

December Gatherings

WE GATHER IN PLACES OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER AND GO CAROLING

WE GATHER IN HOMES OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2024 + 3 PM

\$15 ADULTS - \$10 SENIORS & STUDENTS

• UNDER 12 - FREE •

NORTHERN KENTUCKY COMMUNITY CHORUS

STEPHANIE NASH, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

LAKESIDE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2690 DIXIE HIGHWAY + LAKESIDE PARK, KY 41017

— DECEMBER GATHERINGS —

December 14, 2024



WE GATHER IN PLACES OF WORSHIP

Veni, Veni Emmanuel

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.
Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel nascetur pro te, Israel.

O Child of the Nations

..... Howard Helvey (b. 1968)

O Child of the nations, with love, we behold!
Renew us again through the stories of old.
O come, Branch of Jesse; our hearts You inspire!
Awaken our spirit, O dearest Desire.

With angels and prophets, we long for Your birth
Foretold through the ages, announcing Your worth.
O come, Key of David; our minds You inspire!
We welcome Your presence, O dearest Desire.

O Jesus, revealed as an infant and King,
Give voice to faith's infancy rising to sing!
O come, shining Dayspring; our souls You inspire!
We live in Your living, O dearest Desire.

A READING. . . . Nancy Bunnell

The Annunciation

..... Malcolm Guite

We see so little, stayed on surfaces,
We calculate the outsides of all things,
Preoccupied with our own purposes
We miss the shimmer of the angels' wings,
They coruscate around us in their joy
A swirl of wheels and eyes and wings unfurled,
They guard the good we purpose to destroy,

A hidden blaze of glory in God's world.
But on this day a young girl stopped to see
With open eyes and heart. She heard the voice;
The promise of His glory yet to be,
As time stood still for her to make a choice;
Gabriel knelt and not a feather stirred,
The Word himself was waiting on her word.

The angel Gabriel from heaven came

. Edgar Pettman (1866 - 1943)

The angel Gabriel from heaven came, his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;
"All hail," said he, "thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady! Gloria!"

"For know a blessed Mother thou shalt be, all generations laud and honor thee,
thy Son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favored 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 favored 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 favored lady! Gloria!

In dulci jubilo (a8)

. Michael Praetorius (1571 - 1621)

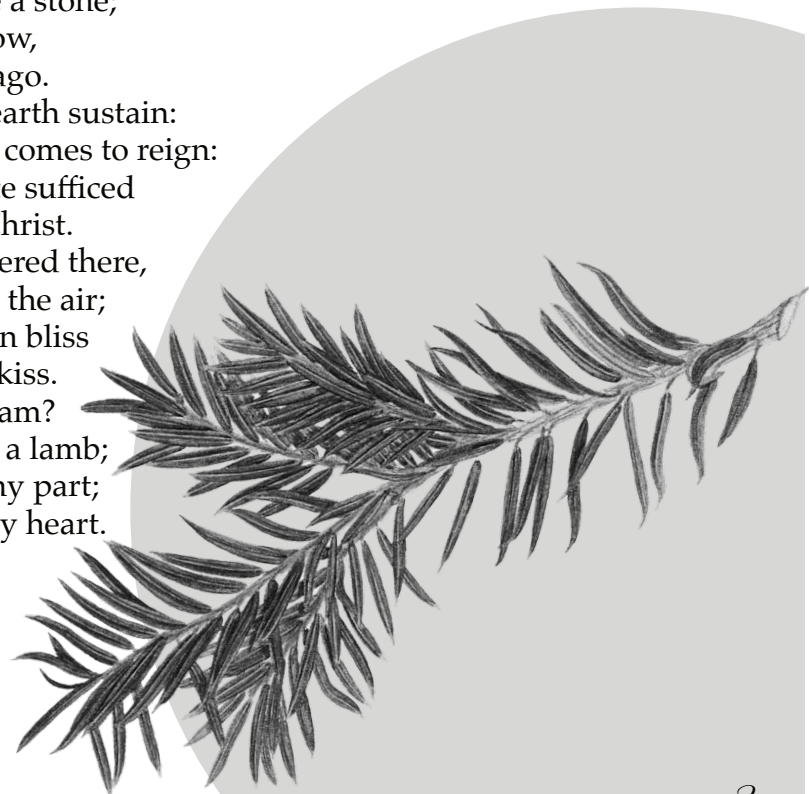
In dulci jubilo, nun singet und seid froh!
Unsers Herzens Wonne liegt in praesepio,
Und leuchtet als die Sonne Matris in
gremio, Alpha es et O!

