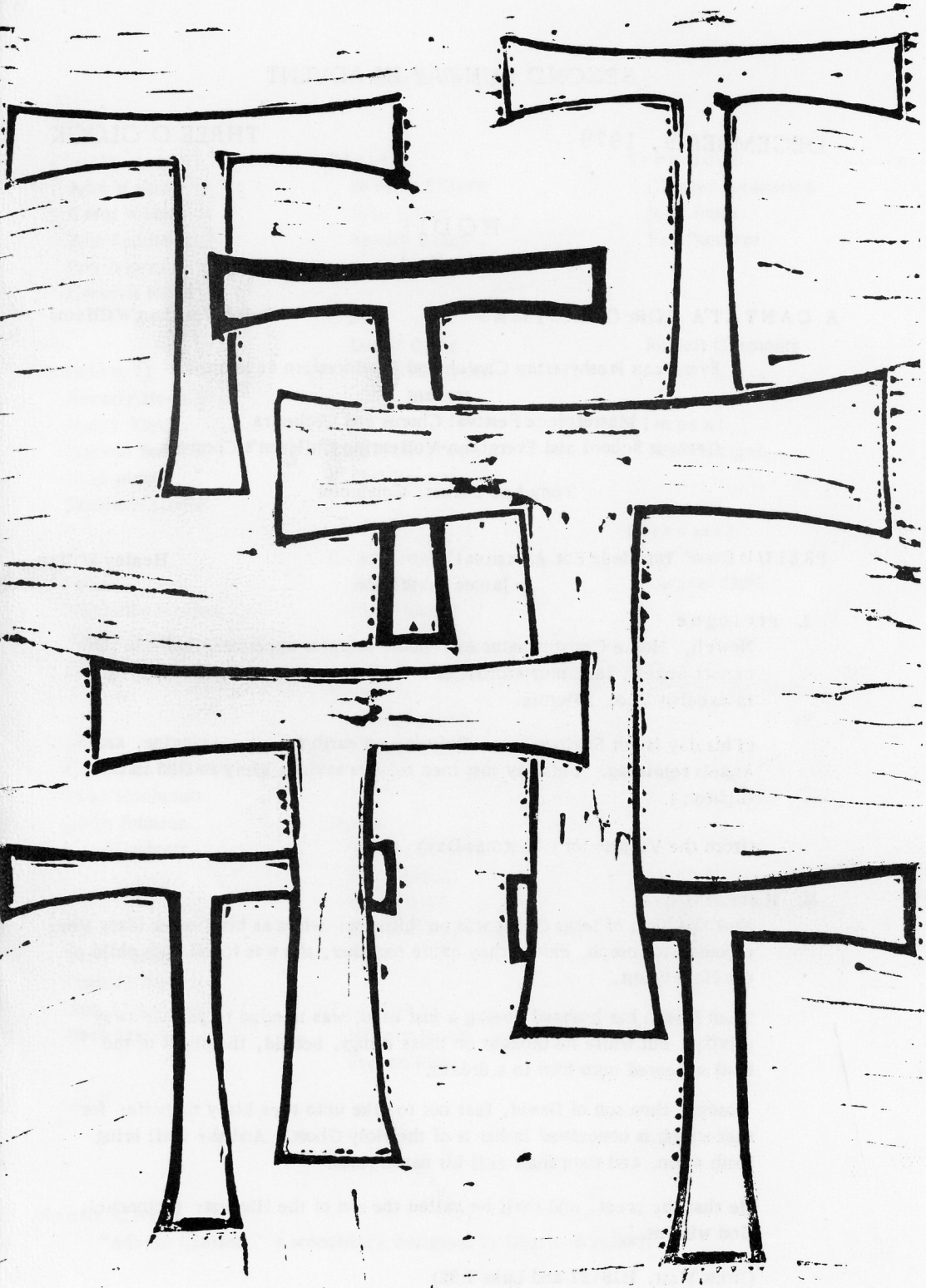


1979



SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 9, 1979

THREE O'CLOCK

HODIE

(This Day)

