Thank you for joining us for our second concert of our Season entitled “Melodies of Artistry and Inspiration”. I am truly appreciative that you have made the choice to include the Waukesha Choral Union as part of your celebration of the season. Upon my own reflections of this festive season, I continue to be amazed by the depth of the role that music has in holiday traditions, including my own. I can still recall the exact music playing in the background while my family and I would decorate the Christmas tree. My deepest gratitude to all of our patrons for allowing us to be a part of your holiday music traditions.

Lessons and Carols is a time honored musical tradition. My sincerest hope is that you not only enjoy the musical selections our Artistic Director has chosen to reflect the nine lessons but that the music allows you to spend time on aspects so near and so dear to this time of year: reflection, peace and joy.

A special thanks to our non-profit partner, Waukesha Food Pantry. We are proud to collaborate with this organization whose mission is to provide food, hope and dignity to county residents in need, as well as using community partnerships to increase hunger awareness. We hope that you keep this organization in mind during this giving season.

With Warm Regards,
Makenzie Kojis
President, Waukesha Choral Union
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The Waukesha Choral Union (WCU) pursues artistic excellence through variety of musical programming. The WCU challenges, enriches, and educates its members, audiences and community. The chorus also impacts the community through collaboration with area schools, youth choral groups and local arts organizations in Waukesha County.

The Waukesha Choral Union can trace its roots as Waukesha’s premier choral society back to 1949 at Carroll University. Over the years, under various names and outstanding artistic directors, WCU has developed a reputation for excellent choral music performances in SE Wisconsin. Adhering to our educational mission, we have collaborated with Carroll University choirs, with music groups from Waukesha South, Waukesha North, Kettle Moraine, Muskego, Hartford Union, and New Berlin Eisenhower High Schools, and with the Waukesha Children’s and the Lake Country Children’s Choirs. We’re proud to have shared the stage with the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra, the Milwaukee Choristers, Jubilate Chorale, and Bel Canto Chorus. Our potential is endless!

ABOUT WAUKESHA CHORAL UNION

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Michael Chapel is the director of choral activities for the School District of Brown Deer, a position he has held for nineteen of his twenty-one years of teaching. He directs several ensembles including: four middle school choirs (grades 6-8), five high school choirs, AND a hand bell ensemble - one of the very few public school-based bell choirs in the SE Wisconsin-area. In addition to his teaching duties, Mr. Chapel is the musical theatre director, the performance facilities and fine arts event coordinator, and is also the supervisor of scheduling for the district’s music and theatre programming.

Mr. Chapel recently served his fourth year as the Choir Coordinator for the Wisconsin School Music Association (WSMA) Middle Level Honors Project – a state honors choir for grades 7, 8, 9. He is active as an adjudicator for both honors choir auditions and solo/ensemble festivals that are sponsored by the WSMA. In addition, he is the choir director and lead service accompanist (since 1999) at Parkside Community United Church of Christ, in Saukville, WI,

Mr. Chapel earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music and his Master’s Degree in Music Education, with an emphasis on choral conducting, from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to our presentation of “A Festival of Lessons and Carols.” Our festival is modeled after the century-old tradition of the Nine Lessons and Carols service that takes place on Christmas Eve at King’s College, Cambridge, UK. The backbone of the service, the lessons and prayers, has remained virtually unchanged since 1918. Only the carols have changed over those years, with each King’s organist having the task of selecting carols to follow each lesson. It is my privilege to present today’s performance that features the carols that those organists selected (and, in some cases, even composed) for the event. The service has always begun with the hymn ‘Once in royal David’s city’. We continue that tradition, as well our tradition of asking you to join us in song at select times within the program.

A special note of thanks to the congregations and office staff of First United Methodist Church (Waukesha) AND All Saints Lutheran (Wales) for preparing for and hosting this evening’s event.

Thank you so much for joining us for this evening’s event. We are so very grateful to you for your continuing support of the arts in our community.

We cannot do what we do without you and your generous patronage.

