

Handel's
MESSIAH



Photo by Alexi Fife Photography

**SOLANO CHAMBER SOCIETY
CHORUS & ORCHESTRA**

Jay Trotter, Director

Sunday, December 2, 2018

St. Mary's Catholic Church, Vacaville, California

Sunday, December 9, 2018

Temple Hill Auditorium, The Church of Jesus Christ
of Latter-day Saints, Oakland, California

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

Messiah is the greatest oratorio ever written. Huge in scale, sublime in concept, unflinching in its eloquence, it remains one of man's most grandiose conceptions. Only an inspired man could have produced it, let alone in the incredibly short period of twenty-four days.

Detailed accounts of its writing reveal that Handel was such an inspired man. From the moment he started working on *Messiah* he was under an uninterrupted spell, in a kind of trance. He did not leave his house; he allowed no visitors to disturb him. The food that was brought to him was usually left untouched, and when he did eat something, he would munch on a piece of bread without stopping his work. He also did without sleep. When his domestics tried to get him to rest or eat he would answer them ill-tempered and sometimes even with incoherent retorts—his eyes blazing with a wild fury—so that they sometimes thought he was losing his mind. "Day and night he kept hard at his task, living wholly in the realm where rhythm and tone reigned supreme. As the work neared an end, he was increasingly inspired, increasingly tortured by the fury of inspiration. He had become a captive of himself, a prisoner within the four walls of his study; he strummed on the harpsichord; he sang; then sitting at his work table he worked and worked until his fingers gave out. Never had he experienced such a frenzy of creation, never before had he so lived and fought with music."

Never a religious man in the same sense as Bach, Handel became a God-intoxicated man while writing *Messiah*. When he completed the "Hallelujah Chorus" he exclaimed to his servant, "I did think I did see all Heaven before me, and the great God himself." Again and again his servants found him in tears as he put to paper an awesome phrase or a devout passage. And then, after the last monumental "Amen" had been written, he confided simply to a physician, "I think God has visited me." The exaltation with which *Messiah* was created is found on every page of the score.

Messiah is in three parts. The first contains the prophecy of the coming of the Messiah. This is followed by the sufferings and death of Christ. The concluding section deals with the resurrection. To the text provided by his friend Charles Tannens, adapted from the Scriptures (there are some inclined to believe that Tannens's secretary, Pooley, actually wrote it), Handel wrote 50 musical numbers. Recitatives, arias, and chorales concerned themselves with the emotion rather than the dramatic implications of the words, providing such a variety of feeling—from compassion and pathos to serenity, spirituality, and ecstatic joy—that there is never a faltering of pace or lack of contrast.

Over Handel's grave stands a statue by Roubiliac which portrays Handel in front of his working table. On the table are his quills and the score of *Messiah* opened at the passage: "I know that my Redeemer liveth."

Rehearsal Accompanists – Rica Van Katwyk,
Jennifer Hobbs, Denise Plaskett, Bobbie Textor

Section Leaders – Janette Beverley, Alexi Cox,
Jim Dorigatti, Mary Julia McKean, Steve Ohlin, Bobbie Textor

SOPRANO

Elizabeth Anderson	Helen Dawson	Victoria Lorz	Jessica Simon
Emily Bennett	Suzanne du Par	Connie Miller	Antoinette Temple
Janette Beverley	Kathleen Glenn	Lori Nelson	Dana Thompson
Kim Bosler	Elizabeth Gray	Linda Pedersen	Marilynn Ugalde
Sherry Carlson	Kenna Jones	Cynthia Pfaff	Stacy Vahanian
Lupita Clanton	Kyla Jones	Cynthia Reed	Lynda Valerio
Heidi Clark	Karyssa Landes	Tanya Schofield	Gayla Wilson
Ariela Cruz	Kimberly Landes	Kris Simon	Lauren Wright

