



sacramento  
**MASTER SINGERS**  
PRESENTS

**C**ELTIC  
CHRISTMAS

with guest artists  
**MEN OF WORTH**  
James Keigher & Donnie Macdonald

DR. RALPH HUGHES | artistic director and conductor

TINA HARRIS | assistant conductor

HEIDI VAN REGENMORTER | accompanist

CLIFFORD SHOCKNEY | arranger



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**MASTER SINGERS**  
present

# CELTIC CHRISTMAS

**DR. RALPH HUGHES, artistic director and conductor**

**TINA HARRIS, assistant conductor**

**HEIDI VAN REGENMORTER, accompanist**

**CLIFFORD SHOCKNEY, arranger**

Sunday, December 9, 2012 @ 3:00 PM

Saturday, December 15, 2012 @ 8:00 PM

Thursday, December 20, 2012 @ 7:00 PM

Sunday, December 23, 2012 @ 3:00 PM

**ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI**

26th and K Streets, Sacramento, CA

Sunday, December 16, 2012 @ 7:30 PM

**THREE STAGES**

10 College Parkway, Folsom, CA



**Ecce Quod Natura**

ANONYMOUS;  
MICHAEL MCGLYNN, ARRANGER

**There Is No Rose**

ANONYMOUS 15TH-CENTURY TEXT;  
ELIZABETH MACONCHY

**Angelus Ad Virginem**

MEDIEVAL IRISH SOURCE  
MICHAEL MCGLYNN, ARRANGER  
David Manea, Justin Pratt,  
Joseph Silmaro, soloists

**Christmas Memories**

MICHAEL MCGLYNN  
Stephen Hill, Kevin Mirsepassi,  
Joseph Silmaro, soloists

**The Rising of the Moon**

TRADITIONAL IRISH BALLAD  
CLIFFORD SHOCKNEY, ARRANGER  
James Keigher, Men of Worth

**Non Nobis Domine**

ROSEPHANYE POWELL

**Coventry Carol**

JONATHAN RATHBONE, ARRANGER

*Men of Worth***Christmas in the Trenches**

JOHN MCCUTCHEON

**The Sound of Iona**

TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH BALLAD  
CLIFFORD SHOCKNEY, ARRANGER

**Little Drummer Boy**

KATHERINE DAVIS, HENRY ONORATI,  
HARRY SIMEONE  
CLIFFORD SHOCKNEY, ARRANGER

**Wexford Carol**

TRADITIONAL IRISH CAROL  
CLIFFORD SHOCKNEY, ARRANGER

**A 'Soalin'**

PAUL STOOKEY, TRACY BATTEAST,  
ELENA MEZZETTI  
RONALD STAHELI, ARRANGER

INTERMISSION

**Carol Medley (Deck the Hall,  
I Saw Three Ships, We Wish You a Merry  
Christmas, The Holly and the Ivy,  
The First Nowell, Past Three O'clock)**

JONATHAN RATHBONE, ARRANGER  
William Zinn, Jon Eric Hill, Carol Horner,  
Mia Watts, soloists

**Bethlehem Down**

PETER WARLOCK

**Make We Merry On This Fest**

ANDREW CARTER

**The Holly and the Ivy**

18TH CENTURY ENGLISH CAROL  
KIRBY SHAW, ARRANGER  
Amber Lidskin, Mia Watts, soloists

*Men of Worth***Silent Night**

TRADITIONAL GERMAN CAROL  
SUNG IN IRISH GAELIC

**Lord of the Dance**

SYDNEY CARTER

**Angels We Have Heard On High**

HYMN TUNE 'GLORIA'

**Bells of Christmas**

JOHN BETTIS & DAN SHEA  
KEITH CHRISTOPHER, ARRANGER

**I Saw Three Ships**

WILLIAM SANDYS  
PATRICK ROSE, ARRANGER

**Pat-a-Pan**

TRADITIONAL BURGUNDIAN CAROL  
JOHN HANCOCK, KURT BESTOR,  
& MIKE SPECK ARRANGERS

**Peace, Peace**

RICK & SYLVIA POWELL  
James Keigher, Men of Worth





**soprano**

Emily Burr  
 Eva Cranstoun  
 Jenny Guemmer\*  
 Tina Harris†  
 Jennifer Helm  
 Debbie Hill  
 Suzanna Hoye  
 Julie Jenness  
 Elizabeth Johnston  
 Amber Lidskin  
 Pat Pagendarm  
 Mia Watts