We hope to see you again soon, in March and May of 2020, and beyond. Our next two events will both be held on the campus of Carroll College, our “home-away-from-home” for many years.

Michael Chapel
SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

Keeping the Waukesha Choral Union singing takes money as well as time, effort, and audiences. Show your support by coming to our performances, singing with us, liking us on Facebook, making a donation, or advertising in our print programs. We are a 501(c)(3) organization, and your donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.

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The Waukesha Choral Union is always in need of an extra pair of hands. Call (262) 238-3454 or email marketingmanager@choralunion.org to help out.

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The Waukesha Choral Union derives its strength and quality from its members’ passion for singing and is always seeking new voices interested in:

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Next auditions will be held January 14, 2020

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Tuesday nights at Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 2016 Center Road, Waukesha, WI

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- We offer ads on a season and per-program basis, contact us to advertise in our next program, marketingmanager@choralunion.org.
CONGREGATION HYMN

SOLO: Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a Mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed;
Mary was that Mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

CHOIR: 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 Saviour holy.

CONGREGATION:
3) And through all his wondrous childhood he would honour and obey,
love and watch the lowly maiden in whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children all must be mild, obedient, good as he.

4) 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.

5) 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.

6) 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.

Music by H.J. Gauntlett - Words by C.F. Alexander - Harmonized by A.H. Mann

[please be seated]

INVITATORY CAROL

On Christmas night all christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring,
news of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be sad, since our redeemer made us glad;
when from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty.

When sin departs before his grade then life an health come in its place.
angels and men with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night:
Glory to God in highest heav'n, now and forever more, Amen!

Traditional English - Arranged by Elaine Hagenberg
FIRST LESSON

“Sin Brings a Curse”  
Genesis 3: 8-15, 17-19

CAROL

Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond;  
four thousand winter thought he not too long.

And all was for an apple, an apple that he took,  
as clerkes vinden written in their book.

Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been,  
ne had never our lady a been heavéné queen.

Blessed be the time that apple taken was,  
Therefore we moun singen  
Deo gratias. [thanks be to God]

Words anon. 15th century - Music by Boris Ord

SECOND LESSON

“Abraham’s Sacrifice”  
Genesis 22: 15-18

CAROL

Ding-dong! Merrily on high, in heav’n the bells are ringing.  
Ding-dong! Happily reply the angels all are singing.  
Gloria Deo! Hosanna in excelsis.

Harken to the silver bells: from steepleys they are swinging!  
Ringing out the glad nowells, come hear all people singing!  
Gloria Deo! Hosanna in excelsis.

Ding-dong! Listen to the song, quit sadness and quit worry!  
Ding-dong! Dancing all along, the angels wish us merry!  
Gloria Deo! Hosanna in excelsis.

Based on a 16th century French carol - Arranged by Glenn Poore
CONGREGATION HYMN  

"O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight."

"For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth."

"How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,  
where meek souls will receive Him still the dear Christ enters in."

[please be seated]

THIRD LESSON  

"War Is Over / A Child Has Been Born"  
Isaiah 9: 2, 6, 7

CAROL

Virga Jesse floruit:  
Virgo Deum et hominem genuit:  
pacem Deus reddidit,  
in se reconcilians ima summis.  
Alleluia.

[The branch from Jesse blooms:  
a Virgin brings forth God and man:  
God restores peace,  
reconciling in Himself the lowest with the highest.  
Alleluia.]

Anton Bruckner

FOURTH LESSON  

"Peace At Last"  
Isaiah 11: 1-3a, 4a, 6-9

CAROL

A Spotless Rose is blowing, sprung from a tender root,  
of ancient seers' foreshowing, of Jesse promised fruit;  
its fairest bud unfolds to light amid the cold, cold winter,  
and in the dark midnight.

The Rose which I am singing, whereof Isaiah said,  
is from its sweet root springing in Mary, purest Maid;  
for through our God's great love and might the Blessed Babe she bare us  
in a cold, cold winter's night.