*Our delight and pleasure lies in a manger;
Like sunshine is our treasure in the mother's lap.
Thou art Alpha and Omega!
In quiet joy Now sing with hearts aglow!*

Mid-Winter

. Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)

In the bleak mid-winter frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter, long ago.
Our God, heav'n cannot hold him nor earth sustain:
Heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:
In the bleak mid-winter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.
Angel and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But only his mother in her maiden bliss
Worshiped the beloved with a kiss.
What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give him – Give my heart.



Festival First Nowell

..... Dan Forrest (b. 1978)

The first Nowell the angels did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. (Refrain)

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
and with his blood mankind hath bought. (Refrain)

I Will Light Candles this Christmas

..... Kim Arnesen (b. 1980)

I will light Candles this Christmas;
Candles of joy despite all sadness;
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,
Candles of courage for fears ever present,
Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love to inspire all my living,
Candles that will burn all year long.

When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among others,
To make music in the heart.



WE GATHER AND GO CAROLING

A READING Doug Watson

Christmas Magic

. Anonymous

In moonlit streets where silence falls,
We wander through the evening's calls,
With lanterns bright and voices clear,
We spread the Christmas joy and cheer.

Each note a gift of love and grace,
A heartfelt tune for every place,
The rhythm of our hearts aligns,
In every verse, the spirit shines.

Our melodies embrace the night,
As frosted windows twinkle bright,
The carols weave through winter's chill,
A timeless song that warms the still.

As dawn approaches, soft and slow,
The echoes of our voices go,
Yet in the hearts we touched tonight,
The Christmas magic burns so bright.

Deck the Hall

. arr. Mark Armstrong (b. 1972)

Deck the hall with boughs of holly, Fa la la la la, fa la la la.
'Tis the season to be jolly, Fa la la la la, fa la la la.
Fill the mead cup, drain the barrel, Fa la la la la la fa la la.
Troll the ancient Christmas carol, Fa la la la la, fa la la la.
See the flowing bowl before us, Fa la la la la, fa la la la.
Strike the harp and join the chorus, Fa la la la la, fa la la la.
Follow me in merry measure, Fa la la la la la fa la la.
While I sing of beauty's treasure, Fa la la la la, fa la la la.
Fast away the old year passes, Fa la la la la, fa la la la.
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses, Fa la la la la, fa la la la.
Laughing, quaffing, all together, Fa la la fa la la fa la la.
Heedless of the wind and weather, Fa la la la la, fa la la la.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!



Silent Night

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.

Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born!

Angels We Have Heard On High

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Jingle Bells

Dashing thro' the snow in a one-horse open sleigh,
O'er the fields we go, laughing all the way.
Bells on bob-tail ring making spirit's 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!



WE GATHER IN THE HOMES OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS

A READING Sarah Patton

little tree

. e. e. cummings (1894 - 1962)

little tree
little silent Christmas tree
you are so little
you are more like a flower

who found you in the green forest
and were you very sorry to come away?
see i will comfort you
because you smell so sweetly

i will kiss your cool bark
and hug you safe and tight
just as your mother would,
only don't be afraid

look the spangles
that sleep all the year in a dark box
dreaming of being taken out and allowed to shine,
the balls the chains red and gold the fluffy threads,

put up your little arms
and i'll give them all to you to hold
every finger shall have its ring
and there won't be a single place dark or unhappy

then when you're quite dressed
you'll stand in the window for everyone to see
and how they'll stare!
oh but you'll be very proud

and my little sister and i will take hands
and looking up at our beautiful tree
we'll dance and sing
"Noel Noel"



Knud Larsen 1897



'Twas the Night Before Christmas

Soloist: Jack Cox

. arr. Harry Simeone (1911 - 2005)

'Twas the night before Christmas, when all through
the house

Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;
The stockings were hung by the chimney with care,
In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there;
The children were nestled all snug in their beds,

While visions of sugar-plums danced
in their wee little heads.

