

Coventry Philharmonic Choir Christmas Concert
14 December 2019
King Henry VIII School Hall Coventry
Programme & Carol Sheet

CHOIR
CHOIR

Rachmaninov Hail Virgin Mary
Away in a manger

ALL

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.

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.

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.

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.

And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love.

For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in
heav'n above.

And he leads his children on to the place where
he is gone.

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;

Where like stars his children crowned
all in white shall wait around.

CHOIR

Handel Messiah Part 1

And the Glory of the Lord.

Thus Saith the Lord

But who may abide

And he shall purify

Behold a virgin shall conceive / **O thou that
tellest**

For behold / The people that walked in darkness

For unto us a child is born

Pastoral Symphony / There were shepherds,
praising God and saying

Glory to God

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened

He shall feed his flock

His yoke is easy

Jane Pudsey Soprano

Margaret Parker Alto

Robin Jeffries Bass

INTERVAL

ALL

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.

God of God, light of light

Low he abhors not the Virgin's womb.

Very God begotten, not created

See how the shepherds, summoned to his cradle,

Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear.

We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps

Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,

Sing all ye citizens of heaven above.

Give to our Father glory in the Highest

CHOIR

Carol of the bells

CHOIR

Coventry Carol

ALL

The first Noël, 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

Noël, Noël, Noël, Noël
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

And by the light of that same star
 Three Wise men came from country far
 To seek for a King was their intent
 And to follow the star wherever it went

Then entered in those Wise men three
 Full reverently upon their knee
 And offered there in His presence
 Their gold and myrrh and frankincense

Then let us all with one accord
 Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
 That hath made heaven and earth of nought,
 And with his blood mankind hath bought:

CHOIR *Tchaikovsky* The Crown of Roses
 (Legend)

CHOIR *Rutter* Candlelight Carol
CHOIR Ding dong merrily on high

ALL

God rest ye merry, gentlemen Let nothing you
 dismay
 For Jesus Christ, our Saviour Was born on
 Christmas day
 To save us all from Satan's power When we were
 gone astray

O tidings of comfort and joy,
Comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our Heavenly Father A blessed Angel
 came;
 And unto certain Shepherds Brought tidings of
 the same:
 How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God
 by Name.

The shepherds at those tidings Rejoiced much in
 mind,
 And left their flocks a-feeding In tempest, storm
 and wind:

And went to Bethlehem straightway The Son of
 God to find.

But when to Bethlehem they came, Whereat this
 infant lay,
 They found Him in a manger, Where oxen feed on
 hay;
 His Mother Mary kneeling, Unto the Lord did pray:

Now to the Lord sing praises, All you within this
 place,
 And with true love and brotherhood Each other
 now embrace;
 This holy tide of Christmas All other doth deface

CHOIR Infant Holy
CHOIR Torches
CHOIR Deck the hall

ALL

Hark the herald angels sing "Glory to the newborn
 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
 newborn King!"**

Christ by highest heav'n 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

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
 Hail the Son of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all He brings Ris'n 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
 newborn King!"

Steven Russell Choir Director
Charles Matthews Organ