ALTO

Florinda Adriano	Nichole Katschke	Denise Plaskett	Sara Smith
Barbara Boyd	Sage Katschke	Jill Retherford	Liza Thomford
Alexi Cox	Julie Lewis	Tasha Retherford	Irene Thomsen
Peggy Dorigatti	Andrea McDermott	Carol Robinson	Becky Trottier
Judi Dues	Jennifer McDermott	Cyndy Schlant	Katelyn Trottier
Michelle Eaton	Mary Julia McKean	Fereby Schlosser	Katie Whalen
Jeannie Foster	Lori Pedersen	Elizabeth Shrum	Susan Whalen
Linda Hansen	Kathleen Perez	Heather Shrum	Julie Wright

TENOR

Stephen Anderson	Robert Dellenbach	Peter Kessel	Carol Stubbendorff
Ed Benning	Tom Glenn	Steve Ohlin	Bobbie Textor
Eliza Bonner	Marty Hansen	Matthew Reed	Robert Thomsen
Raquel Cruz	Amy Hawkins	Tyler Reed	Craig Wilson
Jim Daily	Jennifer Hobbs	Jacob Ricketts	

BASS

Craig Anderson	Jim Dorigatti	Steve Laren	Gary Plaskett
Sean Belamide	Mike Fotheringham	Tim Lorz	Keith Reed
Bruce Bosler	Don Gray	Joseph McDermott	Kai Wang
Tyler Bosler	Lance Hawkes	Jeff Nelson	Quinn Weaver
Morgan Cox	Ron Hawkins	Jim Ogden	

PROGRAM

PART ONE

No. 1 OVERTURE

No. 2, 3	RECITATIVE FOR TENOR, AIR FOR TENOR	Quinn Weaver (2)
	<i>Comfort Ye My People</i>	Steve Ohlin (9)
	<i>Every Valley Shall Be Exalted</i>	

No. 4 CHORUS *And The Glory Of The Lord*

No. 5, 6	RECITATIVE FOR BASS, AIR FOR BASS	Gene Wright (2)
	<i>Thus Saith The Lord</i>	Steve Ohlin (9)
	<i>But Who May Abide The Day Of His Coming?</i>	

No. 7 CHORUS *And He Shall Purify*

No. 8, 9	RECITATIVE FOR ALTO, AIR FOR ALTO	Cynthia Reed (2)
	<i>Behold! A Virgin Shall Conceive</i>	Stacy Vahanian (9)
	<i>Oh Thou That Tellest Good Tidings To Zion</i>	

No. 10, 11	RECITATIVE FOR BASS, AIR FOR BASS	Gene Wright (2)
	<i>For Behold, Darkness Shall Cover The Earth</i>	Steve Ohlin (9)
	<i>The People That Walked In Darkness</i>	

No. 12 CHORUS *For Unto Us A Child Is Born*

No. 13 PASTORAL SYMPHONY

No. 14, 15 16	RECITATIVES FOR SOPRANO	Kyla Jones (2 & 9)
	<i>There Were Shepherds Abiding In The Field</i>	
	<i>And The Angel Said Unto Them</i>	
	<i>And Suddenly There Was With The Angel</i>	

No. 17 CHORUS *Glory To God*

No. 18	AIR FOR SOPRANO	Natasha Kung (2)
	<i>Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter Of Zion!</i>	Rachel Grider (9)

No. 19	RECITATIVE FOR ALTO	Elizabeth Anderson (2)
	<i>Then Shall The Eyes Of The Blind Be Opened</i>	Lissa Werson (9)

No. 20 AIR FOR ALTO & SOPRANO Elizabeth Anderson & Natasha Kung (2)
He Shall Feed His Flock Like A Shepherd Lissa Werson & Rachel Grider (9)
Come Unto Him