Mama in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap,
Had just settled down for a long winter's nap.
When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter,
I sprang from the bed to see what was the matter.

Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters, threw up the sash.
And what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny reindeer.
With a little old driver, so lively and quick,
I knew right away that it must be Saint Nick.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came,
And he whistled, and shouted, and called them by
name:

"Now, Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now, Prancer!,
Now Vixen!

On, Comet! On Cupid! On, Donner and Blitzen!
To the top of the porch, to the top of the wall!
Dash away, dash away, dash away all!"

So up to the house-tops the coursers they flew,
With the sleigh full of toys, and St. Nicholas, too.
And then in a twinkling, I heard on the roof
All the clattering noise of each galloping hoof.
All bundled in fur, from his head to his foot;
His clothes were all tarnished with ashes and soot.

I drew in my head, and was turning around,
When down the chimney he came with a bound!
A bag full of toys he had flung on his back,
And he looked like a little old peddler just opening
his pack.

His eyes how they twinkled so gay!
His dimples how merry were they!

His cheeks were like roses, when kissed by the sun!
His nose, like a cherry, all wrinkled with fun!
His droll little mouth was drawn up like a bow!
The beard of his chin was as white as the snow.
The stump of a little old pipe he held tight in his teeth,

'Twas the Night Before Christmas (*continued*)

And the smoke went around, and around,
And around his head like a wreath;
Oh! He was so jolly and plump, a right jolly, old,
jolly old elf.

And I laughed, and I laughed, and I laughed when I saw him,
in spite of myself;
He had a broad face and a little round belly
That shook when he laughed like a bowl full of jelly.
He gave me a wink of his eye and a twist of his head,
A chuckle and a smile I knew all the while I had nothing to
dread.

He spoke not a word, but went straight to his work,
He filled all the stockings, then turned with a jerk,
And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.
He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,
And away they all flew like the down of a thistle.
But I heard him exclaim, 'ere he drove out of sight,
"Merry Christmas to all, and to all good night!"

'Tis the night after Christmas and all thru the house,
Not a creature is stirring, not even a mouse.
The presents are scattered and broken I fear

And Saint Nicholas won't come again for a year.

The children all nestled all snug in their wee little beds,
While mem'ries of sugarplums dance in their wee little heads.
Mama in her kerchief, Papa in his cap, are settled at last for a
long winter's nap.

The Christmas Song

..... arr. Russell Robinson (1892 - 1963)

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire, Jack Frost nipping at your nose.
Yuletide carols being sung by a choir and folks dressed up like Eskimos.
Ev'rybody knows a turkey and some mistletoe help to make the season bright.
Tiny tots with their eyes all aglow, will find it hard to sleep tonight.
They know that Santa's on his way, he's loaded lots of toys and goodies on his sleigh,
And ev'ry mother's child is gonna spy to see if reindeer really know how to fly,
And so I'm offering this simple phrase to kids from one to ninety-two:
Although it's been said many times, many ways. Merry Christmas to you.

The 12 Days of Christmas

..... arr. Howard Cable (1920 - 2016)

On the first day of Christmas my true love gave to me some brass music on a CD.
Baroque brass music on a CD.
On the second day of Christmas the CD played for me: Samuel Scheidt's *Galliard*.
On the third day of Christmas the CD played for me: Purcell's *Trumpet Tune*,
Perhaps by Jeremiah Clarke!
On the fourth day of Christmas the CD played for me: Johann Sebastian Bach.
On the fifth day of Christmas the CD played for me: George Frederick Handel.
On the sixth day of Christmas the CD played for me: Mozart's Horn concerto.
On the seventh day of Christmas the CD played for me: Papa Haydn's Trumpet.
On the eighth day of Christmas the CD played for me: Rossini's famous tune.
On the ninth day of Christmas the CD played for me: Heroic themes by Wagner.
On the tenth day of Christmas the CD played for me: Tchaikovsky's big brass band.
On the eleventh day of Christmas the CD played for me: A bit of blues by Gershwin.
On the twelfth day of Christmas the CD played for me: The Aaron Copland *Fanfare*.
Great brass music on our new CD.



