

NOEL! CHRISTMAS WITH THE CAMERATA

Scott Tucker, Artistic Director

Julie Huang Tucker, Associate Director

December 14, 2024 • St. Columba's Episcopal Church, Washington, DC

December 15, 2024 • The Church of the Epiphany, Washington, DC

The Word Was God Rosephanye Powell (b. 1962), arr. William Powell

Brightest and Best Trad. American, arr. Shawn Kirchner

Star of Wonder Terre Roche (b. 1953)

O Little Town of Bethlehem Lewis Redner (1831 - 1908)
arr. Dan Forrest

O Magnum Mysterium Jacob Handl (1550 - 1591)

Noel! Steven Sametz (b. 1954)

Noel Trad. Cornish, arr. Naomi LaViolette
Jon Fisher, soloist

Sing Noel! Trad. Cornish, arr. Alfred Sturgis

A Medieval Fa La La Trad. Welsh, arr. Reginal Wright

INTERMISSION

Ante Luciferum Jacob Handl, ed. James Gibb

O Love Elaine Hagenberg (b. 1979)

I Wonder as I Wander John Jacob Niles (1892 - 1980)
Tim Cashin, soloist arr. Fenno Heath Jr.

Go Tell it on the Mountain Trad. American, arr. Howard Helvey
Shea Murphy, soloist

Sing We Now of Christmas Trad. French, arr. Howard Helvey

Sleigh Ride Leroy Anderson (1908 - 1975)

TEXTS

The Word Was God

John 1:1-3

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made that have been made. Nothing was made, He has not made. All things were made by Him.

Brightest and Best

Reginald Herber, Southern Harmony

Hail the bless'd morn, see the great Mediator down from the region of glory descend! Shepherds, go worship the babe in the manger, lo, for his guard the bright angels attend.

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid. Star in the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining, low lies his bed with the beasts of the stall. Angels adore him in slumber reclining, Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

Shall we not yield him, in costly devotion, odours of Edom and off'rings divine, gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean, myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine?



Star of Wonder

Roche

Star of Wonder in the heavens, wonder what you want of me? Should I follow you tonight? Star of Wonder! I am just a lonely shepherd, watching from a distant hill. Why do you appear to me? Star of Wonder, if you will. In the morning they'll come looking for the shepherd on the hill. What would make her leave her flock, for surely she must love them still? Star of Wonder in the heavens, are you just a shining star or should I follow you tonight? Star of Wonder shining bright!

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Phillips Brooks

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 wondering love. O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth, and praises sing to God the King, and peace to all the earth.

How silently, how silently, the wond'rous 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.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray! Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell! O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!



O Magnum Mysterium

Latin Matins of Christmas

*O magnum mysterium et
admirabile sacramentum, ut
animalia viderent Dominum
natum, iacentem in praesepio.
Noe.*

O great mystery and wonderful sacrament, that animals should see the new-born Lord lying in a manger. Noel.

Noel!

Sametz, adapt. from a Medieval carol

Noel! Sing we Noel! Sing we both all and some, Noel! O, sing we Noel!
Out of your sleep awake, for God mankind now hath he take all of a
maiden without any make. Noel.

Noel

Traditional

The first Noel the angel 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: Noel, 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.

Sing Noel!

adapt. Sturgis

Sing Noel, Gloria in excelsis! Alleluia! Christ the Savior is born! The first
Noel the angels did say to the Shepherds in the fields where they lay.



A Medieval Fa La La

Thomas Oliphant

Deck the hall with boughs of holly. Fa la la... 'Tis the season to be jolly.
Fa la la... Don' we now our bright apparel. Fa la la...
Troll the ancient yuletide carol. Fa la la...

See the blazing yule before us. Fa la la... Strike the harp and join the
chorus. Fa la la... Follow me with merry measure. Fa la la...
While we tell of yuletide treasure. Fa la la...

Ante Luciferum

Antiphon for Epiphany

Ante Luciferum genitus, et ante
saecula Dominus, Salvator
noster hodie mundo apparuit.
Alleluja.

Born before the day star and
before the ages, the Lord our
Savior has appeared this day to
the world. Alleluia.

O Love

George Matheson

O Love, that will not let me go. O Love, I rest my weary soul in Thee; I
give thee back the life I owe, that in thy ocean depths its flow may
richer, fuller be.

O Joy, that seeks me through the pain. O Joy, I cannot close my heart to
thee; I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not
vain, that morn shall tearless be.



I Wonder as I Wander

Niles

I wonder as I wander out under the sky, how Jesus our saviour did come for to die. For poor orn'ry people like you and like I, I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, 'twas in a cow stall with wise men and farmers and shepherds and all, but high from God's heaven a star's light did fall, and the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus has wanted for any wee thing, a star in the sky, or a bird on the wing, or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing, he surely could have had it, 'cause he was the King.

