



THE DUTCH FORK CHORAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

MESSIAH

PART I, LIFT UP YOUR HEADS AND HALLELUJAH

by George Frideric Handel

SUZANNE RINGER
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

WILLIAM DOUGLAS, ACCOMPANIST
WITH GUEST SOLOISTS AND ORCHESTRA

FRIDAY | DECEMBER 1, 2017 | 7:00 PM
St. Mary's Episcopal Church
170 St. Andrews Rd, Columbia, SC 29210



About Us...

Established in 2001, the Dutch Fork Choral Society is a non-profit all volunteer community choral ensemble with a passion for sharing the gift of music. Through participation, members have the opportunity to preserve and advance the art of choral singing, in addition to developing their talents by performing a varied and challenging repertoire, both sacred and secular. From Broadway and Negro spirituals to major works by Handel and John Rutter to American Folk and today's popular music, this ensemble strives to bring diversity to its audiences.

Currently the Society performs two formal programs each year and a mid-winter fundraiser. Rehearsals begin in January for the spring season and in August for the fall/winter season. New members are welcome. Membership dues are \$60 per year. If you are interested in singing in the Dutch Fork Choral Society, call Jim Buck at 803.318.0488 or e-mail at info@dutchforkchoralsociety.com.

And, as the Society does not charge admission to its formal concerts, donations and sponsorships are gratefully accepted at the door or may be mailed to

DFCS, P.O. Box 223, Chapin, SC 29036

Also visit our website at www.dutchforkchoralsociety.com.

MESSIAH

by George Frideric Handel

PART ONE

Sinfonia

Overture

Orchestra

Recitative

Comfort Ye My People

Ryan Matthew Headley, tenor

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her inquiry is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness. Prepare ye the way of the Lord. Make straight in the desert a highway for our God. (Isaiah 40:1-3)

Air

Ev'ry Valley Shall Be Exalted

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight and the rough places plain. (Isaiah 40:4)

Chorus

And The Glory of the Lord

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it. (Isaiah 40:5)

Recitative

Thus Saith the Lord

Ramelle Brooks, bass-baritone

Thus saith the Lord, the Lord of Hosts: Yet once a little while and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come. (Haggai 2:6-7)
The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the Covenant, whom ye delight in; behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts. (Malachi 3:2)

Air

But Who May Abide the Day of His Coming

But who may abide the day of His coming, and who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner's fire. (Malachi 3:2)

Chorus

And He Shall Purify

And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. (Malachi 3:3)

Recitative

Behold, A Virgin Shall Conceive

Julia Woodward, mezzo-soprano

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call his name Emmanuel, God with us. (Isaiah 7:14)

Air and Chorus

O Thou That Tellest Good Tidings to Zion

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain: O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, Behold you God! Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. (Isaiah 40:9)

Recitative

For Behold Darkness Shall Cover the Earth

Ramelle Brooks, bass-

baritone For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise

upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to Thy light, and kings to the brightness of Thy rising. (Isaiah 60: 2-3)

Air ***The People That Walked In Darkness***

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light, and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

(Isaiah 9: 2)

Chorus ***For Unto Us A Child Is Born***

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

(Isaiah 9:5)

Pifa ***Pastoral Symphony*** Orchestra

Recitative ***There Were Shepherds Abiding in the Field*** Lauren Tomme, soprano

There were 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. (Luke 2:8-9)

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 Savior, which is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:10-11)

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying (Luke 2:13)

Chorus ***Glory to God***

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men. (Luke 2:14)

Air ***Rejoice Greatly, O Daughter of Zion*** Lauren Tomme, soprano

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion; Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: behold, thy King cometh unto thee!