I Wish You Christmas

..... John Rutter (b. 1945)

I wish you starlight on fields of snow,
The winter's morning light and evening's
glow;
I wish you candles that shine from every
tree,
So all the world can see
The light that there could be.

I wish you music, I wish you song,
With voices echoing, Joyous and strong;
I wish you church bells, ringing true and
clear;
I wish you Christmas, a merry Christmas,
A merry Christmas to remember all the
year.

Old friends smiling,
Thinking of times gone by;
Young friends laughing:
Christmas is here, Spirits are bright,
and hopes are high.

I wish you loved ones around your fire;
May Christmas bring you all your heart's
desire.
I wish you children to make the season
new,
With dreams you help come true,
Just like it was for you.

I wish you blessings, I wish you love,
The sound of angel choirs from high above;
I wish you laughter, happiness and cheer:
I wish you Christmas, a merry Christmas,
And may its joy and peace be with you
through the year.

I wish you music, I wish you song;
I wish you harmony your whole life long;
The warmth of memories that long remain:
I wish you Christmas, a merry Christmas,

And may God bless you till we all shall meet
again.





IN MEMORY — PEGGY WESTLUND

Peggy Westlund and her husband, Dr. John Westlund, were the founders of the Northern Kentucky Community Chorus in 1980. Peggy Westlund passed away on October 30, 2024. Peggy received her Masters Degree in Music Education at the University of Michigan. The majority of her work life was spent as an elementary music teacher. Peggy was such a joy-filled, ray of sunshine to everyone she met. She was very much like the Kansas sunflowers she loved so dearly! She touched the lives of so many people with her infectious laugh and a song always in her heart! Peggy and John were married on August 23, 1959.

Her sweetest gift was her beautiful Soprano voice. She and John shared the love of music their whole life together. Peggy was John's favorite Soprano in every choir he led. They spent many years traveling and much of that was on choir tours to Europe where they sang in beautiful cathedrals. However, the most precious of all her performances was singing with her children and grandchildren. Her voice was beautiful and comforting.

Her love of life and family was evident in the way she lived, always being such a supportive wife to John. She helped him to achieve his goals along the way and they were truly each other's best friend. Her joy, laughter and beautiful smile will be missed by us all. The concert today is dedicated to the memory of Peggy Westlund.



Join us for this special one-day event, bring all your musical friends. Come and Sing on March 15, 2025. Conducted by Dr. Earl Rivers, you will spend the day learning choruses from Haydn's oratorios, Creation and The Seasons. Musical gems of the Classical era. You may bring your

own scores or once you have registered, a PDF score will be emailed to you. The cost of \$10 covers the lunch that will be served. Details and sign up:

nkychorus.org

The Northern Kentucky Community Chorus is particularly grateful to these donors who believe in & support locally produced choral music.

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Memorials

In Loving Memory of my parents Floyd E. & Mabel M. Hawkins and my son Rob Hawkins
- Charles Hawkins

In Loving Memory of Peggy Westlund and other Chorus members promoted to the Heavenly Choir - Wayne & Tracy Clark

In loving memory of Peggy Westlund
- Herb & Jan Wedig

In loving memory of Peggy Westlund - "She was always smiling" - Tom & Nancy Bunnell

In honor of Dr. John O Westlund, founder of NKCC - Tom & Nancy Bunnell

In loving memory of Naomi & Joseph Breeze - Bill & Georgina Breeze

In loving memory of Betty & Proctor Best
- Bill & Georgina Breeze

In memory of departed family members who enjoyed NKCC concerts by Tracy & Wayne Clark

In loving memory of Greg Frerman
- Carol Frerman

For every one who loves to sing & listen to music - Jeanne & Mark Conrad

In loving memory of Peggy Westlund - the Schaeper, Hillebrand & Schutte families.

