyer, *Organist***

**Ruth Ideen-Sall, *Director of Children's Choirs and Ministries***

**Nathan Lazurus, *Director of Handbells***