Words anon. 14th century - Music by Herbert Howells

FIFTH LESSON  

"An Angel Tells of the Birth of Jesus"  
Luke 1: 26-35, 38

CAROL

Bogoróditse Dyevo, raduisia,  
Blagodatnaya Marie, Gospod stoboyu.  
Blagoslovena Ty v zhe nakh i  
blagosloven plot chreva tvoyego;  
yako spasa rodila yesi dush nashikh.  

[Rejoice, O virgin Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women, and  
blessed is the fruit of thy womb,  
for thou hast borne the Saviour of our souls.]  

Sergei Rachmaninov, Op. 37 / 6
CONGREGATION HYMN

1) Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little lord Jesus laid down his sweet head
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2) The cattle are lowing the baby awakes,
the little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love the Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.

SOLO: Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

Tune by W.J. Kirkpatrick - Arranged by David Willcocks

[please be seated]

SIXTH LESSON

“The Birth of Jesus”  Luke 2: 1, 3-7

CAROL

A babe is born all of a may, to bring salvation unto us,
to him we sing both night and day - Veni creator spiritus.

At Bethlehem, that blessed place, the child of bliss now born he was:
And him to serve God give us grace - O lux beata Trinitas.

There came three kings out of the East, to worship the King that is so free,
with gold and myrrh and frankincense - A solis ortus cardine.

The angels came down with one cry, a fair song that night sung they
in worship of that child - Gloria tibi Domine.

Noel.


SEVENTH LESSON

“The Shepherds”  Luke 2: 8-16

CAROL

In the bleak mid-winter Frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow,
In the bleak mid-winter, Long ago.

Our God, heaven 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.

Angels and archangels May have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air
But his mother only in her maiden bliss,
worshipped 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.

Text: Christina Rossetti - Music: Gustav Holst - Arranged by Alice Parker

EIGHTH LESSON

“The Wise Men”  Matthew 2: 1-12

CAROL

We three kings of Orient are bearing gifts we traverse afar.
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
Hark to the bells, merrily ring, tell and the world Jesus is king!
Born a King in Bethlehem’s plain, Gold I bring to crown him again.
King forever, ceasing never, over all to reign!
Star of wonder, star of night, star of royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Hark! How the bells, sweet silver bells, all seem to say, “Throw Cares away”.
Christmas is here, bringing good cheer to young and old, meek and the bold.
Ding-dong, ding-dong, that is their song, with joyful ring, all caroling.
One seems to hear, words of good cheer, from everywhere, filling the air.
O! how they pound, raising the sound, o’er hill and dale, telling the tale.
Gaily they ring, while people sing songs of good cheer, Christmas is here.
(Glorious now before him arise)
Hark! to the bells, merrily ring, tell all the world, Jesus is King.
(King and God and sacrifice)
Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas, Alleluia! Earth to heaven replies!

O! Star of wonder, star of night, star of royal beauty bright.
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

On, on they send, on without end, their joyful tone to ev’ry home.

Traditional - Arranged by Philip Kern

NINTH LESSON

“The Word of Life”  John 1: 1-14

CONGREGATIONAL HYMNS

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 In the highest.‘ 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,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
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.

Adeste Fideles - Melody by J.F. Wade - Words by J.F. Wade, F. Oakeley, W.T. Brooke and others
Hark! the herald angels sing: ‘Glory to the new-born King! peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!’

Joyful, all ye nations rise! Join the triumph of the skies!
With the angelic host proclaim: ‘Christ is born in Bethlehem!’
Hark! the herald angels sing: Glory to the new-born King!

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord:
late in time behold him come, offspring of a Virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with man to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing: Glory to the new-born King!

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings;
mild he lays his glory by, born that man no more may die,
born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing: Glory to the new-born King!

Music by Felix Mendelssohn - Words by C. Wesley, T. Whitefield, M. Madan and others - Adapted by W.H. Cummings

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Waukesha Choral Union offers significant opportunities for leader involvement and development! Board of director and committee participation is fun, challenging, and rewarding. Speak with any member about being part of the future of Waukesha Choral Union!
A Festival of Lessons and Carols

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