A CANTATA FOR CHRISTMAS

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Evergreen Presbyterian Church and Southwestern at Memphis

present

Masterpiece Festival Chorus and Orchestra

Campus School and Evergreen-Vollentine Children's Choruses

Tony Lee Garner, Conductor

PRELUDE - "Interlude For A Festival"

Healey Willan

James A. Brinson

I. Prologue

Nowell. Hodie Christus natus est: hodie salvator apparuit: Hodie in terra canunt angeli, laetantur archangeli: Hodie exultant justi, dicentes: gloria in excelsis Deo: Alleluia.

(This day is our Saviour born: This day on earth angels are singing, arch-angels rejoicing. This day just men rejoice saying, glory to God in the highest.)

(from the Vespers for Christmas Day)

II. Narration

Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: when as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.

Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream.

"Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus:

He shall be great, and shall be called the son of the Highest: Emmanuel, God with us."

(from Matt. I:18-21 and Luke I:32)

III. Song

It was the winter wild, While the Heaven-born child
All meanly wrapt, in the rude manger lies;
Nature in awe to him Had doff'd her gaudy trim,
With her great Master so to sympathise.
And waving wide her myrtle wand,
She strikes a universal peace through sea and land.
No war, or battle's sound, Was heard the world around:
The idle spear and shield were high uphung;
The hooked chariot stood Unstained with hostile blood;
The trumpet spake not to the armed throng;
And Kings sate still with awful eye,
As if they surely knew their sovran Lord was by.
But peaceful was the night, Wherein the Prince of light
His reign of peace upon the earth began:
The winds, with wonder whist, Smoothly the waters kissed
Whispering new joys to the mild ocean,
Who now hath quite forgot to rave,
While birds of calm sit brooding on the charmed wave.

(from Hymn on the Morning of Christ's Nativity. Milton)

IV. Narration

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be taxed, everyone into his own city. And Joseph also went up into the city of David, which is called Bethlehem: to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was that while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

(from Luke II:1-7)

V. Choral

The blessed Son of God only
In a crib full poor did lie;
With our poor flesh and our poor blood
Was clothed that everlasting good. Kyrieleison.
The Lord Christ Jesu, God's Son dear,
Was a guest and a stranger here;
Us for to bring from misery,
That we might live eternally. Kyrieleison.
And this did he for us freely,
For to declare his great mercy;
All Christendom be merry therefore,
And give him thanks for evermore. Kyrieleison.

(Miles Coverdale, after Martin Luther)

VI. Narration

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them,

"Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory; O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty."

"Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us." And the shepherds came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

(from Luke II:8-17 and the Book of Common Prayer)

VII. The Oxen

Christmas Eve, and twelve of the clock.

"Now they are all on their knees,"

An elder said as we sat in a flock

By the embers in hearth side ease.

We pictured the meek mild creatures where

They dwelt in their strawy pen,

Nor did it occur to one of us there

To doubt they were kneeling then.

So fair a fancy few would weave

In these years! yet, I feel

If someone said on Christmas Eve,

"Come, see the oxen kneel,

In the lonely barton by yonder coomb

Our childhood used to know,"

I should go with him in the gloom,

Hoping it might be so.

(Thomas Hardy)

VIII. Narration

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

(Luke II:20)

IX. Pastoral

The shepherds sing; and shall I silent be?
My God, no hymn for thee?
My soul's a shepherd too: a flock it feeds
Of thoughts, and words, and deeds.
The pasture is Thy Word; the streams, Thy Grace
Enriching all the place.
Shepherd and flock shall sing, and all my powers
Out-sing the daylight hours.
Then we will chide the sun for letting night
Take up his place and right:
We sing one common Lord; wherefore he should
Himself the candle hold.
I will go searching, till I find a sun
Shall stay till we have done;
A willing shiner, that shall shine as gladly
As frost-nipt suns look sadly.
Then we will sing, and shine all our own day,
And one another pay;
His beams shall cheer my breast, and both so twine
Till even his beams sing, and my music shine.

