

BOUNDLESS



AND PEACE ON EARTH

DECEMBER 7, 2024 | 7 PM

CHRIST CHURCH DENVER | 2950 S UNIVERSITY BLVD



# O Come, O Come Emmanuel

*Arranged by Ed Lojeski*

O come, o come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear,  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O Israel.

O come desire of nations, bind peoples in one heart and mind:  
Bid strife and quarrels cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to Thee, O Israel.



## Carol of the Stranger

*Words by Michael Dennis Browne; Music by Abbie Betinis*

*Soloist: Brienna Martin, alto*

Peace and grace be to this house  
Where all are welcomed in;  
Receive the guest, receive this heart:  
Tell the Stranger, tell.

Tell the Stranger what you cannot tell  
Those who love you and desire your joy: Tell.

Make tall your walls, make long these beams,  
Who once believed alone:  
Make wide the circle, feed the fire:  
Tell the Silence, tell.

Tell the Silence what you cannot tell  
Those who love you and desire your joy: Tell.

Blessings be upon this place,  
Let every wound be healed,  
Let every secret, every dream:  
Tell the Angel, tell.

Tell the Angel what you cannot tell  
Those who love you and desire your joy: Tell.

Peace and grace be to this house,  
All will be returned;  
Let every soul be called your own,  
Tell the Mystery, tell.

Tell the Mystery what you long to tell  
Those who love you and desire your joy: Tell.



## Gabriel's Message

*Words by S. Baring-Gould; Arranged by Jim Clements*

*Soloist: Kim Kleschick, soprano*

Gloria, Gloria!

The angel Gabriel from heaven came  
his wings and drifted snow, his eyes as flame.  
"All hail!" said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary.  
Most highly favoured lady." Gloria!  
For known a blessed mother thou shalt be,  
all generations laud and honour thee.

Thy son shall be Emmanuel, most favoured lady, gloria.  
Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
"to me be as it pleaseth God," she said.  
"My soul shall laud and magnify his holy name."  
Most highly favoured lady, gloria!

Of her Emmanuel, the Christ was born in Bethlehem  
all on a Christmas morn. And Christian folk throughout  
the world will ever say "most highly favoured lady, gloria!"

## **O Nata Lux**

*Music by Morten Lauridsen*

O born light of light,  
Jesus, redeemer of the world,  
mercifully deem worthy and accept  
the praises and prayers of your supplicants.  
Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh  
for the sake of the lost ones,  
grant us to be made members of your holy body.



## **Rise Up Shepherd**

*Arranged by Stacey V Gibbs*

*Soloists: James Jensen, tenor and Kyle Bradley, tenor*

Rise up shepherd and follow, follow, follow.  
Behold the star up yonder, behold the star.  
Oh, rise up shepherd and follow, follow, follow.  
Rise up shepherd, rise up, won' you rise up shepherd  
and follow, follow, follow. Rise up, oh rise up and follow.

There's a star in the east on Christmas morn,  
Rise up shepherd and follow, follow,  
It will lead to the place where the Christ was born, hallelujah,  
Rise up shepherd and follow.

Shepherd leave-a your sheep and leave your lambs,  
Rise up shepherd and follow, follow,  
Shepherd leave-a your sheep and leave your rams, hallelujah,  
Rise up shepherd and follow.

Won' you follow, shepherd follow, rise up, shepherd,  
follow the star of Bethlehem, rise up shepherd and follow.

If you take good heed to the angel's word,  
You'll forget your flocks, you'll forget your herds  
Rise up shepherd and follow. Yes, come on and follow. Rise up!



## **While Shepherds Watched Their Flock**

*Words by Nahum Tate; Music by Craig Courtney*

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground.  
The angel of the Lord came down, and glory shown 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,  
the Savior, 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 wrapt in swathing bands and in a manger laid."  
All glory to be to God on high, and to the earth be peace:  
Good will henceforth from heav'n to earth begin and never cease.

# A Festive Christmas Trilogy

*Arranged by Mark Hayes*

*Joshua Jackson, piano*

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Deck the hall with boughs of holly, fa la la la la la!  
Dashing through the snow in a one-horse open sleigh.  
What fun it is to ride and sing a sleighing song tonight!

Ding dong! Merrily on high the Christmas bells are ringing,  
Ding dong! Verily the sky is filled with angels singing,  
Gloria, hosanna in excelsis!

Deck the hall with boughs of holly, 'tis the season to be jolly,  
Don we now our gay apparel, fa la la la la la!  
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol, fa la la la la la!  
See the blazing Yule before us, strike the harp and join the chorus,  
Follow me in merry measure, while I tell of Yuletide treasure.

Dashing through the snow in a one-horse open sleigh,  
o'er the fields we go laughing all the way, Ha ha ha ha!  
Bells on bobtail ring, making spirits bright,  
What fun it is to ride and sing a sleighing song tonight.  
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way.  
Oh what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh!



## Run, Toboggan, Run

*Words by Holly Windle; Music by Abbie Betinis*

Anticipation's in the air,  
Run, toboggan, run!  
The snow is fresh and waiting there;  
The children chatter and prepare.  
Run, toboggan, run!