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

Luke 2:8-20, Matthew 28:19

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.



Sing We Now of Christmas

Luke 2:8-20; Matthew 2:1-12
Noel Nouvelet

Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all noel. Of our Lord and Savior we the tidings tell. Sing we noel, for Christ the King is born. Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all noel.

Angels called to shepherds, "Leave your flocks at rest. Journey forth to Bethlehem, find the Child so blest." In Bethlehem they found him: Joseph and Mary mild, seated by the manger, watching the holy Child.

From the eastern country came the kinds afar, bearing gifts to Bethlehem, guided by a star. Glory to God, for Christ the King is born. Gold and myrrh they took there, gifts of greatest price; there was never a stable so like paradise.

Sleigh Ride

Mitchell Parish

Jingle, tingle. Just hear those sleigh bells jingling, ring ting tingling, too. Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you. Outside the snow is falling and friends are calling "Yoo hoo." Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you.

Giddyap, let's go, let's look at the show. We're riding in a wonderland of snow. Giddyap, it's grand just holding your hand. We're gliding along with a song of a wintery fairy land.

Our cheeks are nice and rosy, and comfy cozy are we; We're snuggled up together like two birds of a feather would be. Let's take that road before us and sing a chorus or two. Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you.

There's a birthday party at the home of Farmer Gray. It'll be the perfect ending of a perfect day. We'll be singing the song we love to sing without a single stop. At the fireplace while we watch the chestnuts pop! There's a happy feeling nothing in the world can buy, when they pass around the coffee and the pumpkin pie. It'll nearly be like a picture print by Currier and Ives. These wonderful things are the things we remember all through our lives.



MUSICIANS

Eva Cappelletti Chao, violin • Samuel Swift, cello
Jon Fisher, percussion • David Evans, percussion

Tenor 1

Joe Gordon
Jerry Haggin
Desmond Thompson
Matt Schwartz
Tim Cashin

Michael Greaney
Satoshi Tozaki
Pat Revord
Dwayne Pinkney

Tenor 2

Jon Fisher
Joe Kaz
Bob Harris
Nick Schacht
Jared Davis
Ian Coombs
Joel Miller

Bill Panici
Bill Hoffman
Howard Frost
John Mullan
Shea Murphy
Tim Zhang

Bass 1

Matt Sommers
Steve Gee
Kenyon Erickson
Stan Watters
Mike Crump
Peter Pfaffenroth
Doug Loescher
Keith Davis

Joe Drach
David Glass
Chuck Sethness
Nelson Smith
Steve Lockwood
Theo Voudouris
Anthony Laretto
Joshua Bates

Bass 2

Jerry Olszewski
David Evans
Dean Goeldner
Ben Rudolf
Chris Yim
Zach Seid

Gene Stromecki
Peter Scott
Brad Spencer
Michael Schrier
Doug McAllister
Charlie Cerf



Washington Men's Camerata is DC's premier chorus performing, promoting, and preserving diverse tenor and bass choral music and camaraderie since 1984. The Camerata has performed at The Kennedy Center, The White House, Smithsonian institutions, National Gallery of Art, Wolf Trap, Strathmore, and across the region; alongside National Symphony Orchestra, The U.S. Army Chorus, Washington Symphonic Brass, Mark Morris Dance Group, Symphony Orchestra of Northern Virginia, and on NPR, PBS, and SiriusXM. A 501(c)(3) organization, the Camerata has recorded six albums and regularly commissions and premieres pieces, part of a national lending library of sheet music, The Demetrius Project, with over 200,000 scores of 3,300 works.

SCOTT TUCKER

Artistic Director



Scott Tucker is Artistic Director of Washington Men's Camerata and Co-Artistic Director of the Washington Douglass Chorale. He has prepared choruses for many of the best-known orchestral conductors in the world including Marin Alsop, Gustavo Dudamel, Christoph Eschenbach, Joanne Falletta, Erich Leinsdorf, Yannick Nézet-Séguin, Gianandrea Nosedà and Michael Tilson-Thomas.



During his tenure as Artistic Director of The Choral Arts Society of Washington (2012-2022), he prepared the chorus for over two dozen appearances with the National Symphony Orchestra at the Kennedy Center. In 2018, a reviewer for the Washington Post described the Choral Arts role in Britten's *War Requiem* as "...the most moving choral singing I have heard in a quarter-century's residence in Washington."