He is the righteous Savior... and He shall speak peace unto the heathen. (Zechariah 9: 9)

Recitative ***Then Shall The Eyes of The Blind*** Julia Woodward, mezzo-soprano

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing. (Isaiah 35:5-6)

Air ***He Shall Feed His Flock***

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd; and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young. (Isaiah 40:11)

Air ***Come Unto Him*** Lauren Tomme, soprano

Come unto Him, all ye that labor, come unto Him that are heavy laden, and He will give you rest. Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him, for He is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

(Matthew 11:28-29)

Chorus ***His Yoke Is Easy***

His yoke is easy, and his burthen is light. (Matthew 11:30)

PART TWO

Chorus

Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates

Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in? Who is the King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle...Who is the King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory. (Matthew 11: 28-29)

*Chorus

Hallelujah

Hallelujah... for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth...and He shall reign forever and ever...King of Kings and Lord of Lord...the kingdoms of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ: And He Shall reign forever and ever... Hallelujah! (Revelations 26:6, 15-16)

MESSIAH by G.F. Handel

The composer of the most famous oratorio ever composed almost missed his date with destiny. Handel was born in Halle, Germany, but settled in England in 1711. He became a naturalized British subject in 1726. In 1741, Charles Jennens, a great admirer and sometimes collaborator of Handel, presented him with a libretto based Old and New Testament passages from the King James version of the Bible. The libretto inspired Handel. Handel worked from August 22 to September 14, 1741, he composed what would become his most beloved and inspired work.

An oratorio means "oratory by music." While sharing the drama and story-telling nature of an opera, oratorios were performed without sets or costumes. During Handel's time, Bibles were too expensive for most people to own one; illiteracy also was a barrier. The oratorio genre originated as an accessible way to educate people in significant portions of the Bible. It is thought that of all of the Messiah performances Handel led (and he did so on some three dozen occasions, always at Easter time), he gave the earned money to charity.

Messiah is divided into three sections. Part I recounts the foretelling of the Messiah by the prophets, and his eventual Nativity. Part II deals with Christ's suffering and death. The concluding section offers an affirmation of Christian faith and glimpses of Revelation. The famous "Hallelujah" chorus brings Part II to a close with triumphant joy. The tradition of the audience standing for the latter back to 1743 when King George II stood to express his admiration for the work, prompting the audience to follow his lead.

ARTIST

Lauren Tomme, soprano, holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education from The Florida State University in 2015. During her time at Florida State, Ms. Tomme was involved in the opera program where she performed as Jennie Hildebrandt in the Kurt Weill's Street Scene. Shortly after graduation, Ms. Tomme moved to Orlando and began teaching Elementary in the fall of 2015. In addition to her classroom teaching experience, Lauren has also received extensive training in vocal pedagogy and performance. During her two years teaching, Ms. Tomme continued her private voice study with Dr. Jamison Walker at Stetson University in Deland, FL. Lauren Tomme now resides in Columbia, SC with her husband, Haakon, and her dog, Daisy. She is currently a student of Janet Hopkins and pursuing a Master's degree in Vocal Performance at the University of South Carolina.

Julia Woodward, mezzo-soprano, is a native of Charleston, Julia Woodward, attained her Bachelors of Music in Vocal Performance from Furman University and is currently perusing her Masters of Music in Vocal Performance at the University of South Carolina. As a featured soloist, Julia has performed with the Piccolo Spoleto festival in Charleston, SC, the Furman Lyric Opera, and the Franco American Vocal Academy in Austria. In the coming months, Julia will be highlighted as a Street Performer in the South Carolina premier of

the Bernstein Mass with Opera at USC. Julia is currently a student of former Metropolitan Opera singer Janet Hopkins.

Ryan Matthew Headley, tenor, received a Bachelor of Music from Furman University in Greenville, SC. Mr. Headley also studied at the University of South Carolina. Mr. Headley is on the staff at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Columbia, SC, where he sings three weekly choral services with the Cathedral Choir of Men & Boys, Cathedral Choir of Men & Girls, and Cathedral Choir of Adults. Ryan has a particular affinity for Renaissance and Baroque music, as well as for Anglican Church music of the 20th Century.

Ramelle Brooks, bass-baritone, holds a Master of Music in Performance from the University of South Carolina and is a Music Education (Voice K-12 specialization) graduate of Fayetteville State University. He served as the choral director at West Hoke Middle School in Raeford, N.C., later matriculating to the Ezekiel Ezra Smith High School in Fayetteville, NC where he served in the same role. After serving his native community, Ramelle decided to answer the call for higher education and is currently pursuing a Doctorate of Musical Arts in Voice at the University of South Carolina in Columbia. Supplementing his academic experience he serves as Director of Music at Second Calvary Baptist Church in Columbia, S.C. Ramelle has sung leading or supporting roles in several operas and musicals including Smokey Joe's Café, H.M.S. Pinafore, Porgy and Bess, The Elixir of Love, The Gospel According to Les Misérables, The Carousel, and Moses: How She Lead Her People to Freedom. He holds membership in the National Association of Music Educators, The College Music Society, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