\* Section Leader

**alto**

Celia Buckley  
 Lucy Bunch  
 Katharine Hall  
 Laurie Hanschu  
 Carol Horner\*  
 Elizabeth Johnson  
 Debra Kahan  
 Laura Lofgren  
 Mary Patt  
 Haruko Sakakibara

**tenor**

Jon Eric Hill  
 Steve Hill  
 Byron Jackson  
 David Kasperik  
 Kurtis Kroon  
 David Manea  
 Paul Miller  
 Kevin Mirsepassi  
 Justin Pratt  
 Dave Segura  
 Joseph Silmaro  
 David Temme\*  
 Justin Vaughn  
 Mark Watkins  
 Chris Webster

**bass**

David Aagaard  
 Keith Atwater  
 Chris Dainard  
 Derek Giovanni  
 Chris Goff  
 David Robinson  
 Jeff Schulz  
 Andrew Smith  
 Jon Sorensen  
 Thomas Voigt  
 William Zinn\*



**artistic director**

Dr. Ralph Hughes

**assistant conductor**

Tina Harris

**accompanist**

Heidi Van Regenmorter

**arranger**

Clifford Shockney

**instrumentalists**

Thomas Voigt,  
 drums & percussion

David Robinson, bass

Joseph Silmaro,  
 keyboard

Julie Jenness, flute

Men of Worth:  
 guitar, mandocello,  
 concertina, tenor banjo,  
 octave mandolin,  
 bodhran (Irish drums)



Welcome to the Sacramento Master Singers' first Celtic-themed Christmas program, a celebration of spiritual and secular works spanning a thousand years. Woven from the musical traditions of Ireland, Scotland, Wales, and England, this rich tapestry of choral and folk sounds includes Medieval, chant-based compositions, rollicking holiday songs, and the laments and ballads of a great people.

We're particularly excited about having authentic voices from Ireland and Scotland on the program—the beloved Celtic duo Men of Worth. To enhance our unique collaboration with James Keigher and Donnie Macdonald, we commissioned SMS composer-in-residence Clifford Shockney to create brand new choral arrangements of traditional Celtic carols and ballads.

You'll also be hearing new works by contemporary Dublin composer, Michael McGlynn. The choral group he founded, Anúna, has been at the forefront of the new wave of Irish music. The Master Singers have been enjoying his music so much, in fact, that we are planning a 2015 concert tour of Ireland that includes a workshop with Michael McGlynn. Our hope, as always, is to learn about World music from the best original sources, then bring that knowledge home to Sacramento audiences.

*Sit back, now, as voices and instruments filled with Celtic spirit evoke the timeless beauty of green lands that are far away...and soothingly familiar.*



## Men of Worth

James Keigher, a native of County Mayo in Ireland, and Donnie Macdonald, raised on the remote Scottish isle of Lewis, have been charming Americans with stories and songs of their respective homelands since they joined forces in California in 1986. The duo drew their name from the song *Men of Worth*, by Scottish composer Archie Fisher. The ballad evokes the struggle of those whose souls are still tuned to the love of ancient traditions, but whose need for paying work draws them to modern industries far from home. Men of Worth have made the blending of tradition and modernity a hallmark of their intimate concerts, their educational programs for schoolchildren, and their personally guided tours of Ireland and Scotland. For information on all of their endeavors, including the 11 CDs they've recorded, please visit their website.

[menofworth.com](http://menofworth.com)

**Liz Tubbs**, co-founder, pipe major and musical director of the City of Sacramento Pipe Band since 1989, is a professional piper, flautist, and music educator. She has played in pipe bands in Dunedin, Florida, and San Francisco since the mid 1970's, and has led the Sacramento pipe band to international piping competitions. She has performed solo pipes for Ireland's President Mary McAleese, and as an opening act for The Chieftains and Rod Stewart. Liz teaches music at Sheldon High School and band in the Elk Grove Unified School District.