No. 21 CHORUS *His Yoke Is Easy, And His Burthen Is Light*

INTERMISSION

PART TWO

No. 22 CHORUS *Behold The Lamb Of God*

No. 23 AIR FOR ALTO Lissa Werson (9)
He Was Despised

No. 24 CHORUS *Surely He Hath Borne Our Grievs*

No. 25 CHORUS *And With His Stripes We Are Healed*

No. 26 CHORUS *All We Like Sheep Have Gone Astray*

No. 33 CHORUS *Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates*

No. 38. AIR FOR SOPRANO Makenna Jones (2 & 9)
How Beautiful Are The Feet Of Them

No. 44 CHORUS *Hallelujah!*

PART THREE

No. 45 AIR FOR SOPRANO Kim Bosler (2 & 9)
I Know That My Redeemer Liveth

No. 46 CHORUS *Since By Man Came Death*

No. 47, 48 RECITATIVE FOR BASS, AIR FOR BASS Craig Anderson (2 & 9)
Behold, I Tell You A Mystery
The Trumpet Shall Sound
TRUMPET SOLO Scott Miller (2 & 9)

No. 53 CHORUS *Worthy Is The Lamb That Was Slain*
AMEN

CONDUCTOR

JAY TROTTER

Jay began directing *Messiah* in the Fairfield and Vacaville communities 30 years ago and more recently in Oakland as well. He believes it is the perfect beginning to the Christmas season focusing our attention on the Savior – His birth, His ministry, His atonement, His resurrection. What a treat for all of us to be reminded of His mission as we breathe in the essence of Handel's greatest oratorio, *Messiah*!

GUEST CONDUCTOR

MARY JULIA MCKEAN

New to the area, Mary Julia has dazzled audiences with her string expertise (violin & viola) as well as her baton. She is currently a member of the Temple Hill Symphony Orchestra in Oakland, having guest conducted in a recent "American Classics" concert. She is married to Alex McKean and has two children – Douglas, three, and Teddy, four.

SOLOISTS

QUINN WEAVER (Tenor)

Nineteen-year-old Quinlan Jared Weaver has enjoyed a notable musical career accumulating numerous local, county, and state recognitions by playing trombone, bass trombone and tuba as well as singing in a vocal jazz ensemble with Rodriguez High School and Sierra College. He is currently studying music and voice at Solano and Sierra Colleges. This is his first solo performance with *Messiah*.

STEVE OHLIN (Tenor/Bass)

Steve loves to celebrate the season each year by singing the *Messiah*. He is an engineering supervisor at a biotech company doing research and development of treatments for rare medical disorders. Wishing everyone a blessed Christmas.

GENE WRIGHT (Bass)

After 35 years as a child psychiatrist, Gene retired to reinvent himself as a singer. Since 2014 he has performed Handel's *Messiah* many times in Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Oakland and Fairfield. He also enjoys performing in operas, musicals and other oratorios. This year, he returned to his choral roots and is the newest member of *Cantiamo Seronoma*.

CYNTHIA REED (Alto)

The music of *Messiah* has been the overture to the Christmas season for the Reed family for the past several years. This will be the first time that Cynthia has shared her testimony with a *Messiah* solo. It is a humbling honor to sing praises and delight in the words of Isaiah in this new way.

STACY VAHANIAN (Alto)

After taking a long break from singing with this choir, Stacy is thrilled to be back. She has performed with other choirs and with the Sacramento Symphony. She hopes that Handel's *Messiah* will bring the true Christmas spirit of remembering that He is the reason for the season.

KYLA JONES (Soprano)

Kyla is thirteen years old and attends Green Valley Middle School in Fairfield. Her favorite animal is a unicorn. She really enjoys singing, acting, playing instruments and playing sports.

NATASHA KUNG (Soprano)

Lyric-coloratura soprano Natasha Wanyi Kung has an international career having performed solo recitals in Baltimore, Twin Cities, San Francisco, Taipei, and Chongqing. In addition, she has played the principal roles in numerous operas with opera director Roger Brunet describing her as "An emerging star... a Soprano who has unique voice...". She returns to *Messiah* this year after performing with the Solano Chamber Society in 2017.

RACHEL GRIDER (Soprano)

Rachel Grider is from Modesto, CA. She graduated from California State University Stanislaus in June of 2011 with a BM degree in Vocal Performance and Composition, and from Peabody Conservatory in 2013 with MM degrees in Voice Performance and Music Theory Pedagogy. She is currently teaching voice lessons in Modesto and performing freelance. She is working on expanding her career as a performer of oratorio and song.

