

Music at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church · 2022–23 Season



# Carols by Candlelight

Music and Readings for Advent & Christmas

Friday, December 2 &  
Saturday, December 3 · 7 pm

Kirkland Chapel

The Fifth Avenue Chamber Choir  
Ryan Jackson, Director · Patrick Kreeger, Organ



Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

PRESENTED BY THE ARTS & OUR FAITH COMMITTEE

## WELCOME

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Welcome to Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, and thank you for joining us. This evening's program will be sung without an intermission. Please refrain from taking pictures or making recordings during the performance.

### Music at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

We hope you enjoy this evening's concert, the second in the tenth season of our annual concert series. Please read on for more information about upcoming music events at Fifth Avenue. Be sure to mark the dates in your calendar, and join us again!

Tickets for choral concerts are available online at [fapc.org/tickets](http://fapc.org/tickets) or at the church.

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**Friday, February 10, 2023 • 7 pm, Kirkland Chapel**

### **To the Hands: Songs of Compassion**

“God’s dream is that you and I and all of us will realize that we are family, that we are made for togetherness, for goodness, and for compassion.” – Desmond Tutu

This powerful, genre-defying concert features a diverse selection of music that sings of the blessings and challenges of human connection in the modern world. At the heart of this program is *To the Hands*, a stirring modern-day masterpiece for choir and strings by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Caroline Shaw.

**Friday, March 31 and Saturday, April 1, 2023 • 7 pm, Kirkland Chapel**

### **Durufé Requiem**

A work of tremendous beauty and spiritual depth, Maurice Durufé’s *Requiem* is a pinnacle of 20th-century choral music. The Fifth Avenue Choir is joined by an orchestra for this concert, which also features *From Darkness to Light*, a striking cantata by the celebrated Canadian composer Ruth Watson Henderson.

PROGRAM

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# Carols by Candlelight

## Music and Readings for Advent and Christmas

The Fifth Avenue Chamber Choir

Ryan Jackson, *Director*

Patrick Kreeger, *Organ* • Jeanne Lehman, *Reader*

\* *The audience is invited to stand and join in singing the carols, which can be found at the numbers indicated in the red hymnal, Glory to God.*

### Choral Music

Echo Carol • *Philip Wilby (b. 1949)*

*Rachel Mikol and Erinn Sensenig, Sopranos*

### \*Processional Carol 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vss. 1, 2, 6, & 7)

### Reading

Advent • *Sarah Speed*

### Choral Music

I am the day • *Jonathan Dove (b. 1959)*

### Reading

First Coming • *Madeleine L'Engle (1918–2007)*

### Choral Music

Lo! How a Rose, E'er Blooming • *Traditional, arr. Bruce Saylor (b. 1946)*

Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day • *Traditional, arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)*

*Pablo Rubin-Jurado, Tenor*

### \*Carol 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

### Reading

The Christmas Life • *Wendy Cope (b. 1945)*

### Choral Music

*Hodie, Christus natus est • Healey Willan (1880–1968)*

*Noe! Noe! • French Carol, arr. Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)*

### Reading

A Hymn on the Nativity of My Savior • *Ben Jonson (1572–1637)*

### Choral Music

It was the winter wild • *R. Benjamin Dobey (b. 1950)*

### \*Carol 119

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

## PROGRAM

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### **Choral Music**

Now may we singen • *Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951)*

Christmas Lullaby • *John Rutter (b. 1945)*

### **\*Carol 122**

Silent Night, Holy Night!

### **Reading**

Break Forth • *Johann Rist (1607–1667)*

### **Choral Music**

God Rest Ye Merry Gents • *Traditional, arr. Saunder Choi (b. 1988)*

*Rich Saunders, Soloist*

### **\*Carol 134**

Joy to the World

## TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

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### CHORAL MUSIC

#### **Echo Carol** • *Philip Wilby (b. 1949)*

Creator of the stars of night,  
Thy people's everlasting light,  
Jesu, Redeemer, save us all,  
And hear thy servants when they call.

*Alleluia.*

Thou camest, bridegroom of the bride,  
As drew the world to eveningtide,  
Proceeding from a virgin shrine,  
The Son of Man, yet all divine.

*Alleluia.*

At thy great name, exalted now,  
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow,  
And things in heaven and earth shall own  
That thou art Lord and King alone.

*Alleluia.*

To God the Father, God the Son,  
And God the Spirit, Three in One,  
Laud, honor, might, and glory be  
From age to age eternally.

