

Waverley Singers

A Tapestry of Sound
Saturday 30 November, 2024

Audience Carols



waverleysingers.com

While Shepherds Watched - arr David Willcocks

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground,
the angel of the Lord came down,
and glory shone around.

‘Fear not,’ said he (for mighty dread
had seized their troubled mind);
‘Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to you and all mankind:

‘To you in David’s town this day
is born of David’s line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
And this shall be the sign:

‘The heav’nly Babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
and in a manger laid.’

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith
appeared a shining throng
of angels praising God, who thus
addressed their joyful song:

‘All glory be to God on high,
and to the earth be peace;
goodwill henceforth from heaven to men
begin and never cease!’

Nahum Tate

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence - arr Stephen Cleobury

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.

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.

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.

At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim with sleepless eye
Veil their faces to the Prescence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry
‘Alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, Lord most high!’

Paraphrase (1864) Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885)

Come, Thou Redeemer of The Earth - arr Stephen Cleobury

Come, thou Redeemer of the earth,
And manifest thy virgin-birth:
Let ev'ry age adoring fall,
Such birth befits the God of all.

Begotten of no human will,
But of the Spirit, thou art still
The word of God, in flesh arrayed,
The Saviour, now to us displayed.

Forth from that chamber goeth he,
The royal home of purity,
A giant in two-fold substance one,
Rejoicing now his course to run.

From God the Father he proceeds,
To God the Father back he speeds,
Runs out his course to death and hell,
Returns on God's high throne to dwell.

O equal to thy Father, thou!
Gird on thy fleshly mantle now,
The weakness of our mortal state
With deathless might invigorate

Thy cradle here shall glitter bright,
And darkness glow with new-born light,
No more shall night extinguish day,
Where love's bright beams their power display.

O Jesu, Virgin-born, to thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Spirit, evermore. Amen.

St. Ambrose(340-397) Translated JM Neale

Once in Royal David's City arr 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 through all his wondrous childhood
He would honour and obey,
Love and watch the lowly maiden,
In whose gentle arms he lay:
Christian children all must be
Mild, obedient, good as he.

For he is our childhood's pattern;
Day by day, like us, He grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless,

Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.

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;
Where like stars his children crowned
All in white shall wait around.

Cecil Frances Alexander

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing - arr David Willcocks

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 the angelic host proclaim
'Christ is born in Bethlehem'
Hark! The herald angels sing
'Glory to the new-born king'

Christ, by highest heaven adored
Christ, the everlasting Lord,

Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see,
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald angels sing
'Glory to the newborn King'

Hail the Heaven-born 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 new-born king'

Charles Wesley and others



Waverley Singers

Saturday 18 January 2025, 10:30am-4:30pm

Choral Workshop - Elijah

St Thomas-on-The Bourne Church, Farnham

Saturday 22 March 2025, 7:30pm

Mendelssohn Elijah

St Andrew's Garrison Church, Aldershot

Sunday 22 June 2025, 5:00pm

Summer Concert

St Mary's Church, Frensham

Saturday 12 July 2025, 10:30am-4:00pm

The Waverley Sing

The Spire Church, Farnham

Sunday 26 October 2025, 6:00pm

Opera Gala

Farnham Maltings

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