

journey to Bethlehem

Sunday, December 18, 2022
Saint Patrick-Saint Anthony Church
Hartford Connecticut



The Story of a New Choral Composition

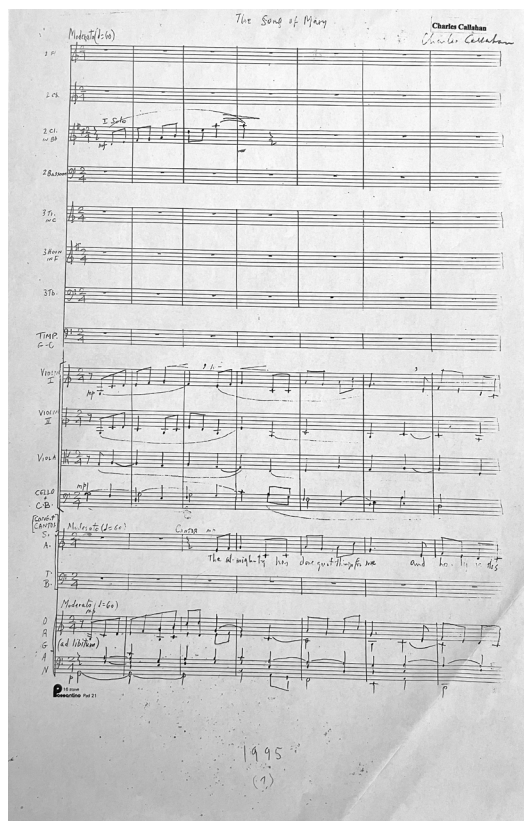
It has been said that the folks at Macy's start planning each year's Thanksgiving Day Parade the minute the previous one ends. That might be a bit of New York hyperbole, but I believe there is a ring of truth in it. That being said, I had a conversation earlier this year, perhaps in February or March, with Gabriel Löfvall about this year's service of Lesson and Carols. I told him that I owned a leaf, or page, from a 14th century Antiphonary – a book of antiphons or short verses set to plainchant. The text, in Latin, translates as: "The root of Jesse has blossomed; the Star is risen out of Jacob; the Virgin has brought forth the Savior; we praise Thee, our God." This antiphon used to be sung during First Vespers for the Octave Day of Christmas; nowadays, it is sung at Morning Prayer on January 1 for the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God.

I had the idea of finding a choral setting of the text, so we started to search for one, but couldn't locate anything suitable. This led to considering the possibility of commissioning a new choral setting, and my first thought was to get in touch with Dr. Charles Callahan, an eminent composer of liturgical choral music.

I had first become familiar with Dr. Callahan's work when I heard his beautiful "Aria" for organ more than 30 years ago. I obtained a copy of the score only to discover that it was written in E-flat minor – not the easiest key to play with six flats in it! I was greatly relieved when the publisher released a version in E minor which made it considerably easier to learn.

In 1995 Pope John Paul II celebrated Mass in Central Park, and among the many musical pieces composed or arranged for the Mass was a setting of the Magnificat, which was the Responsorial Psalm of the day, the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary. Dr. Callahan had been commissioned to compose the setting for congregation, choir, soprano solo and orchestra. I was asked by the musical director of the Archdiocese of New York to take the handwritten score and create an engraved score in the computer program, Finale. This involved making two editions: a choral and organ score for rehearsals and a complete orchestral score involving woodwinds, strings, brass, percussion and organ as well as the vocal parts. It was a big undertaking, but I knew that it would be a beautiful piece of music and worth every moment of effort! This evening we will hear (and sing) that setting of the Song of Mary.

In the immediate lead-up to the Papal Mass, I met Dr. Callahan in person along with several other composers and arrangers who had provided music for the event. That began a decades-long friendship based on my deep admiration for his musical compositions.



The first page of the manuscript of "The Song of Mary".



The 14th century parchment folio of the antiphon: "Germinavit radix Jesse; orta est stella ex Jacob; Virgo peperit saluatorum; te laudamus, Deus noster."

Fast forward to 2022 when I contacted Dr. Callahan to see if he would be interested in accepting a commission to write a piece based on the chant from my folio. After several emails and a phone call with him, Gabriel and myself, he accepted the commission. Shortly after Easter in mid-April, I received a beautifully scored anthem for choir and organ which we have titled "A Christmas Antiphon."

The work captures both the age-old mystery of Gregorian chant as well as the harmonies of 21st Century choral singing. The work begins with a quiet organ introduction, then each phrase of the antiphon is sung first in Latin to the original plainchant. It is then sung in English by the full choir as a kind of commentary. The work builds with each phrase of the antiphon until it explodes in the final measures with the exclamation "We praise thee, our God!"