Assemble sweaters, coats and caps,  
the mittens, gloves and fleeces,  
the scarves and jackets, hats with flaps -  
with buttons, zippers, clips and snaps -  
so many separate pieces!

A vee of geese flies overhead  
as southward their migration,  
While armed with snowballs, skates and sled,  
the families frolic, noses red,  
with noisy jubilation.

Oh, sledding teaches useful skills,  
philosophy and science:  
Respect the steepness of the hills,  
and try again, despite the spills,  
to steer with self-reliance.

The safest and most pleasant way  
is taking turns and sharing;  
Help rescue any runaway,  
and know the risks when you display  
outrageous feats of daring.

Find happiness to hold and keep.  
The joys of just an hour  
become a comfort, strong and deep,  
to help you when the hills are steep  
with mem'ries' golden power.

December days are cold and dark,  
Run, toboggan, run!  
In each of us there glows a spark  
where joy and hope have left their mark.  
Soon Christmas Day will come.

# The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

*Words and Music by Eddie and George Wyle; Arranged by Jerry Rubino  
Joshua Jackson, piano*

It's the most wonderful time of the year,  
with the kids jingle belling and ev'ryone  
telling you be of good cheer.  
It's the most wonderful time of the year.

It's the happiest season of all,  
with those holiday greetings and  
gay, happy meetings when friends come to call.  
It's the happiest season of all.

There'll be parties for hosting, marshmallows for toasting,  
and caroling out in the snow. There'll be scary ghost  
stories  
and tales of the glories of Christmases long, long ago.

It's the most wonderful time of the year.  
There'll be much mistletoeing, and hearts will be glowing  
when loved ones are near.  
It's the most wonderful time of the year. Noel!



## The Holly and the Ivy

*Arranged by Ola Gjeilo*

The holly and the ivy, the rising of the sun,  
The holly and the ivy, when they are both full grown  
of all the trees that are in the wood the holly bears the  
crown.  
O 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.  
O 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 berry as red as any blood and  
Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to do poor sinners good.  
O 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 prickle as sharp as any thorn;  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ to be our sweet Saviour.  
O the rising of the sun and the running of the deer  
The playing of the merry organ sweet singing in the choir.

The holly and the ivy, the rising of the sun,  
The holly bears a bark as bitter as any gall;  
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ on Christmas Day in the  
morn.  
O the rising of the sun and the running of the deer  
the playing of the merry organ sweet singing in the choir.

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.  
O the rising of the sun and the running of the deer,  
the playing of the merry organ sweet singing in the choir.



## Still, Still, Still

*English lyrics by Marilyn Keith and Alan Bergman;*

*Arranged by Gary Fry*

*Joshua Jackson, piano*

Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow,  
for all is hushed, the world is sleeping,  
Holy Star, its vigil keeping,  
Still, still, still, one can hear the falling snow.

Dream, dream, dream, of the joyous day to come,  
while guardian angels without number  
watch you as you sweetly slumber,  
Dream, dream, dream, of the joyous day to come.

## Silent Night

*Music by Franz Gruber, Lyrics by Joseph Mohr.*

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.



## I'll Be Home for Christmas

*Arranged by Walter Kent*

I'll be home for Christmas.  
You can plan on me.  
Please have snow and mistletoe and presents on the tree.  
Christmas Eve will find me where the lovelight gleams.  
I'll be home for Christmas,  
if only in my dreams,  
If only in my dreams.



## Wildflowers

*Music by Tom Petty and Stephen Foster;*

*Arranged by Amanda Quist and Tim Brent*

*Piano: Joshua Jackson, piano; Soloist: Anna Friedman, alto*

You belong among the wildflowers,  
You belong in a boat out at sea,  
Sail away, kill off the hours.  
You belong somewhere you feel free.  
Sail away, go find a lover,  
Go away, somewhere bright and new.  
I see no other that compares with you.

Let us pause in life's pleasures and count its many tears.  
While we all sup sorrow with the poor.  
There's a song and that will linger forever in our ears.  
Oh, hard times come again no more.  
'Tis the song the sigh of the weary.  
Hard times, hard times, come again no more.  
Many days you have lingered around my cabin door.  
Oh, hard times, hard times come again no more.



## Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas

*Words and Music by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane*

*Arranged by Darmon Meader*

Have yourself a merry little Christmas, let your heart be light.  
From now on our troubles will be out of sight.  
Have yourself a merry little Christmas, make the Yuletide gay.  
From now on our troubles will be miles away.  
Here we are as in olden days, happy golden days of yore.  
Faithful friends who are dear to us, gather near to us once more.  
Through the years we all will be together, if the fates allow.  
Hang a shining star upon the highest bough, and have yourself  
a merry little Christmas now.  
Merry Christmas to you.