ELIZABETH ANDERSON (Alto)

Elizabeth "Lizzie" Anderson is a sophomore at Angelo Rodriguez High School. She has 4 brothers and loves to sing around the house, especially with her father, Craig Anderson. She plays competitive travel soccer, as well as water polo and running track for her school. She is very excited to be performing a solo in *Messiah* after singing in the chorus for several years.

LISSA WERSON (Alto)

Lissa Werson is honored to return to Oakland following a long hiatus. She established herself as a regular *Messiah* soloist here in 1995 under the direction of Doyle West whose training enhanced her love for classical works. She has performed numerous roles in musical theater and also enjoys producing and directing as well as graphic design. She currently serves as publicist and producer of the *Days of Christmas* on Temple Hill.

MAKENNA JONES (Soprano)

Makenna is a sophomore at Rodriguez High School. She has always loved music, singing, and playing instruments. She has never had the opportunity to sing *Messiah* before and is thrilled to be performing this year.

KIM BOSLER (Soprano)

Married to Bruce Bosler and mother of six children, musically gifted Kim Bosler currently is the choral director at Cooper Elementary School sharing her love for music with a choir of 140 kids. It is an honor for her to sing one of the sweetest and most powerful songs ever written, "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth". This will be her 27th season singing in Handel's *Messiah*.

CRAIG ANDERSON (Bass)

Although adept at musical theatre as well as other musical genres, Craig receives the most joy and satisfaction singing spiritual music. He fervently prays that he may honor and give glory to his Father in Heaven through use of His gift of song.

This year's performance is lovingly dedicated to Dorris Lovrin,
(September 27, 1929 – December 26, 2017)
who supported *Messiah* as a singer, audience member and
donor for over 30 years... We love and miss you, Dorris!

DONATIONS

Dr. Bruce & Kim Bosler, DDS
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
Saints, Fairfield, CA Stake
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
Saints, Vacaville, CA Stake
Richard & Helen Dawson

Dr. Craig Gillespie, MD
Dr. Scott Hicken, DDS
Messiah Chorus Members
Messiah Orchestra Members
Raymond Simonds & Associates
Danny & Lonnie Wells

ORCHESTRA

VIOLIN I – Cybele D’Ambrosio**, Debbie Dittmer, Pam Bouey, Gerald Haas, Marsali Hancock, Spencer Larsen, Doug Morrison, Michele Waltz

VIOLIN II – Sue MacDonald*, Sherri Wall, Trevor Barrus, Tiffani Mix

VIOLA –Elizabeth Hare*, Mary Julia McKean, Adele Mitchell, Lanna Patterson

CELLO –Eric Anderson, Ted Kolda, Kristina Hendricks Schlechter

FLUTE – Cyndi Chancellor*, Shay Nelson*

OBOE – Eric Hagen*, Barbara Hodgkinson

CLARINET – John Phillips*, Patty Phillips, Kathy Vork

BASSOON – Michael Stern*, Windy Tirados

FRENCH HORN – Kathryn Crandell*, Sally Johnson

TRUMPET – Scott Miller

TROMBONE – Dave Downer*, Deven Halcomb, Jenna Brace

TIMPANI – Ralph Granich

** Concertmistress

* Principal

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Performance Facility	St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Vacaville Father Blaise Berg, Tina Benedict Temple Hill Auditorium, Oakland Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,
Chorus Rehearsal Facility	
Vacaville	
Publicity	Fairfield <i>Daily Republic</i> , Vacaville <i>Reporter</i> , <i>Your Town Monthly</i> , Vacaville <i>Magazine</i>
Flyer Design	Rob Dellenbach, Alexi Cox
Flyer Distribution	Peter Kessel, Chorus
Operations	Keith & Cynthia Reed Family, Chorus
Riser Transportation	Marty Hansen, Chorus

“...for ever and ever, for ever and ever... AMEN!”