I am personally deeply grateful to Dr. Callahan and for this gift to our parish and to the choral repertoire. Both works performed this evening will demonstrate his gifted compositional style – immediately accessible to the listener yet full of drama and delight. I hope you will treasure this unique moment in the musical life of our community.

Fr. Tim Shreenan, O.F.M.

Charles Callahan (b. 1951), is an American composer, organist, and teacher. A graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, his graduate degrees are from the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC.

A prolific composer, Dr. Callahan's compositions include commissions for Papal visitations to the United States and from Harvard University. His four-movement orchestral work, *Mosaics*, premiered at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, Missouri, and other works have been performed at Harvard, Yale, and Princeton Universities.



He holds the Associate and Choirmaster certificates of the American Guild of Organists (AGO). In 2014, he was honored with the Distinguished Artist Award of the A.G.O.

Dr. Callahan has taught at Catholic University, Middlebury College, Baylor University, Rollins College, and The Bermuda School of Music. He has served as organist and music director for churches in Pennsylvania, Washington DC, New York, Vermont, and his native Massachusetts.

He is often consulted on the design of new organs, and the restoration and improvement of existing instruments. His two books on American organ building history, *The American Classic Organ* and *AEolian-Skinner Remembered*, have become standard reference works on 20th century American organ history.

Processional Hymn (stand)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Choir: 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 you, O Israel.

All: O come, O Rod of Jesse's stem,
From ev'ry foe deliver them
That trust your mighty power to save,
And give them vict'ry o'er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.

All: O come, O Wisdom from on high,
Who order all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.

High Voices: O come, O Key of David, come,
And open wide our heav'nly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.

Low Voices: O come, O come, great Lord of might,
Who to your tribes on Sinai's height
In ancient times once gave the Law
In cloud and majesty and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.

All: O come, O Dayspring from on high,
And cheer us by your drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.

All: O come, Desire of nations, bind
In one the hearts of humankind;
O bid our sad divisions cease,
And be for us our King of Peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.

Text: Veni, veni Emmanuel; Latin 9th C.; tr. by John Mn. Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL, LM with refrain; Mode I, 15th C. French; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811-1890

Welcome and Prayer

The Pastor

Chorus (*Allison Holst-Grubbe, soprano*)

This Christmastide (*Jessye's Carol*)

Green and silver, red and gold, and a story born of old
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide.

Children sing of peace and joy at the birth of one small boy
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide.

Holly, ivy, mistletoe, and the gently falling snow
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide.

Let the bells ring loud and clear, ring out now for all to hear
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide.

From a simple ox's stall came the greatest gift of all
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide.

Trumpets sound and voices raise in an endless stream of praise,
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide.

Green and silver, red and gold, and a story born of old
Peace and love and hope abide this Christmastide.

Text: Jane McCulloch
Music: Donald Fraser

The "Yes"

Luke 1: 26-38

Chorus (*Ellie McCormick, soprano*)

Gabriel's Message

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!

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!

'For known 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!

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!

Text: S. Baring-Gould, 1834-1924

Music: Basque Carol; arranged by John Milford Rutter, CBE; b. 1945

Hymn (stand)

A Maiden Most Gentle

A maiden most gentle and tender we sing: Of Mary the mother of Jesus our King. (*Refrain, choir only*)



A - ve, a - ve, a - ve Ma - ri - a, A - ve, a - ve, a - ve Ma - ri - a.

How bless'd is the birth of her heavenly child, Who came to redeem us in Mary so mild. (*Refrain, all*)

The archangel Gabriel foretold by his call The Lord of creation, and Savior of all. (*Refrain, high voices only*)

Three kings came to worship with gifts rich and rare, And marvelled in awe at the babe in her care. (*Refrain, high voices only*)

Rejoice and be glad at this Christmas we pray; Sing praise to the Savior, sing endless 'Ave.' (*Refrain, all twice*)

Text: Andrew Carter, b. 1939

Music: Traditional French melody arranged by Andrew Carter



"The
Annunciation"
by John William
Waterhouse
(1849-1917)

The Meeting

Luke 1: 39-46

Hymn (Grace Mittleman, soprano)

The Song of Mary

The refrain is sung first by the soloist, then repeated by all after every verse.



The al - migh - ty has done great things for me and ho - ly is his name.

My being proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit finds joy in God my Savior. (*Refrain*)

For he has looked upon his servant in her lowliness; all ages to come shall call me blessed.

