



FAIRLAWN

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**Fairlawn Avenue United Church
Special Music Sunday
Advent II
Sunday, December 10, 2023 10:30am**

**Rev. Jean Ward, Presiding
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music
Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir**

***Christmas Cantata*
by Daniel Pinkham**

**Guest Musicians
Trumpet – Mike Barth, Scott Harrison
Trombone – Jan Owens, Cathy Stone
Organ – Sharon Beckstead**

Pre-Service Music

Welcome

***Processional Hymn** There's a Voice in the Wilderness

VU #18

***There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places where God, our God may go!***

***O Zion, that bringest good tidings, get thee up to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people the coming of their King.
Like the flowers of the field they perish, like grass our works decay;
the power and pomp of nations shall pass, like a dream, away.***

***But the word of our God endureth, whose arm is ever strong;
God stands in the midst of nations, and soon will right the wrong.
God shall feed the flock like a shepherd, the lambs so gently hold;
to pastures of peace will lead them, and bring them safe to fold.***

***There's a voice in the wilderness crying, a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway, a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted, the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places where God, our God may go!***

*Gathering Prayer

O God of Peace, come.

Form us into your Peace-makers.

Enable us to look within ourselves, to make straight our crooked hearts,
to patiently and lovingly await changes in ourselves and others.

As you gather us tenderly, and hold us close,

may we also show that same compassion to the world.

Fill our hearts with your peace, and our lives with your love,
that these may flow from our lives and into our world.

We ask this through Christ, our Saviour and our peace.

Amen.

***Introit**

O Wisdom

E. Daley

O Wisdom, O Leader, come,
 O Root of Jesse's stem, come,
 O Key of David, come,
 O Radiant Dawn,
 O King of all nations,
 O Emmanuel, we wait for you.
 (from the Latin "O" Antiphons for Advent,
 trans. John Mason Neale [1818-1866],
 adapted, E. D.)

Lighting of the Advent Candle – Peace

Reader: Heather McPherson

Because of war, because of violence in our communities,
 because there is still so much unrest in our hearts,

Let us light a candle of peace.

Because hatred is still so strong, because so many swords
 have not yet been remade into ploughshares,

Let us light a candle of peace.

We light the Second Advent Candle as we sing together:

O homeless love, that dwells among the stranger;

O lowly love, that knows the mighty's scorn;

O hungry love, that lay within a manger:

O living Love, within our hearts be born,

O living Love, within our hearts be borne.

(Michael Joncas, b. 1951)

May the light from this candle

overwhelm the world.

May the light from this candle say to all;

God's peace is coming

on earth as it is already in heaven.

Friends, be not afraid.

God's peace is at hand.

Sharing Peace

Reading

First Coming (excerpted)

Reader: Andrea Ludwig

He did not wait till the world was ready,
till all people and nations were at peace.
He came when the Heavens were unsteady,
and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait till hearts were pure.
In joy he came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.
To a world like ours, of anguished shame
he came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh,
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh
the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane
to raise our songs with joyful voice,
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,
He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!
(Madeleine L'Engle, 1918-2007)

Introduction to *Christmas Cantata*

*Hymn

Hark, a Herald Voice is Sounding

***Hark, a herald voice is sounding:
"Christ is nigh," it seems to say,
"Cast away the dreams of darkness,
O ye children of the day!"***

***Wakened by the solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ her sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.***

***Lo, the Lamb, so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heaven;
let us all, with tears of sorrow,
pray that we may be forgiven.***

***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.***

***Honour, glory, might and blessing
to the Father and the Son,
with the everlasting Spirit,
while eternal ages run.***

Christmas Cantata

Daniel Pinkham (1923-2006)

(Please see insert for text, translation, choristers and instrumentalists.)

***Hymn**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

VU #2

***Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free:
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.***

***Israel's hope and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.***

***Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.***

***By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.***

Introduction of Offering

Offertory Anthem Hodie Christus natus est

Kola Owolabi (b. 1977)

Hodie Christus natus est: Alleluia.
 Hodie in terra canunt Angeli,
 laetantur Archangeli, Noe. Alleluia.
 Et justi dicentes:
 Gloria in excelsis Deo, Noe. Alleluia.

*Today Christ is born: Alleluia.
 Today on earth the angels sing,
 the Archangels rejoice, Noe. Alleluia.
 the righteous rejoice, saying:
 Glory to God in the highest, Noe. Alleluia.*

*Presentation of the Offering

E. Daley

(The choir will sing through once, and then the congregation is invited to join in.)

***Come, Light of lights, come shine upon us,
 Come, touch our hearts, we long for you.
 Come, touch our lives, come and renew us,
 Come to us, Emmanuel.***

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

***O most Compassionate Life-giver,
 may we honour and praise you;
 May we work with you to establish your new order
 of justice, peace and love;
 Give us what we need for growth,
 And help us, through forgiving others,
 to accept forgiveness.
 Strengthen us in the time of testing,
 that we may resist all evil,
 For all tenderness, strength and love are yours,
 now and forever.
 Amen.***

***Recessional Hymn** On Jordan's Bank

***On Jordan's bank, the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lamb is nigh;
awake and hearken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of Kings.***

***Then cleansed be every life from sin;
make straight the way for God within;
and let each heart prepare a home
where such a mighty guest may come.***

***In you, we find abundant life,
our refuge in the midst of strife;
without your grace we waste away,
like flowers that wither and decay.***

***Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and help us rise to fall no more.
O let your face upon us shine,
and fill the world with love divine.***

***All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won;
and praise to God whom we adore,
with Holy Spirit evermore.***

***Advent Blessing**

God of the watching ones,
the waiting ones,
the slow and suffering ones,
the angels in heaven,
the child in the womb,

***Give us your benediction,
your good word for our souls,
that we might rest and rise
in the kindness of your company.
Amen.***

8.