(George Herbert)

X. Narration

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

(Luke II:19)

XI. Lullaby

Sweet was the song the Virgin sang,
When she to Bethlem Juda came
And was delivered of a son,
That blessed Jesus hath to name.
"Lulla, lulla, lulla-bye,
Sweet babe," sang she,
And rocked him sweetly on her knee.
"Sweet babe," sang she, "my son,
And eke a saviour born,
Who has vouchsafed from on high

To visit us that were forlorn:
Lalula, lalula, lalula-bye,
Sweet babe," sang she,
And rocked him sweetly on her knee.

(W. Ballet)

XII. Hymn

Bright portals of the sky, Embossed with sparkling stars,
Doors of eternity, With diamantine bars,
Your arras rich uphold, Loose all your bolts and springs,
Ope wide your leaves of gold, That in your roofs may come the King of Kings.
O well-spring of this All. Thy Father's image vive;
Word, that from naught did call What is, doth reason, live;
The soul's eternal food, Earth's joy, delight of heaven;
All truth, love, beauty, good: To thee, to thee be praises ever given!
O glory of the heaven! O sole delight of earth!
To thee all power be given, God's uncreated birth!
Of mankind lover true, Indearer of his wrong,
Who dost the world renew, Still be thou our salvation and our song!

(William Drummond)

XIII. Narration

Now when Jesus was born, behold, there came wise men from the east saying,
"Where is he that is born King? for we have seen his star in the east, and
are come to worship him." And they said unto them, "In Bethlehem."
When they had heard that, they departed; and lo! the star, which they saw
in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young
child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.
And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with
Mary his mother, and fell down and worshipped him; and when they had
opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankin-
cense, and myrrh.

(Matt. II:1,2, and 11)

XIV. The March of the Three Kings

From kingdoms of wisdom secret and far
come Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar;
they ride through time, they ride through night
led by the star's foretelling light.
Crowning the skies
the star of morning, star of dayspring calls,
lighting the stable and the broken walls
where the prince lies.
Gold from the veins of earth he brings,

red gold to crown the King of Kings.
Power and glory here behold
shut in a talisman of gold.
Frankincense from those dark hands
was gathered in eastern, sunrise lands,
incense to burn both night and day
to bear the prayers a priest will say.
Myrrh is a bitter gift for the dead,
Birth but begins the path you tread;
your way is short, your days foretold
by myrrh and frankincense and gold.
Return to kingdoms, secret and far,
Caspar, Melchior, Balthasar,
ride through the desert, retrace the night
leaving the star's imperial light.
Crowning the skies
the star of morning, star of dayspring calls:
clear on the hilltop its sharp radiance falls
lighting the stable and the broken walls
where the prince lies.

(Ursula Vaughan Williams)

XV. Choral

No sad thought his soul affright;
Sleep it is that maketh night;
Let no murmur nor rude wind
To his slumbers prove unkind;
But a quire of angels make
His dreams of heaven and let him wake
To as many joys as can
In this world befall a man.

Promise fills the sky with light,
Stars and angels dance in flight;
Joy of heaven shall now unbind
Chains of evil from mankind,
Love and joy their power shall break,
And for a new born prince's sake;
Never since the world began
Such a light such dark did span.

(Verse 1 - Anon. Verse 2 - Ursula Vaughan Williams)

XVI Epilogue

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. In Him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the

Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.
Emmanuel, God with us.
(Adapted from John I:1-14)
Ring out, ye crystal spheres
Once bless our human ears,
If ye have power to touch our senses so;
And let your silver chime
Move in melodious time,
And let the bass of heaven's deep organ blow;
And, with your ninefold harmony,
Make up full consort to the angelic symphony.