*Alleluia.*

*7th-century Office Hymn, English translation by J. M. Neale (1818–1866)*

\*PROCESSIONAL CAROL 88 • **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** (vss. 1, 2, 6, & 7)

READING      **Advent** • *Sarah Speed*

## TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

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### CHORAL MUSIC

**I am the day** • *Jonathan Dove (b. 1959)*

Soon to be born...

*I am Alpha and O, and Omega!*

I am the day soon to be born.

Soon to be born...

I am the day soon to be born...

*Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel!*

I am the spring from the root of David...

*O come, O come, Emmanuel!*

I am the Alpha and the Omega...

*O come, O come, Emmanuel!*

I am the sprig from the root of David,

And the bright star of the morning.

*Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee!*

*I am Alpha and O, and Omega!*

I am the day soon to be born.

Soon to be born...

I am the first and the last,

The beginning and the end.

*Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel!*

I am the day soon to be born...

*Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel!*

I am the spring from the root of David...

*O come, O come, Emmanuel!*

I am the Alpha and the Omega...

*O come, O come, Emmanuel!*

I am the sprig from the root of David,

I am the first and last, the first and last.

I am the sprig from the root of David,

And the bright star of the morning.

*Ah! Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee!*

Soon to be born...

*The legend of St. Christopher and Revelation 22:16, 13*

### READING

**First Coming** • *Madeleine L'Engle (1918–2007)*

### CHORAL MUSIC

**Lo! How a Rose, E'er Blooming** • *Traditional, arr. Bruce Saylor (b. 1946)*

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming

From tender stem hath sprung!

Of Jesse's lineage coming

As men of old have sung,  
It came, a blossom bright,  
Amid the cold of winter,  
When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it,  
The Rose I have in mind.  
With Mary we behold it,  
The Virgin Mother kind.  
To show God's love aright,  
She bore to us a Savior  
When half-spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender  
With sweetness fills the air,  
Dispel in glorious splendor  
The darkness everywhere;  
True man, yet very God,  
From sin and death now save us,  
And share our every load.

*Translated by Theodore Baker (1851–1934)*

**Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day**

*Traditional English Carol, arr. David Willcocks (1919–2015)*

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day;  
I would my true love did so chance  
To see the legend of my play,  
To call my true love to my dance;  
Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,  
This have I done for my true love.

Then was I born of a virgin pure,  
Of her I took fleshly substance  
Thus was I knit to man's nature  
To call my true love to my dance.  
Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,  
This have I done for my true love.

In a manger laid, and wrapped I was  
So very poor, this was my chance  
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass  
To call my true love to my dance.  
Sing, oh! my love, oh! my love, my love, my love,  
This have I done for my true love.

\*CAROL 132 • **Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**

READING      **The Christmas Life** • *Wendy Cope (b. 1945)*

## TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

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### CHORAL MUSIC

#### **Hodie, Christus natus est** • Healey Willan (1880–1968)

<i>Hodie Christus natus est:</i>	Today Christ is born.
<i>Hodie Salvator apparuit:</i>	Today the Savior has appeared.
<i>Hodie in terra canunt angeli,</i>	Today on earth the angels sing,
<i>Laetantur archangeli:</i>	The archangels rejoice.
<i>Hodie exsultant justi, dicentes:</i>	Today the just rejoice, saying:
<i>Gloria in excelsis Deo. Alleluia!</i>	Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia!

#### **Noe! Noe!** • French Carol, arr. Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

Shepherds, rise look up and see  
New light yonder breaking,  
Brighter than the noonday sun,  
All your sheep awaking.  
Wonder, whisper, “Ah, Noe!”  
Christ is born this holy day!  
He is come to you,  
Lowly shepherds, true!  
He is come unto you,  
Morning Star and New Day!  
Wonder, whisper, “Ah, Noe!”  
Shepherds, turn your eyes and see  
In the manger, sleeping,  
Prince of Peace and Heav’nly King,  
In his mother’s keeping.  
Worship him who brings Noe,  
He who turns the night to day!  
He is come to you,  
Lowly shepherds, true!  
He is come unto you,  
Morning Star and New Day!  
Worship him who brings Noe!

Shepherds, look about and see  
In the darkness pining  
All God’s children long to hear  
Of the new Light shining.  
Witness of the true Noe!  
Share glad tidings of this day!  
He is come to you,  
Lowly shepherds, true!  
He is come unto you,  
Morning Star and New Day!  
Witness of the true Noe!



## TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

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Shepherds, run to us and see  
Here we are awaiting thee.  
Let your voices ring for 'aye  
Christ is born! *Noe! Noe!*

*David Warner*

READING      **A Hymn on the Nativity of My Savior** • *Ben Jonson (1572–1637)*

CHORAL MUSIC

**It was the winter wild** • *R. Benjamin Dobey (b. 1950)*

It was the winter wild,  
While the heaven-born child,  
All meanly wrapped in the rude manger lies:  
Nature in awe to him  
Had doffed her gaudy trim,  
With her great Master so to sympathize:  
And waving wide her myrtle wand,  
She strikes a universal peace through sea and land.

No war or battle sound  
Was heard the world around,  
The idle spear and shield were high up hung;  
The hookèd Chariot stood  
Unstained with hostile blood,  
The Trumpet spake not to the armèd throng,  
And Kings sat still with awful eye,  
As if they surely knew their sovran Lord was by.

But peaceful was the night  
Wherein the Prince of Light  
His reign of peace upon the earth began:  
The winds, with wonder whist,  
Smoothly the waters kissed,  
Whispering new joys to the mild ocean,  
Who now hath quite forgot to rave,  
While birds of calm sit brooding on the charmèd wave.

*From Hymn on the Morning of Christ's Nativity by John Milton (1608–1674)*

\*CAROL 119 • **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

CHORAL MUSIC

**Now may we singen** • *Cecilia McDowall (b. 1951)*

This Babe to us that now is born,  
Wonderful works he hath *ȳwrought* ("made"),  
He would not loss what was *forlorn* ("lost, forsaken"),  
But boldly again it brought;

*Refrain*

And thus it is *forsooth ȳwis* ("in truth indeed"),  
He asketh nought but that is his.  
Now may we singen as it is.

*Quod puer natus est nobis* ("because a boy is born to us").  
This bargain lovèd he right well,  
The price was high and bought full dear.  
Who would suffer and for us feel  
As did that Prince withouten peer?

*Refrain*

His ransom for us hath ȳpaid;  
Good reason have we to be his.  
Be mercy asked and he be prayed,  
Who may deserve the heavenly bliss.

*Refrain*

To some purpose God made man;  
I trust well to salvation.  
What was his blood that from him ran  
But fence against damnation?

*Refrain*

Almighty God in Trinity,  
Thy mercy we pray with whole heart,  
Thy mercy may all woe make fell  
And dangerous dread from us to start.

*Refrain*

**Christmas Lullaby** • *John Rutter (b. 1945)*

Clear in the darkness a light shines in Bethlehem:  
Angels are singing, their sound fills the air.  
Wise men have journeyed to greet their Messiah;  
But only a mother and baby lie there.

*Refrain*

'*Ave Maria, Ave Maria*':  
Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing.  
'*Ave Maria, Ave Maria,*  
*Maiden, and mother of Jesus our King*'.

## TEXTS & TRANSLATIONS

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Where are his courtiers, and who are his people?  
Why does he bear neither scepter nor crown?  
Shepherds his courtiers, the poor for his people,  
With peace as his scepter and love for his crown.

*Refrain*

What though your treasures are not gold or incense!  
Lay them before him with hearts full of love.  
Praise to the Christ child, and praise to his mother  
Who bore us a Savior by grace from above.

*Refrain*

### \*CAROL 122 • **Silent Night**

READING            **Break Forth** • *Johann Rist (1607–1667)*

CHORAL MUSIC

**God Rest Ye Merry Gents** • *Traditional, arr. Saunder Choi (b. 1988)*

God rest ye merry, gentlemen, let a-nothin' you dismay,  
Remember Christ our savior was born on Christmas day,  
To save us all from Satan's power when we were gone astray.  
O good tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O good tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our Heav'nly Father a blessed angel came,  
And then unto a certain Shepherd brought tidings of the same,  
How in a holy manger in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.  
O good tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O good tidings of comfort and joy.

Now sing! O sing ye praises all you within this place,  
And with the true love of your brothers and your sisters  
Come to each other now embrace,  
The holy tide of Christmas all other doth deface.  
O good tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O good tidings of comfort and joy.