You can enjoy songs marked with \* on one of the Sacramento Master Singers compact discs, available at our recordings table in the rear of the church or the lobby at Three Stages. Tunes marked with § are found on Men of Worth's "A Winter's Carol" CD, also available at the recordings table.

### **Ecce Quod Natura**

ANONYMOUS; MICHAEL MCGLYNN, ARRANGER

Ecce, quod natura mutat sua jura;  
virgo parit pura dei filium.

*Behold, how nature changes her law:  
A pure virgin gives birth to the Son of God.*

Ecce novum gaudium, ecce novum mirum;  
virgo parit filium, que non novit virum;  
que non novit virum, sed ut pirus pirum,  
gleba fert saphirum, dei filium.

*Behold new joy, Behold a new wonder;  
A virgin gives birth, Without knowing man;  
Without knowing man, But as the tree fruit,  
As the rock a gem, She bears the Son of God.*

Mundum deus flebilem videns in ruina,  
flore[m] dilectabilem produxit de spina;  
produxit de spina, virgo quae regina  
mundi medicina salus gentium.

*God, seeing the woeful World in ruin,  
Grew a perfect rose From the thorn;  
From the thorn, Who is queen of heaven,  
Our remedy And the salvation of mankind.*

Nequivit divinitas plus humiliari,  
nec nostra fragilitas magis exaltari,  
magis exaltari, quam celo locari,  
deo coequari, per conjugium.

*Divinity could not have been More humbled,  
Nor our frailty More greatly exalted,  
More greatly exalted, Than to be placed in heaven,  
Co-equal to God, Through conjunction.  
[of divinity and humanity in Christ]*

### **There Is No Rose**

ANON. 15TH CENTURY TEXT;  
ELIZABETH MACONCHY, ARRANGER

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

For in this rose contained was  
Heaven and earth in little space;  
Res miranda. (*trans.: marvelous thing*)

By that rose we may well see  
That he is God in persons three,  
Pari forma. (*trans.: of equal form*)

The angels sungen, the shepherds too:  
Gloria in excelsis deo:  
Gaudeamus.  
(*trans.: Glory to God in the highest. Let us rejoice.*)

### **Angelus Ad Virginem**

MEDIEVAL IRISH SOURCE;  
MICHAEL MCGLYNN, ARRANGER

Angelus ad Virginem  
subintrans in conclave  
*By the Angel to the Virgin  
nimble in the chamber*

Virginis formidinem demulcens inquit  
*Soothing the Maiden's fear he said,*

"Ave. Ave, Regina virginum,  
"Hail, hail, Queen of Virgins,

caeli terraeque Dominum concipies  
*from the Lord of heaven and earth.*

et paries intacta salutem hominum,  
tu porta caeli facta medela criminum."  
*You shall conceive, untouched,  
and give birth to the salvation of men.  
You shall be the gateway for the remedy to all sin.*

Quomodo conciperem quae virum non cognovi?  
*How can I conceive when I have not known a man?*

Qualiter infringerem quod firma mente vovi?  
*How can I break with firm intent that which I have vowed?*

Spiritus Sancti gratia perficiet haec omnia;  
 ne timeas, sed gaudeas, secura quod castimonia  
 manebit in te pura Dei potentia.  
*Do not be frightened, for all of this will be realized  
 through the grace of the Holy Spirit.  
 Rejoice, for he will preserve your chastity. You will  
 remain pure through the power of God.*

Ad haec virgo nobilis respondens inquit ei:  
*To this the noble Virgin replied, saying:*

Ancilla sum humilis omnipotentis Dei.  
*"I am the lowly handmaid of the Almighty God*

Tibi caelesti nuntio, tanti secreti conscio  
 consentiens et cupiens videre factum quod audio;  
 parata sum parere Dei consilio".  
*To you the heavenly messenger, who knows so many  
 secrets I consent and eagerly await that which is to  
 come; I am ready to obey the counsel of God."*

## Christmas Memories

MICHAEL MCGLYNN

On this cold December morn,  
 Snow in the air as the North winds moan.  
 I recall those younger days  
 When starlight was in our eyes.  
 As we waited for that morning light  
 Dreams full of joy on a winter's night.  
 Those sweet Christmas Memories  
 Will never fade away.  
 And we're coming home  
 We're coming home for Christmas Day  
 To our sweetest memories.