Such music (as 'tis said),
Before was never made,
But when of old the sons of morning sung,
While the Creator great
His constellations set,
And the well-ballanced world on hinges hung;
And cast the dark foundations deep,
And bid the weltering waves their oozy channel keep.
Yea, truth and justice then
Will down return to men,
Orbed in a rainbow; and, like glories wearing,
Mercy will sit between,
Throned in celestial sheen,
With radiant feet the tissued cloud down-steering;
And heaven, as at some festival,
Will open wide the gates of her high palace hall.

(from Hymn on the Morning of Christ's Nativity. Milton)

PERFORMERS

Soloists

Diane Clark, Soprano

David Morris, Tenor

James Williamson, Bass

C. Edward Sharp, Tenor

Lorin Wingate, Bass

Sopranos

Cindy Adams

Maria Allen

Cynthia Brown

Mary Bryan

Billie Canon

Diane Clark

Sandy Colbs

Carol Crumpacker

Alison Egger

Joyce Freeland

Bette Garner

Lauri Hurt

Judith Huse

Robin Leleitner

Kimberly Longmire

Dawn McGriff

Karen McGuire

Wanda McKee

Cindy Marchese

Melinda Mason

Sherry Moore

Diane Mount

Cheryl Oswald

Allison Pitcock

Dorothy Sanders

Elizabeth Smith

Lela Taylor

Ruth Taylor

Jane Van Deren

Diane Webb

Altos (continued)

Jan Bigham

Cindy Brown

Ann Canon

Laura Canon

Carol Chu

Leslie Drake

Julie Edrington

Pat Edwards

Deanne Ellison

Kate Fogelman

Midori Fujii

Patricia Gray

Mary Hill

Ginger Hopkins

Cathy Howe

Dawn Huff

Meg Hunter

Jenny Ingles

Jenny Jenson

Jean McPherson

Pat Mason

Martha Norton

Laura Potter

Christe Ray

Sidonie Sansom

Donna Schardt

Wayne Sharp

Hazel Skeen

Linda Somerville

Claire Tunnell

Karen Waller

Patsy Webb

Tenors (continued)

Clark Bickers

Tom Edomnson

John Held

David Jeter

Steve Kidwell

Abbe Ledbetter

Jimmy Mitchell

David Morris

Stuart Patton

Juan Pulido

Bill Ridley

Sandy Schaeffer

Malcolm Sharp

Allen Townsend

Jim Vogel

Basses

Rich Booth

Charles Clark

Mark Culler

Alan Curle

Buddy Eason

Harry Flowers

Robert Ford

Michael Fredman

Bill Galloway

Hal Keeton

David Landrum

Ben Leggett

Don Linke

Donley Matthew

Tom Merrill

Emory Miles

Robert Patterson

Ted de Villafranca

Jim Williamson

Lorin Wingate

Altos

Kim Alton

Leah Barr

Margaret Barr

Peggy Bartholomew

Cherryl Barton

Tenors

Steve Anderson

Holt Andrews

Mike Berton

MEMPHIS STATE CAMPUS SCHOOL

AND

EVERGREEN-VOLLENTINE CHILDREN'S CHORUSES

Kristen Ames
Teri Bartholomew
Toni Bartholomew
Dawn Branch
Heather Brasfield
Kim Brewer
Chanda Brooks
Jeff Brown
Alice Bumpus
Holli Burge
Colin Butler
Eric Byunn
Emily Crouse
Amy Cummings
Wendy Curtis
Shannon Dale
Julie DeBerry
Sandra Edwards
Danielle Eubanks
Jill Faudree
Ingrid Fitzpatrick
Paul Fleming
Cheryl Ford
Misty Garner
Rose Gervais
Karl Sen Gupta
Traci Hall
Melanie Hess
Melita Hicks
Courtney Hollar
Je'Lisa House
Tim Hutchison
Jennifer James
Dorothy Jones
Jessica Jones
Kim Levine