### \*CAROL 134 • **Joy to the World**

## THE FIFTH AVENUE CHAMBER CHOIR

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### *Sopranos*

Rachel Mikol  
Susana Leiva  
Claire Myers-McCormick  
Erinn Sensenig  
Rebecca Soelberg

### *Altos*

Donna Breitzer  
Sharon Byrne  
Mckenzie Kitchen  
Cheryl Martin

### *Tenors*

Nathan Fletcher  
Morgan Mastrangelo  
Pablo Rubin-Jurado  
Richard Saunders

### *Basses*

Zak Fletcher  
Shafiq Hicks  
Jacob Khalil  
Julian Morris  
Christopher Seefeldt

## ABOUT THE FIFTH AVENUE CHAMBER CHOIR

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Founded in 2013, the Fifth Avenue Chamber Choir is a vocal ensemble comprising some of New York's finest professional singers. With a diverse repertoire spanning Renaissance polyphony through contemporary American, the Chamber Choir presents an exciting series of sacred music concerts each season in Kirkland Chapel, their home venue at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. Although the size of the choir varies between 16 and 24 singers, the ensemble's primary goal never changes: we seek to uplift and inspire all who hear us through passionate, engaging, and highly-polished performances of sacred choral music.

## SPECIAL THANKS

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...to our dear fellow choristers Hilary Gardner, Adrienne Lotto, and Megan Schubert, who all participated in the rehearsal process for this concert but were unable to perform this evening due to illness. We miss you, and we wish you all speedy recoveries.

...to Donna Breitzer, who heroically jumped into our alto section at the very last minute (Wednesday evening's dress rehearsal!) and made it possible for the show to go on.

...to all the members of the Arts & Our Faith Committee for their vision, leadership, and hands-on support of this series, and to our dedicated team of volunteer ushers and greeters.

...to Fifth Avenue's wonderful Communications and Facilities teams for all the ways they support this series and make it possible.



We invite you back  
for our Christmas Eve  
& Christmas Day Services

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**Saturday, Dec. 24 • Christmas Eve**

The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching  
7:30 & 11 pm, Sanctuary. Livestream at 7:30 pm only.

**Family Christmas Eve**

On-demand service available at [youtube.com/fapcinnyc](https://youtube.com/fapcinnyc).

**Sunday, Dec. 25 • Christmas Day**

The Rev. Werner Ramirez, preaching  
11 am, Sanctuary & Livestream.



Fifth Avenue  
Presbyterian Church  
wishes you a

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**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**

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*Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church is home to a versatile program of arts in worship that endeavors to uplift, inspire, challenge and comfort all who encounter it, and to provide opportunities to share our wealth of artistic gifts. Music is at the heart of worship and, hand in hand with the Word, strives to create a genuine encounter with the holy.*

### **The Choirs of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church**

**The Fifth Avenue Chamber Choir** is a select vocal ensemble of 16 to 25 of New York's finest professional singers. Striving always to achieve the highest standard of ensemble singing, this choir presents several concerts each season, of repertoire ranging from Renaissance polyphony through contemporary American.

**The Fifth Avenue Choir** is made up of professional singers from the Chamber Choir as well as a dedicated team of volunteer choristers from the Fifth Avenue congregation. From September to June, the choir sings in worship on Sunday mornings at the 11 am service and at special seasonal services.

**The Community Choir** is an ensemble for those who would like to learn more about singing and music in general, and have a good time with like-minded people in the process! There is no audition to join this group—we meet on Thursdays from 6 until 8 pm, and spend our time learning about our voices and improving our varied abilities to read music. Approximately twice a month, the Community Choir sings at the 11 am worship service.

To learn more about our music ministries, or to find out how you can get involved, visit [fapc.org/music](http://fapc.org/music) or write to [music@fapc.org](mailto:music@fapc.org).

### **About Kirkland Chapel**

Kirkland Chapel was designed in the Gothic style by New York architect James Gamble Rogers. Rogers also designed the Harkness Tower in Yale University's Memorial Quadrangle. Funded in large part by the philanthropist Anna Harkness (a member of the church), the Chapel and Church House were constructed in 1925, a half-century after the Sanctuary of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church was completed. It is named for the Rev. Dr. Bryant M. Kirkland, senior pastor of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church from 1962 until 1987.

The narrow, rectangular Chapel, reminiscent of a small parish church, is an ideal venue for small ensembles and chamber music with its warm, intimate ambience and fine acoustics—features due in large part to its hard stone surfaces and lack of carpeting. The Chapel, in addition to housing a fine grand piano, is home to a small pipe organ built in 1970 by the Austin Organ Company of Hartford, Connecticut.

For information on renting Kirkland Chapel for a performance, wedding or other event, contact Donna Ketchledge (212.247.0490, [dketchledge@fapc.org](mailto:dketchledge@fapc.org)).

### **FIFTH AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

7 West 55th Street • New York, NY 10019 • 212.247.0490 • [www.fapc.org](http://www.fapc.org) • [fapc@fapc.org](mailto:fapc@fapc.org)