Walking on familiar roads,  
 Snow in the air as the cold wind blows.  
 Coming back to a warm embrace  
 Where those memories never fade  
 And we're coming home,  
 We're coming home for Christmas Day  
 To our sweetest memories.

Gloria in excelcis Deo.

## The Rising of the Moon

TRADITIONAL IRISH BALLAD  
 CLIFFORD SHOCKNEY, ARRANGER

The Rising of the Moon *is often performed  
 by Men of Worth as a simple ballad. Clifford  
 Shockney, the Sacramento Master Singers'  
 arranger and frequent accompanist, has  
 expanded the piece to include a flutist, piano  
 and choir. Enjoy the premier of his arrangements  
 lovingly written for SMS and Men of Worth.*

As we wander through the Universe,  
 on this dark winter's night,  
 the children they're all dancing  
 and the stars are shining bright.  
 One more word must now be spoken out,  
 or sung to an old tune:  
 Let's be friends this New Year coming  
 at the Rising of the Moon.

*Chorus*  
 At the Rising of the Moon,  
 at the Rising of the Moon,  
 Let's be friends this New Year coming  
 at the Rising of the Moon.

As we gaze into the stars that shine,  
 with wonder in our eyes,  
 will we just destroy the planet?  
 Or is peace to be the prize?  
 For the wail of fighting nations  
 dims the beauty of the tune.  
 Let's all dance the dance of Freedom,  
 at the Rising of the Moon.  
*Chorus*

May the wisdom of the Ancients  
 with their messages and signs  
 come to shine on our tomorrow,  
 with the magic of the time.  
 Like the star that shone on the wise men,  
 like the dawn that's coming soon,  
 it's the truth that guides us onwards  
 at the Rising of the Moon.  
*Chorus*

We can live within God's garden  
 if we tend it with our care.  
 We can understand the meaning  
 and the motive of the fair.

Tho' we stumble thru the darkness  
trying far too much too soon,  
let's all stand up and be counted  
at the Rising of the Moon.  
*Chorus*

## Non Nobis Domine

ROSEPHANYE POWELL

*Dr. Rosephanye Powell serves as a professor of voice at Auburn University, Alabama. She is hailed as one of America's finest choral composers. The brief Latin text of Non Nobis originates from Psalm 115, and Dr. Powell infuses that text with driving rhythms and an exhilarating interplay between the voices.*

Non nobis, non nobis, Domine  
Sed nomini tuo da gloriam.

*Not to us, not to us, O Lord,  
But to thy name give glory.*

## Coventry Carol \*

JONATHAN RATHBONE, ARRANGER

*According to Matthew's gospel, once Herod realized that he had been tricked by the wise men who foiled his attempt to find and kill the newborn, Jesus, he ordered the slaughter of all male babies under two years of age living in or around Bethlehem.*

## Men of Worth

### Christmas in the Trenches §

JOHN MCCUTCHEON

*A lesser known aspect of World War I is the story of the unofficial 1914 truce between the British and German lines on the Western Front in order that both sides could observe Christmas. John McCutcheon, American composer, wrote this ballad to tell the story from the perspective of a fictional British soldier from Liverpool.*

My name is Francis Tolliver. I come from Liverpool.  
Two years ago the war was waiting for me  
after school.

To Belgium and to Flanders, to Germany to here, I  
fought for King and country I love dear.

It was Christmas in the trenches where the frost so  
bitter hung. The frozen fields of France were still,  
no Christmas songs were sung.

Our families back in England were toasting us that  
day, their brave and glorious sons so far away.

I was lyin' with my mess-mate on the cold and  
rocky ground when across the lines of battle came  
a most peculiar sound.

"Now listen up me boys," said I, each soldier  
strained to hear as one young German voice rang  
out so clear.

"He's singin' bloody well you know," my partner  
says to me. Soon one by one each German voice  
joined in in harmony.

The cannons rested silent. The gas clouds rolled no  
more as Christmas brought us rest from the war.