Daisy Lipscomb
Brenda Loggins
Tonya McKay
Bryan McHenry
Emily McHenry
Shannon McWilliams
Lori Moore
Kim Murley
Tracey Patterson
Chris Payne
Tim Price
Virginia Ralph
Michelle Robinson
Mary Lea Royer
Amy Scarleski
Katy Scarleski
Cindy Schroeder
Katy Seale
Graham Short
Stephanie Short
Georgette Singleton
Valerie Smau
Kim Stevens
Jann Tarnowski
Amy Tate
Charrolet Thomas
Charmin Thomas
Lalitha Vadlamani
Paul Van Middlesworth
Genene Walker
Rena Walton
Christin Wasicsko
Tammi Wasicsko
Tiffanie Winfrey
Jenny Wong

ORCHESTRA

Violin I

John Wehlan
 Carol Wherry
 Ann Spurbeck
 Roy Brewer
 Carolyn Jones

Flute

Beverly Elliotte
 Jean Elting
 Sandra Bland

Trombone

Chesley Henderson
 Jon Linsey
 Jim Dunham

Violin II

Beverly Hood
 Henry Klyce
 Darwin Bradam
 Fred Motz
 Jackie Walpole

Oboe

David Goza
 Raymond Lynch

Tuba

Russell Clements

Viola

Michelle Walker
 Kevin Jagoe
 Betty Eubank

English Horn

Phil Barnett

Timpani

John Jernigan

Cello

Charlotte Thompson
 Julie Hochman
 Barry Johnson
 Eve Fingerett

Clarinet

Ellen Duncan
 Mary Moore

Percussion

Jay Sharp
 Richard Steff

Bass

Larry Parker
 Frankie Barnett
 Ann Kingsolver
 Pack Matthews

Bassoon

Alvin Swiney
 David Pugh

Celeste

Martha McClean

Horn

Steve Jacobson
 Janet Kaller
 Carol Beck
 Elizabeth Thomas

Piano

Robert Eckert

Organ

David Ramsey

Trumpet

Hillary Bruch
 Steven Risher

Front Cover

"Advent Crosses," a woodblock designed by Laurie Wyckoff.

" H O D I E "

The Evergreen Chancel Choir is joined by the Southwestern Singers, members of Opera Memphis Meistersingers, members of the Evergreen Volland Children's Chorus, and the Children's Chorus from Memphis State University Campus School to present Ralph Vaughan Williams' "Hodie" (This Day). The choral ensembles have assumed the title Masterpiece Festival Chorus both for the sake of printing space and identity. Accompaniment is provided by the Southwestern Orchestra.

The music of Ralph Vaughan Williams has been well represented at Evergreen. His major choral work "Dona Nobis Pacem" was presented on two occasions, the first by the Southwestern Singers and the second by the Singers and the Evergreen Chancel Choir. The Singers have also sung his "Mass in G minor" for double chorus.

"Hodie" (This Day) is one of Vaughan Williams' most exciting compositions. It was written near the end of his life and is a beautiful example of the composer's skill in taking texts from many sources and making a cohesive whole. The texts come from the Bible, John Milton, George Herbert and other English poets. The portions from the Bible are primarily the Christmas narrative. The composer uses the children, quite appropriately, to sing this narrative. Then poetry is used as a comment upon or an illumination of the scripture.

The title, "Hodie" (This Day), comes from the Latin Introit for Christmas Day: Hodie Christus natus est: hodie salvator apparuit: Hodie in terra canunt angeli, laetantur archangeli: Hodie exultant justi, dicentes: gloria in excelsis Deo: Alleluia. This day is our Saviour born: This day on earth angels are singing, archangels rejoicing. This day just men rejoice saying, glory to God in the highest. Save for this opening section the remainder of the work is in English.