

PROGRAM OF MUSIC

Christmas Lovefeast - December 24, 2023 - 5:00 p.m.

Chorales and CarolsHome Church Band, Art Sorensen, leader

Organ Prelude - *Hark the Herald-Angels Sing*T. Mendelssohn
David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Handbell Prelude - *Advent and Christmas Carols
and Hymns for Bells*Arr. by Erik Salzwedel
Gregor BellChor

Serving

“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light”
from *Christmas Oratorio*J.S. Bach (1685-1750)
Choir and Strings

Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light and usher in the morning;
Ye shepherds, shrink not with affright, but hear the angel’s warning.
This child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be,
The power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making.

Partaking

Les Bourgeois de Chastre from
Noëls sur les instruments.....Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643-1704)
Strings

O Bethlehem.....Carl Schalk (2006)
Choir and Strings

O Bethlehem! See your glory shines so brightly, O Bethlehem. You are raised up with favor divine, you are chosen, yours the favor, chosen of God to cradle the Savior, O Bethlehem! O Bethlehem! Here at last we see the Promised One, O Bethlehem. Let us give praise with joyful hearts. He has opened heaven before us. Come let us join the heavenly chorus, O Bethlehem! O Bethlehem! Soon comes the cross, the nails, the piercing, O Bethlehem! Then the glorious Easter morn, conquering death, its bondage breaking, Christ victorious, new life awaking, O Bethlehem! O Bethlehem! Now with the shepherds, we too, worship, O Bethlehem! He who made the heaven and earth, O wondrous birth, the Lord of all, born a child in manger stall, O Bethlehem.

Une jeune pucelle from *Noëls sur les instruments*.....Marc-Antoine Charpentier
Strings

Offertory

Serenity (O Magnum Mysterium)Ola Gjeilo (2012)
Choir and Cello, Violin

O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament, that animals should see the new-born Lord, lying in a manger! Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear Christ the Lord. Alleluia!

Candle Anthem

Thou Child Divine.....J.A.P. Schulz (1749-1800)

Choir

Thou Child Divine, Immanuel, welcome unto thy humble manger. With heartfelt joy thy birth we hail, and greet with songs the heavenly stranger. Our doubts and fears and sadness are turned to joy and gladness. Good will to men and peace on earth are now declared by a Savior’s birth. Hosanna! Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord!

Postlude - Fantasia on *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* (BWV 729)....T. *In Dulci Jubilo*
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Morning Star soloist: Lilly Greene

Thou Child Divine soloists: Eve Salzwedel, soprano; Jackson Ray, tenor

Instrumentalists:

Brian Ford, Violin I
Vivian Mayes, Violin II

Laurence Brooke, Viola
Lee Richey, Cello

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A Christmas Prayer

Rejoice, for to you is born a Savior who is Christ the Lord! We join in prayer for the indwelling of the Spirit of Christ as we offer God our worship in this holy season. May the peace of the Lord abide with us all.

Virginia Hege Tobiassen, *Pastor*

Glenn Siebert, *Director of Music* Jonathan Williams, *Organist*

Erik Salzwedel, *Gregor BellChor Director*

We ask that no photographs or recordings be made during the services. Please do not use cameras, recording devices, cell phones or iPads in the Sanctuary in order that there be no distractions from worship.

All proceeds from this offering will be donated to the following Christian ministries: Crisis Control Ministry, Forsyth Jail and Prison Ministries, and Sunnyside Ministry.

The poinsettias used in the decorations are placed in the Sanctuary in loving memory of *Roy C. and Ester Hampton Haberkern, Roy C. Jr. and Carlotta “Tota” Haberkern, Anthony H. Whitaker, Mary A. Hampton, and Anna L. Rights* by the family.

The narcissi are placed in the Sanctuary in loving memory of *Mr. and Mrs. C. T. “Clarence and Margaret” Leinbach, Sr., Mr. and Mrs. C.T. “Ted and Kaka” Leinbach, Jr., Dr. and Mrs. L.B. “Brick and Kafoo” Leinbach, Mr. W. J. “Bill” Leinbach, Mr. and Mrs. P.H. “Paul and Margaret” Kolb, Margaret Leinbach Hawkins, Mark Edward Hepler, Kathryn Leinbach Brown, and Caroline Leinbach Woo* by the family.

The Lovefeast candles are given in loving memory of *Mr. and Mrs. Anthony H. “Mike” Disber, Mr. and Mrs. Bynum V. “Bill” Disber, and Mr. Lloyd W. Disber* by the family.

The boutonnières provided for the ushers, dieners, and pastors are given by Deb and Mike Garner in memory of *our beloved Home Moravian sisters and brothers who have gone to their heavenly home since last Christmas.*

The wreaths are placed on the outside doors of the Sanctuary in loving memory of *I.B. and Mary Southerland* by I.B. and Carol Southerland and their family.

Personal sound receivers to assist with hearing are available. If you would like to use one, talk with one of the ushers, who will provide you with a receiver and show you how to use it.