As soon as they were finished a reverent pause was  
spent. 'God rest ye merry gentlemen,' struck up  
some lads from Kent.

Next they sang was 'Stille Nacht.' "Tis 'Silent  
Night,'" says I, and in two tongues one voice filled  
up that sky.

"There's someone coming towards us," the front-  
line sentry cried. All sights were fixed on one lone  
figure trudging from their side.

His peace flag, like a Christmas star, shone on that  
plain so bright as he bravely strode, unarmed, into  
the night.

Soon one by one on each side walked into  
no-mans-land with neither guns nor bayonet we  
met there hand to hand.

And we shared some secret brandy and wished  
each other well and in a flare-lit soccer game we  
gave them hell.

We traded chocolates and cigarettes and  
photographs from home, these sons and fathers  
far away from families of their own.

Young Sanders played the squeeze box and they  
had a violin, this curious and unlikely band of men.



Then daylight stole upon us and France was France  
once more. With sad farewells we each prepared to  
settle back to war.

But the memory haunted every heart that lived  
that wondrous night, "Whose family have I fixed  
within my sighs?"

It's Christmas in the trenches where the frost  
so bitter hung. The frozen fields of France were  
warmed as Christmas songs were sung.

And the walls they'd kept between us to exact the  
work of war had been crumbled and were gone for  
ever more.

My name is Francis Tolliver. In Liverpool I dwell.  
Each Christmas comes. Since World War One I've  
learned it's lessons well.

That the ones who call the shots won't be among  
the dead and lame, and on each end of the rifle  
we're the same.

## The Sound of Iona

TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH BALLAD  
CLIFFORD SHOCKNEY, ARRANGER

*The Sound of Iona has been lovingly set for the  
Scotsman on our program and the Sacramento  
Master Singers! Iona is a small island in the Inner  
Hebrides off the western coast of Scotland. It was the  
center of monasticism for four centuries and today is  
known for its tranquility and natural beauty.*

I can see the white spray flying  
Over the Sound of Iona.  
I can hear the seagulls crying  
Over the Sound of Iona.  
Sail away, sail away  
Over the Sound of Iona.

I can see the breakers prancing  
Over the Sound of Iona.  
I can see the red boats dancing  
Over the Sound of Iona.  
Sail away, sail away  
Over the Sound of Iona.

Oh if I could stay forever  
Near to the Sound of Iona.  
I would leave you never, never

Lovely Sound of Iona.  
Sail away, sail away  
Over the Sound of Iona.

## Little Drummer Boy §

KATHERINE DAVIS, HENRY ONORATI,  
HARRY SIMEONE  
CLIFFORD SHOCKNEY, ARRANGER

*Men of Worth usually perform this well-known tune  
in unison, with no accompaniment except for their  
Irish drums, the bodhrans. Clifford Shockney has  
added rich vocal harmonies so the Master Singers  
can join in the fun.*

Come, they told me  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
Our newborn King to see  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
Our finest gifts we bring  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
To lay before the King  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
So to honor Him  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
When we come

Little Baby  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
I am a poor boy too  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
I have no gift to bring  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
That's fit to give a King  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
Shall I play for You  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
On my drum?

Mary nodded  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
The ox and lamb kept time  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
I played my drum for Him  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
I played my best for Him  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
Then He smiled at me  
Pa, rum, pa, pum, pum  
Me and my drum

## Wexford Carol

TRADITIONAL IRISH CAROL  
CLIFFORD SHOCKNEY, ARRANGER

*Originating from County Wexford, Ireland, this 12th century carol, relating the story of the Christ child, is one of Europe's most beloved. The revival of all things Irish has led to recordings by Anuna, Celtic Woman, and Loreena McKennitt. It was a suggestion from one of our choir members that led Clifford to create his own arrangement of this lovely carol.*

Good people all, this Christmas time,  
Consider well and bear in mind  
What our good God for us has done,  
In sending His beloved Son.  
With Mary holy we should pray  
To God with love this Christmas Day;  
In Bethlehem upon the morn  
There was a blest Messiah born.