In Loving Memory of Ted & Alma Zerhusen & George & Catherine Ifkovics Schutte
In Loving Memory of Cynthia M. Schutte and Eric M. Schutte





Stephanie Nash brings her passion of choral music to every ensemble she conducts. Stephanie became the conductor of the Northern Kentucky Community Chorus in 2013 and is proud to continue the traditions of this strong organization founded in 1980. Working with NKCC allows Stephanie to create beautiful choral music with singers who have a personal commitment to this organization. Singing together is a vital part of the arts in our communities. These members come from the greater Cincinnati area with varying backgrounds of education and professions yet join their voices to produce quality choral music. It is this dedication to art that Stephanie admires. Currently she is the Director of Music at Lakeside Presbyterian Church in Lakeside Park, Kentucky, and works for Isaac M. Wise Temple, conducting their choir, Kol Rinah. For 35 years, Stephanie has worked as a choral conductor in churches, community choirs and schools. Stephanie lives in Cincinnati with her husband, Keith and their son, Andrew.

As a lifelong Northern Kentucky resident, **John Haynes** graduated with honors from both Ludlow High School and Northern Kentucky University. John has been very active in the local musical community. He has been a church musician since the age of 13 and served as a staff accompanist at NKU after graduation. He has been the accompanist for rehearsals and performances for numerous high school and professional musicals and concerts, including operas for the Northern Kentucky's Center Civic Opera Company. John divides his time between teaching piano and tuning pianos. He recently completed his Master of Arts in Biblical Studies and Master of Divinity degrees to aid him with his duties as Co-Pastor of Bethel Baptist Church. John enjoys reading and studying languages. He lives in Independence with Donna, his wife, and has two daughters and six grandchildren.



Meghan Nguyen Photography

Guest Artists

Trumpets:
Emily Rahn
Alexa Dziatkowski

French Horn:
Justin Ciccone

Trombone:
Madison Smith

Tuba:
Jamieon Gilmore



CHORUS MEMBERS

Sopranos

Courtney Brothers
 Tracy Clark
 Cheryl Colby
 Jeanne Conrad
 Mary-Margaret Curley
 Anna Deeds
 Becky Duke
 Gloria Eversull
 Wendy Fend ✱
 Carol Frerman
 Jamie Halderman
 Michelle Hammer
 Shiela Hendricks
 Carol Hill
 Linda Hill
 Jeanette Hodges
 Kinsey Hurley
 Valerya Hyrne
 Emma King
 Mary Lee
 Danita Osborne
 Katie Phillips
 Joan Sampson
 Patty Schaeper ✱
 Mycah Smith
 Manon Stovik
 Holli Young
 Kelly Zalla

Tenors

Perry Bohanon
 Jack Cox
 Patrick Diesman
 Tom Hanser
 Chuck Hawkins
 Beverley Kiefer
 Deanna Parobeck
 Sarah Patton ✱
 Don Plake
 Peter Rutan

Basses

Bill Breeze
 Tom Bunnell
 Tom Hill
 Rich Ingraham
 Doug Johnson
 Lucky Johnson
 Gary Lee
 Scott Lincoln
 Phil Moberg
 John Otten
 Sterling Pratt
 Jan Smith
 Jim Wakefield ✱
 Doug Watson
 Jim Young

Altos

Kae Lee Aschettino
 Nancy Bickel
 Helen Boyle
 Georgina Breeze
 Nancy Bunnell
 Debra Callahan
 Ginny Clark
 Erika Eidam
 Tina Farrell
 Nancy Faulconer
 Liesebet Gravley
 Denise Hanser
 Donna Haynes
 Becky Kniskern
 Sue Kozlowski
 Terry Lawson
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Did You Know?

The Northern Kentucky Community Chorus is a registered 501(c)3 organization and will benefit for generations to come from a charitable donation from your estate. In fact, if you know someone 70 ½, they are allowed to make donations directly from their IRA in lieu of taking their required minimum distributions. They're called QCD's (qualified charitable distributions). Please consider including NKCC in your estate planning.

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