# Elus Vocal Ensemble

## Soprano:

Manda Baker  
Monica Berzins  
Stephanie Carpenter  
Kaylin Downour  
Margaret Flint  
Kim Kleschick  
Anne Lopez  
Dary Naugle  
Kateri Salk  
Eleanor Todd

## Alto:

Carrie Buechner  
Grace Dougherty  
Anna Friedman  
Katie Kenkel  
Brienna Martin  
Amber Parrish  
Jessica Sweet  
Emma Tebbe

## Tenor:

Kyle Bradley  
Simon Daum  
Brian Hartman  
Josh Jackson  
James Jensen  
Sean McCarty  
Jack McHugh

## Bass:

Brandon Anderson  
Jonathan Bradshaw  
John Dreher  
Bryan Grosbach  
Steve Hulac  
Mike Hardey  
Taylor Nelson



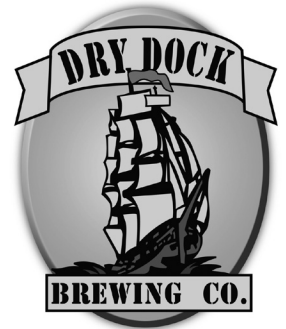
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**Please join us in Barnes Hall after the concert for a reception.**

**Happy Holidays from all of us at Elus!**



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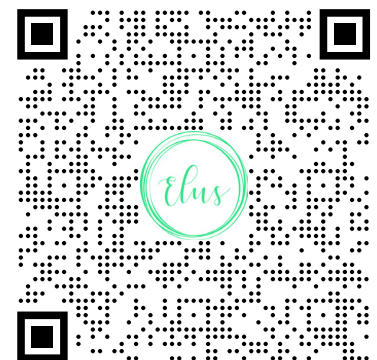
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**Thank you!**

**BOUNDLESS**

**THE LOST BIRDS**

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TICKETS AVAILABLE AT [WWW.EIUSVOCALENSEMBLE.COM](http://WWW.EIUSVOCALENSEMBLE.COM)



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## The Director: Taylor Martin

Taylor Martin is Conductor for the Colorado Symphony Chorus, and Artistic Director for ELUS Vocal Ensemble. In 2019 Taylor made his debut with the Colorado Symphony conducting a staged version of Handel's Messiah titled Messiah: Awakening. Now in his eighth season with the Colorado Symphony Chorus, Taylor will be returning to the podium to lead the Colorado Symphony, Colorado Symphony Chorus, Colorado Children's Chorale, and soloists, Devin DeSantis and Christine Mild, in his third production of A Colorado Christmas. Taylor has prepared the Chorus for productions with the Colorado Symphony, New York Philharmonic, Philadelphia Orchestra, and Dallas Symphony, and recently conducted a concert tour of Austria featuring works for chorus and organ, and Bruckner's Te Deum with the Salzburg Domorchester.



Entering his seventh season with ELUS Vocal Ensemble, Taylor has led performances of great a cappella repertoire through imaginative programming, and led major works such as David Lang's the little match girl passion and Fauré's Requiem to great acclaim. ELUS recently collaborated with international EDM artist, OPIUO, to perform a sold-out show at Red Rocks in 2021. Taylor lives in Arvada with his wife, dog, and cat, where he loves to spend time outside and enjoy the beautiful nature that Colorado has to offer.



## The Director: Josh Jackson

Josh Jackson directs all vocal ensembles and teaches AP Music Theory at Chatfield Senior High School. Josh is also the Producer/Music Director of Chatfield's annual spring musical. Josh is currently the Assistant Director/Rehearsal Accompanist and one of the co-founders of Elus Vocal Ensemble.

Josh received his Bachelor of Music Education (BME) degree from Metropolitan State University of Denver, specializing in Choral studies, piano accompanying, and voice. Josh completed his Master of Educational Leadership (MED.EDL) degree from Regis University. He has worked with students at all levels from around the Denver Metro Area and has worked with musicals in the Douglas County School District, Adams 12 School District, and Jefferson County School District. Josh is active in the music education field; serving on the board for the Colorado American Choral Director's Association (COACDA) for the past sixteen years, and the Colorado All State Choir Governing Board for the past eleven years. Josh is an active accompanist around the state – working with public schools, choir concerts, All-State auditions, and Solo & Ensemble contests.



In addition to teaching, Josh is also active in the field of Information Technology. For the past eighteen years, he has been the Director of Information Technology (IT) for RJH Consultants, Inc., a geotechnical engineering firm in Englewood, Colorado. He currently resides in cozy Castle Rock, Colorado with his husband and their adorable orange tabby, Sasha.



## About Elus Vocal Ensemble

Founded in 2012, Elus Vocal Ensemble is comprised of musicians based in the Denver Metropolitan area. Under the direction of Taylor Martin, Elus specializes in singing diverse a cappella choral repertoire including contemporary works from around the world.



In their twelfth season, Elus has collaborated previously with The Colorado Symphony, The Colorado Chorale, El Sistema, Church of the Ascension, St. Martin's Chamber Choir, and the Choirs of Metropolitan State University.

Visit us at [www.elusvocalensemble.com](http://www.elusvocalensemble.com) for more information or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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