***Choral Commissioning**

E. Daley

(The choir will sing through once, and then the congregation is invited to join in.)

Redeemer, come! We open wide our hearts to you; here Lord, abide.

Let us your inner presence feel, your grace and love in us reveal.

(Georg Weissen 1642, trans. Catherine Winkworth 1855, alt.)

Postlude

Rigaudon

André Campra (1660-1744)
transcribed by Scott Harrison

This morning's lighting of the advent candle text is reprinted under onelicense.net # A-717945.

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Fairlawn acknowledges the sacred land on which our church stands. It has been a site of human activity for 15,000 years. This land is the territory of the Huron-Wendat and Petun First Nations, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit River. The territory was the subject of the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Iroquois Confederacy of the Ojibwe and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the resources around the Great Lakes. Today, the meeting place of Toronto is still home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, and we are grateful to have the opportunity to meet and work in the community, on this territory. We are also mindful of broken covenants and the need to strive to make right with all our relations. The original nations continue to cry out for justice, and as treaty people, we commit to listen, learn, and work toward justice and reconciliation.

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Christmas Cantata

Daniel Pinkham (1923–2006)

I. Quem vidistis, pastores?

Quem vidistis, pastores? Dicitis.

Annunciate nobis in terris quis apparuit?

Natum vidimus et choros angelorum collaudantes Dominum. Alleluia.

Whom did you see? Shepherds, tell us.

Proclaim to us: who has appeared on the earth?

We saw the new-born child and choirs of angels praising the Lord. Alleluia.

II. O magnum mysterium

O magnum mysterium, et admirabile sacramentum,

ut animalia viderent Dominum natum, jacentem in praesepe.

Beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt portare Dominum Christum.

O great mystery and wondrous sacrament,

that animals should see the new-born Lord lying in their manger.

Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord Jesus Christ.

III. Gloria in excelsis Deo

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis!

Jubilate Deo omnis terra, servite Dominum in laetitia.

Introite in conspectu ejus, in exultatione.

Scitote quoniam Dominum ipse est Deus. Ipse fecit nos, et non ipsi nos.

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis!

Alleluia!

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to all people of good will.

Let all the earth rejoice in God, and serve the Lord with gladness.

Come before Him in exaltation.

Know that the Lord, He is God. It is He that hath made us, and not we ourselves.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to all people of good will.

Alleluia!

Christmas Cantata

by Daniel Pinkham (1923–2006)

Conductor – Eleanor Daley

FAIRLAWN AVENUE SENIOR CHOIR

SOPRANO

Kim Alexander, Anne Bornath, Martha Cooper, Rosalie Cowan, Amy Dodington, Leonora Hoicka, Shirley Joyce, Eleanor MacKay, Kathy Salisbury, Kirsten Smith, Frances Welsh, Laura Ziliotto

ALTO

Martha Boyce, Lynn Featherstone*, Bonita Kersey, Andrea Ludwig, Anne Pyper, Alison Roy, Patti Vipond, Esther Welsh, Judith Young

TENOR

Willis Bote*, Geoffrey Horning, Luca McCauley, Phil Smith, Tom Welsh, Mark Wood-Salomon, Curtis Zhang

BASS

Philip Blackford, Doug Knights, Doug MacNaughton, Gary Poole, Mark Richardson, Tom Salisbury, Don Smith, Giles Tomkins, Peter Yampolsky

*Guest Chorister

Trumpet – Mike Barth, Scott Harrison

Trombone – Jan Owens, Cathy Stone

Organ – Sharon Beckstead

The Special Music Fund

At this time of year, you may wish to remember or honour someone, or simply contribute to the Special Music Fund, which provides money for choral music and instrumentalists for special seasons of the year. While the general operating fund allows us to pay our section leaders, the Fund enables us to perform larger sacred works on Special Music Sundays, which in the past have included Fauré's *Requiem*, Britten's *Ceremony of Carols*, Vivaldi's *Gloria*, Morten Lauridsen's *Lux Aeterna*, John Rutter's *Magnificat* and *Requiem*, Mark Hayes' *Gloria*, *Magnificat* and *Requiem*, Richard Nance's *Mass for a New Millennium*, Jonathan Willcocks' *Magnificat* and *Gloria*, K. Lee Scott's *Requiem* and *Gloria*, Bob Chilcott's *On Christmas Night*, Dan Forrest's *Requiem for the Living*, *Jubilate Deo*, and *Te Deum*, and this morning, Daniel Pinkham's *Christmas Cantata*.

A donation to the Special Music Fund may be made by using the envelope provided in your bulletin. If you wish to donate to the fund in memory of a loved one, please provide the name(s) so honoured, in order that we may appropriately acknowledge the donation.

Thank you for your wonderful and continuing support of music at Fairlawn Avenue.