The night before that happy tide  
The noble virgin and her guide  
Were long time seeking up and down  
To find a lodging in the town.  
But mark how all things came to pass:  
From every door repelled, alas!  
As long foretold, their refuge all  
Was but a humble oxen stall.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep  
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;  
To whom God's angels did appear  
Which put the shepherds in great fear.  
"Prepare and go," the angels said,  
"To Bethlehem, be not afraid;  
For there you'll find, this happy morn,  
A princely Babe, sweet Jesus born."

With thankful heart and joyful mind,  
The shepherds went the babe to find,  
And as God's angel has foretold,  
They did our Savior Christ behold.  
Within a manger He was laid,  
And by His side the virgin maid  
Attending to the Lord of Life,  
Who came on earth to end all strife.

## A 'Soalin'

PAUL STOOKEY, TRACY BATTEAST,  
ELENA MEZZETTI  
RONALD STAHELI, ARRANGER

*Undoubtedly, fans of Peter, Paul and Mary will be tempted to hum along on this tune, co-penned by the tall middle man of that trio, Stookey, with fellow composers Batteast and Mezzetti. Ronald Staheli of Brigham Young University has set the tune in a refreshing new way, while honoring the original composition.*

Hey ho, nobody home,  
meat nor drink nor money have I none  
Yet shall we be merry, Hey ho, nobody home.  
Hey ho, nobody home,  
Meat nor drink nor money have I none  
Yet shall we be merry, Hey ho, nobody home.  
Hey Ho, nobody home.

Soal, a soal, a soal cake,  
please good missus a soal cake.  
An apple, a pear, a plum, a cherry,  
Any good thing to make us all merry,  
One for Peter, two for Paul,  
three for Him who made us all.

God bless the master of this house,  
and the mistress also  
And all the little children  
that round your table grow.  
The cattle in your stable,  
the dog by your front door  
And all that dwell within your gates  
We wish you ten times more.

Soal, a soal, a soal cake,  
please good missus a soal cake.  
An apple, a pear, a plum, a cherry,  
Any good thing to make us all merry,  
One for Peter, two for Paul,  
three for Him who made us all.

Go down into the cellar  
and see what you can find  
If the barrels are not empty  
we hope you will be kind

We hope you will be kind  
with your apple and strawber'  
For we'll come no more a 'soalin'  
till this time next year.

Soal, a soal, a soal cake,  
please good missus a soul cake.  
An apple, a pear, a plum, a cherry,  
Any good thing to make us all merry,  
One for Peter, two for Paul,  
three for Him who made us all.

The streets are very dirty, my shoes are very thin.  
I have a little pocket to put a penny in.  
If you haven't got a penny, a ha' penny will do.  
If you haven't got a ha' penny then God bless you.

Soal, a soal, a soal cake,  
please good missus a soul cake.  
An apple, a pear, a plum, a cherry,  
Any good thing to make us all merry,  
One for Peter, two for Paul,  
three for Him who made us all.

Now to the Lord sing praises  
all you within this place,  
And with true love and brotherhood  
each other now embrace.  
This holy tide of Christmas of beauty and of grace,  
Oh tidings of comfort and joy.

#### INTERMISSION



#### Carol Medley \*

JONATHAN RATHBONE, ARRANGER

*Jonathan Rathbone, former music director and arranger for the Swingle Singers, writes this challenging (you try it!) medley of Deck the Hall, I Saw Three Ships, We Wish You a Merry Christmas, The Holly and the Ivy, The First Nowell, and Past Three O'clock. We hope you enjoy the interweaving of these tunes.*

#### Bethlehem Down

PETER WARLOCK

*"Peter Warlock" is a pseudonym which the Anglo-Welsh composer used in the latter part of his career. As a music critic he continued to use his own name; Philip Arnold Heseltine. Talented, he was also an unconventional and somewhat scandalous character, in 1927 Warlock wrote Bethlehem Down with poet Bruce Blunt to raise cash to finance their "immortal carouse" (a heavy drinking bout.) Definitely an odd background story for one of the favorite carols of the Anglican Church for Christmas and Epiphany!*

*"When He is King we will give Him the Kings' gifts: Myrrh for its sweetness, and gold for a crown, Beautiful robes," said the young girl to Joseph, Fair with her first-born on Bethlehem Down.*

Bethlehem Down is full of the starlight:  
Winds for the spices, and stars for the gold,  
Mary for sleep, and for lullaby music  
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

When He is King they will clothe Him in  
grave-sheets:  
Myrrh for embalming, and wood for a crown,  
He that lies now in the white arms of Mary,  
Sleeping so lightly on Bethlehem Down.