Tucker also prepared Choral Arts for guest appearances with several other orchestras, including the Los Angeles Philharmonic, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Baltimore Symphony and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra featuring Wynton Marsalis. In addition to his collaborations with major symphony orchestras, Tucker took to the podium to conduct a wide range of choral-orchestral works including classics by such composers as Bach, Brahms and Verdi, as well as deserving lesser-known works such as Bacalov's *Misa Tango*, Schmitt's *Psalms 47*, and Geter's *An African American Requiem*. Soon after arriving at Choral Arts, Tucker founded the Choral Arts Chamber Singers and the Choral Arts Youth Choir, affording the organization the opportunity to increase its breadth of repertoire and its educational outreach. A fierce proponent of new music, Tucker has commissioned and/or premiered over 40 works from composers such as Carol Barnett, David Conte, Edie Hill, Libby Larsen, Bernard Rands, Jake Runestad, Steven Stucky, Augusta Read Thomas, Zachary Wadsworth and Chen Yi.

Tucker is Professor Emeritus at Cornell University where he was the first P.E. Browning Director of Choral Music. His choirs collaborated with such acclaimed artists as Peter Schreier and Anonymous 4. They toured regularly through the country and overseas, and were featured at American Choral Directors Association Regional and National conferences. Radio appearances include WGBH's Front Row Boston, and NPR's *A Prairie Home Companion*. scottatucker.net



JULIE HUANG TUCKER

Associate Director



Julie Huang Tucker is music director at First Presbyterian Church of Arlington. As an organist, she has performed with the NSO, National Philharmonic, Choral Arts, and Washington Chorus at the Kennedy Center, Strathmore, and National Cathedral. She also shares her love of classical music as a host on WETA 90.9 FM. She holds degrees from Cornell University, the University of Oklahoma, and is pursuing a DMA in choral conducting at the University of Maryland.



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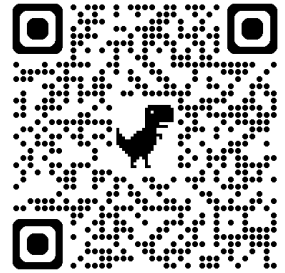
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Washington Men's Camerata enters its 40th year aiming to strengthen the DMV area's deep choral roots with unique performances, expanded education initiatives, and fresh artistic vision. Scott Tucker's vision for the Camerata is guided by two goals: nurturing a culture of continuous improvement and expanding its footprint. Please consider a tax-deductible donation to The Washington Men's Camerata, Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. EIN 52-1362711. Scan to give at [camerata.com/donate](https://www.camerata.com/donate)
Thanks so much for your crucial support!



OPEN HOUSE & AUDITIONS

Please join us on a Wednesday at 7:00pm in Georgetown before one of the following rehearsals to meet and sing for the director. You're encouraged to stay to meet members and watch as much of rehearsal as you'd like, 7:30-10pm. Enjoy a complimentary snack and mingling during break around 9pm.

March 19, 2025 • May 28, 2025

St. John's Episcopal Church • 3240 O St NW, Washington, DC 20007

You'll be asked to sing scales to determine your range, plus vocal and listening exercises to assess your agility, tuning, and memory. Please prepare a solo of your choosing, which may be sung a cappella or with accompaniment. Scan to sign up at camerata.com/audition



UPCOMING CONCERTS

Pardon Our French

Join a captivating evening of French music, complemented by compositions from students of the legendary Nadia Boulanger. Delight in the evocative beauty and exquisite craftsmanship found in the music of French masters such as Gabriel Fauré and Francis Poulenc alongside the innovative spirit of Boulanger's students, including Aaron Copland and Elliott Carter. Featuring the Young Men's Ensemble of Children's Chorus of Washington.

Saturday, March 22, 2025 at 8pm

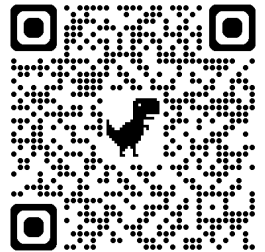
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945 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20001

Seasons

Hear a tapestry of emotions in this musical journey through the changing tides of time and stages of love and life. Explore the unique beauty of each season; from the blossoming melodies of spring to the warm harmonies of summer; from the reflective tones of autumn to the crystalline notes of winter. Join us on this musical exploration of the only constant: change.

Saturday, May 31, 2025 at 8pm

First Congregational UCC / Live! at 10th & G
945 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20001



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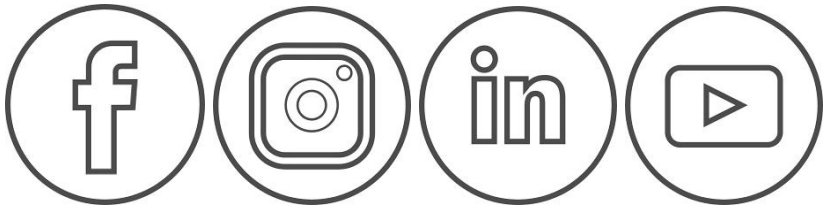


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