God who is mighty has done great things for me, holy, holy is his name. (*Refrain*)

His mercy is from age to age on those who fear him. He has shown might with his arm;
he has confused the proud in their inmost thoughts. (*Refrain*)

He has deposed the mighty from their thrones and raised the lowly to high places.
The hungry he has given ev'ry good thing, while the rich he has sent empty away. (*Refrain*)

He has upheld Israel his servant, ever mindful of his mercy;
even as he promised our fathers, promised Abraham and his descendants for ever. (*Refrain*)

Text: Luke 1: 39-46

Music: Charles Callahan, b. 1951

The Birth

Luke 2: 1-7

Carol (sit)

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;
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia!
Christ the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
With the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Text: *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht*; Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848; English tr. by John F. Young, 1820-1885

Tune: STILLE NACHT, 66 89 66; Franz X. Gruber, 1787-1863

Carol (stand)***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 heav'n above;
 Glory to God in the highest:
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Choir only: God of God, Light of Light,
 Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
 Very God, begotten, not created:
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
 Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n;
 Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him,
 O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Text: *Adeste fideles*; John F. Wade, c. 1711-1796; English tr. by Frederick Oakley, 1802-1880
 Tune: ADESTE FIDELES, Irregular with refrain; John F. Wade

News of Great Joy***Luke 2: 8-16*****Chorus*****Shepherd's Pipe Carol***

Going through the hills on a night all starry
 On the way to Bethlehem,
 Far away I heard a shepherd boy piping
 On the way to Bethlehem.
Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
 'Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King
 is come to bring us peace on earth,
 and he's lying cradled there in Bethlehem.'

'None may hear my pipes on these hills so lonely
 On the way to Bethlehem;
 But a King will hear me play sweet lullabies
 When I get to Bethlehem.'
Angels in the sky came down from on high,
Hovered o'er the manger where the babe was lying
cradled in the arms of his mother Mary,
sleeping now at Bethlehem.

'Tell me, shepherd boy piping tunes so merrily
 On the way to Bethlehem,
 Who will hear your tunes on these hills so lonely
 On the way to Bethlehem?'
Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
 'Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King
 is come to bring us peace on earth,
 and he's lying cradled there in Bethlehem.'

'Where is this new King, shepherd boy piping merrily,
 Is he there at Bethlehem?'
 'I will find him soon by the star shining brightly
 In the sky o'er Bethlehem.'
Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
 'Dance and sing for joy that Christ the newborn King
 is come to bring us peace on earth,
 and he's lying cradled there in Bethlehem.'

'May I come with you, shepherd boy piping merrily,
 Come with you to Bethlehem?
 Pay my homage too at the new King's cradle,
 Is it far to Bethlehem?'
Angels in the sky brought this message nigh:
 'Dance and sing for joy that Christ the infant King
 is born this night in lowly stable yonder,
 Born for you at Bethlehem.'

Chorus

Who is He in yonder stall,
at whose feet the shepherds fall?
'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story,
'tis the Lord, the King of glory.
At his feet we humbly fall;
Crown Him, crown Him the Lord of all!

Who is He, who stands and weeps
at the grave where Laz'rus sleeps?
'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story,
'tis the Lord, the King of glory.
At his feet we humbly fall;
Crown Him, crown Him the Lord of all!

Text: Benjamin Hanby, 1833-1867
Music: Robert H. Young, 1923-2011

Who Is He In Yonder Stall?

Who is He in Calvary's throes
asks for blessing on His foes?
'Tis the Lord, O wondrous story,
'tis the Lord, the King of glory.
At his feet we humbly fall;
Crown Him, crown Him the Lord of all!

Who is He who from the grave
comes to seek and help and save?
It is the Lord, O wondrous story,
'tis the Lord, the King of glory.
At his feet we humbly fall;
Crown Him, crown Him the Lord of all!

The Star

Matthew 2: 1-11

Chorus

There Shall a Star

*Caroline Christopher, soprano
Michael McAvaney, tenor
Alex Hunt, baritone
Patrick Nay, bass*

When Jesus our Lord was born in Bethlehem, in the land of Judaea,
behold, from the East to the city of Jerusalem there came wise men, and said:
Say, where is he born the king of Judaea? For we have seen his star, and are come to adore him.

There shall a star from Jacob come forth, and a sceptre from Israel rise up.
And dash in pieces princes and nations.

How brightly beams the morning star with sudden radiance from afar with light and comfort glowing!
Thy word, Jesus, inly feed us, rightly leads us, life bestowing. Praise, O praise such love o'erflowing!