Here He has peace and a short while for dreaming:  
Close-huddled oxen to keep Him from cold,  
Mary for love, and for lullaby music  
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

#### Make We Merry On This Fest

ANDREW CARTER

*Born in Leicestershire in 1939, Andrew Carter has become one of England's most prolific choral composers. He wrote both the music and text for this quick, festive choral anthem.*

Make we merry on this fest,  
Jesu Christus natus est;  
Sing we all with joy and jest:  
Alleluya!

Make we merry and rejoice.  
 Gaudeamus is our choice.  
 Sing we now in verse and voice:  
 Alleluya!

Make we merry on this day;  
 Welcome Christ and sing always:  
 Resonemus, resonemus  
 Alleluya!

Alleluya! Make we merry!

### **The Holly and the Ivy**

18TH CENTURY ENGLISH CAROL  
 KIRBY SHAW, ARRANGER

*This traditional English carol intermingles Christian and pagan imagery. Holly and Ivy represent Pagan fertility images and were also traditional decorations for use in church beginning in the 15th century.*

The holly and the ivy, now both are full well grown,  
 Of all the trees that are in the wood,  
 The holly bears the crown.

*Refrain:*

Oh, the rising of the sun and the running of the deer,  
 The playing of the merry organ,  
 Sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom as white as lily flower,  
 And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
 To be our sweet saviour.

*Refrain*

The holly bears a berry as red as any blood,  
 And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ  
 To do poor sinners good.

*Refrain*

### **Men of Worth**

### **Silent Night S**

TRADITIONAL GERMAN CAROL  
 SUNG IN IRISH GAELIC

### **Lord of the Dance**

SYDNEY CARTER

*In 1963, Sydney Carter wrote this hymn as an adaptation of the Shaker piece "Simple Gifts", and Carter's new work has, in the ensuing time, become quite popular. The setting goes beyond the typical carol material (that of the birth of Christ) and tells the tale of redemption in the ending of this dance.*

I danced in the morning  
 When the world was begun,  
 And I danced in the moon  
 And the stars and the sun,  
 And I came down from heaven  
 And I danced on the earth,  
 At Bethlehem I had my birth.  
 Dance, then, wherever you may be,  
 I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,  
 And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
 And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe  
 And the pharisee,  
 But they would not dance  
 And they wouldn't follow me.  
 I danced for the fishermen,  
 For James and John -  
 They came with me  
 And the Dance went on.

I danced on the Sabbath  
 And I cured the lame;  
 The holy people  
 Said it was a shame.  
 They whipped and they stripped  
 And they hung me on high,  
 And they left me there  
 On a Cross to die.

I danced on a Friday  
 When the sky turned black -  
 It's hard to dance  
 With the devil on your back.  
 They buried my body  
 And they thought I'd gone,  
 But I am the Dance,  
 And I still go on.

They cut me down  
 And I leapt up high;  
 I am the life  
 That'll never, never die;  
 I'll live in you If you'll live in me -  
 I am the Lord  
 Of the Dance, said he.

## Angels We Have Heard On High S

HYMN TUNE 'GLORIA'

Angels we have heard on high  
 Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
 And the mountains in reply  
 Echoing their joyous strains

*CHORUS:*

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
 Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
 Why your joyous strains prolong?  
 What the gladsome tidings be  
 Which inspire your heavenly song?  
*Chorus*

Come to Bethlehem and see  
 Him Whose birth the angels sing;  
 Come, adore on bended knee,  
 Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
*Chorus*

See Him in a manger laid  
 Jesus Lord of heaven and earth;  
 Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,  
 With us sing our Savior's birth.  
*Chorus*

## Bells of Christmas

JOHN BETTIS & DAN SHEA  
 KEITH CHRISTOPHER, ARRANGER

*This tune rose in popularity after the 2010 release of the recording by Orla Fallon (formerly of Celtic Woman). If you enjoy the tune, you might want to check out Fallon's performance on her winter album "Winter, Fire, and Snow."*

December's fingers touch my window,  
 Am looking out on a windblown night.  
 I feel a sigh of magic on shadowed winds from the  
 fields of rye.  
 And then, in the starry night,

*CHORUS:*

The Christmas bells ring a silver tune;  
 The angels ring all around the moon.  
 My fire burns by the holly tree;  
 My dreams dance there in the flames for me.  
 I see a place where laughter rings;  
 Fear's a forgotten thing.  
 This winter world is changed to spring,  
 When the bells of Christmas ring.