Text: Matthew 2:1-2; Numbers 24:17; Psalm 2:9 and *Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*
Music: Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, 1809-1847



"The Star of Bethlehem"
by Edward Burne-Jones (1833-1898)

The Name

Luke 2: 17-21

Carol (stand)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all you nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with th’angelic hosts proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
Hail th’incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris’n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth,
Born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Tune: MENDELSSOHN, 77 77 D with refrain; Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy, 1809-1847; arranged by Sir David Willcocks

Chorus

A Christmas Antiphon

THE FIRST PERFORMANCE

Germinavit radix Jesse.
The root of Jesse has blossomed.

Orta est stella ex Jacob.
The star is risen out of Jacob.

Virgo peperit salvatorem.
The Virgin has brought forth a Savior.

Te laudamus Deus noster.
We praise Thee our God.

Text: Antiphon from First Vespers of January 1

Music: Charles Callahan

Epilogue

Hebrews 1: 1-5

Recessional Hymn (stand)

Once in Royal David's City

Solo: Once in royal David's city
 Stood a lowly cattleshed,
 Where a mother laid her baby
 In a manger for his bed:
 Mary was the mother mild,
 Jesus Christ her little child.

All: For he is our childhood's pattern,
 Day by day like us he grew,
 He was little, weak and helpless,
 Tears and smiles like us he knew;
 And he feeleth for our sadness,
 And he shareth in our gladness.

Choir only: He came down to earth from heaven
 Who is God and Lord of all,
 And his shelter was a stable,
 And his cradle was a stall;
 With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
 Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
 Through his own redeeming love,
 For that child so dear and gentle
 Is our Lord in heaven above;
 And he leads his children on
 To the place where he is gone.

And through all his wondrous childhood
 He would honor and obey,
 Love, and watch the lowly maiden,
 In whose gentle arms he lay;
 Christian children all must be
 Mild, obedient, good as he.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
 With the oxen standing by,
 We shall see him; but in heaven,
 Set at God's right hand on high;
 When like stars his children crowned
 All in white shall wait around.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1818-1895

Tune: IRBY, 8 7 8 7 77; Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805-1876

Your free-will offering helps to support the music ministry of St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church and we thank you for your generosity. Baskets will be available at the doors of the church as you leave.

We invite you to a reception hosted by the St. Patrick-St. Anthony Open Hearts LGBTQ+ Ministry in the Franciscan Center for Urban Ministry immediately following the conclusion of this service.



Christ in the House of His Parents ('The Carpenter's Shop') by John Everett Millais (1829-1896)

Crossbearer

Kevin Rice

Readers

(In order)

Charles Bell
Sara Feged
Hannah Patterson
Maggie Schwab

Brendan Crowley
Ignacio Feged
Julianna Luzi

Musicians

Gallery Choir

Julianne Cardoni
Caroline Christopher
Beverly Boyle
Christopher Daugherty
Sarah Davis
Paul Foody
Suzanne Fournier
Zachary Gilbert
Albert Hernandez

Joanne Huelsman
Allison Holst-Grubbe
Alex Hunt
Mark Knebel
Sharon Miceli
Eric Miller
Grace Mittleman
Patrick Nay
Michelle Ouchakof
Carrie Wilson

Treble Clef Choir

Caroline Christopher
Sarah Christopher
Jennifer Dorn
Carina Dozier
Elizabeth Wilde Foody
Suzanne Fournier
Allison Holst-Grubbe
Ellie McCormick
Michelle Ouchakof
Benjamin Rauch

Bass Clef Choir

Christopher Daugherty
Paul Foody
Zachary Gilbert
Alex Hunt
Michael McAvaney
Patrick Nay
Anthony Perez-Rosal
Martin Smith

Church Street Singers

Anna Atwood
Michael Atwood
Will Atwood
Bella Basile-Vaughan
Anthony Bradway

Tyler Bradway
Anna Christopher
Paige Crowley
Charlotte Daigle
Ciara Frewen

Michael Frewen
Ciana Ficocelli
Lily Hallinan
Joshua Hallinan
Patrick Hennessy

Jonathan Price
Josephine Price
Dominic Prizio
Johanna Prizio
Enzo Virello

Organists

Scott Lamlein
Ted Babbitt

Harpist

Amanda Evans

Flutist

Gonzalo Cortés

Percussionist

Andrew Thomson

Director of Music

Dr. Gabriel Löfvall

ST. PATRICK



ST. ANTHONY

open hearts
open minds
open doors