Somewhere inside the sweeping darkness,  
 There unbroken love in the hardest life.  
 Below these frozen meadows an April dawn.  
 Tell me, where is light?  
 It comes in a distant time.  
*Chorus*

Sweet sound filling the air,  
 Sweet sounds lifting the cares of the world.  
 Like the old song, graceful flow,  
 Old songs calling all of the world.  
*Chorus*

## I Saw Three Ships

WILLIAM SANDYS  
 PATRICK ROSE, ARRANGER

*The song conjures up a few perplexing images. Do the three ships refer to three wise men on camels? Do they refer to the burial relics which the wise men carried by ship to Cologne, or do they refer to something else entirely? There is little agreement among scholars. Despite the mystery, this is one of the most often arranged and performed British carols. In recent years, the men of SMS have presented numerous carol arrangements by Patrick Rose, writer for the quintet Eclipse, and we suspect you'll like this one, too!*

I saw three ships come sailing in,  
 On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day;  
 I saw three ships come sailing in,  
 On Christmas Day in the morning.  
 And what was in those ships all three, ...  
 Joseph, Mary, Christ were there, ...  
 And all the souls on earth shall sing, ...  
 Let us sing! our praises sing. Let us sing!"

### Pat-a-Pan

TRADITIONAL BURGUNDIAN CAROL  
 JOHN HANCOCK, KURT BESTOR, & MIKE SPECK  
 ARRANGERS

*This French carol tells about the birth of Christ from the perspective of shepherds playing simple instruments—flutes and drums. The onomatopoeic name of the song refers to the sound of the drum. The American singer-songwriter David Archuleta recorded a contemporary version of Pat-a-Pan in 2009, which was the impetus for this arrangement by Mike Speck. The arrangement weaves in Handel's For Unto Us a Child is Born and the French carol Sing We Now of Christmas.*

When the men of olden days gave the King of  
 kings their praise,  
 They had pipes on which to play,  
 Tu-re-lu-re-lu,  
 Pat-a-pat-a-pan,  
 They had drums on which to play for a joyful  
 Christmas day.

Will you bring your little drum,  
 Go and get your fife and come,  
 And be merry while you play,  
 Tu-re-lu-re-lu,  
 Pat-a-pat-a-pan,  
 We will listen as you play for a joyful Christmas day.

God and man became today more in tune than fife  
 and drum,  
 So be merry while you play,  
 Tu-re-lu-re-lu,  
 Pat-a-pat-a-pan.  
 Come be merry while you play on this joyous  
 Christmas day.

While the angels wing to the newborn King.  
 I will sing for blessed Babe on this joyous  
 Christmas day.

For unto us a Child is born,  
 Unto us a Son is given.  
 And the government shall be upon His shoulder,  
 And His Name shall be called:  
 Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God,  
 The everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace!

Sing we now of Christmas, sing we here Noel.  
 Sing our grateful praises to our Lord so dear.  
 Sing we Noel, the King is born Noel.  
 Sing we now of Christmas, sing we here Noel.  
 While the angels sing to the newborn King.  
 I will sing for blessed Babe  
 On this joyous Christmas day.

### Peace, Peace \*

RICK & SYLVIA POWELL

*For 25 years the Sacramento Master Singers have concluded our December concerts with the singing and signing of this holiday wish for peace on earth. Please join us in singing **Silent Night** at the end of our program.*

Peace, peace, peace on earth  
 And goodwill to all.  
 This is a time for joy.  
 This is a time for love.  
 Now let us all sing together  
 Of peace, peace, peace on earth.

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.



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