William Douglas, accompanist, is currently in his studies for a master's degree in Organ performance from the University of South Carolina where he studies with Dr. Jared Johnson (Canon Organist/Choirmaster of Trinity Cathedral in Columbia, SC). William also serves as the Music Associate & Organist at Shandon United Methodist Church in Columbia, SC, and the accompanist for the Dutch Fork Choral Society in Chapin. William recently graduated from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor's of Music Degree in Organ Performance. His primary teachers included Dr. Jared Johnson and Ken Miller (Instructor of Church Music and Chapel Organist/Choirmaster for the School of Theology at Sewanee in Tennessee) for organ and Dr. Jerry Curry (Professor Emeritus of Music Theory and Harpsichord at the USC School of Music) for Harpsichord.

Suzanne Ringer, artistic director, serves as a Chaplain and Music Specialist for All Seasons Hospice, and as the Director of Music at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Chapin, SC. Prior to this, she was the Director of Music Ministries at Union United Methodist Church where she served for 20+ year Mrs. Ringer has conducted many noted works such as Brahm's Requiem, Rutter's Gloria, Vivaldi's Gloria, Handel's Messiah, and more. In 2006, the Union United Methodist Chancel Choir traveled to Austria and the Czech Republic to participate in performing the Mozart Requiem with USC Concert Choir as well as performing at St. Stephen's Cathedral in Vienna, Austria and the St. Nicolas Church in Prague. Mrs. Ringer holds a Masters of Church Music from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, in Louisville, Kentucky, where she studied conducting with John Dickson, and piano with Maurice Hinson. She completed her Bachelors of Music at Wingate University, and has studied conducting with Dr. Larry Wyatt at the University of South Carolina.

**A very special Thank You to St. Mary's Episcopal Church and Rev. Jill Beimdiek
for rehearsal and concert space.**

**Also to Chapin United Methodist Church for rehearsal space, and to Shandon
UMC for use of their harpsichord!**

Dutch Fork Choral Society

Sopranos

Fontaine McNamara
Kay Brown
Jan Buck
Beth Churchill
Lib Derrick
Rosemary Frick
Whitney Kibler
Shari Johnson
Terri Leszczyszyn
Joan Marco
Deborah Mencarelli
Karen Schacht Moore
Amy Moseley
Martha Richardson
Andrea Stefaniak
Frieda Todd
Mary Wessinger
Gloria Ziemer

Altos

Elaine Abercrombie
Susan Cirulli
Mary K. Elsasser
Carol Funk
Tracey Hagerty
Linda Lockwood
Sherry Luzar
Dot Blaney
Michele Mahon
Elizabeth Ancome
Lil Mood
Debra Murphy
Janice Tholstrup

Tenor

Patricia Butler
Tom Blaney
Alan Hale
Stephen Leszczyszyn
Chris Osier
Jim Ringer
Joey Tucker

Bass

Rick Abercrombie
Jim Buck
Leo Cardosi
Marion Frick
Ed Henkler
Jim Lindler
Gary Marco
Jack Parrish
Robert White

UPCOMING CONCERTS BY THE DUTCH FORK CHORAL SOCIETY

DFCS Annual Fund Raiser Concert/ Dessert

LOVE ♥

Friday, February 23, 2018

7:00 pm

Saluda Shoals River Center

*Tickets: Contact Jim Buck (803) 318- 0488
or Members of DFCS

Dutch Fork Choral Society and Mid- Carolina High Honors Choir

MODERN COMPOSERS

Thursday, April 26, 2018

7:00 pm

Chapin United Methodist Church
Free Concert: Donations accepted



Dutch Fork Choral Society

Formed in 2001, we are a community choir serving the Irmo/Chapin area. Our mission is to share, preserve, and advance the art of choral singing while developing the talents of our members by performing a varied and challenging repertoire.

You can help us achieve our goal through your gift. Your contribution is tax deductible. We thank our sponsors in our fall and spring concert programs.

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Great News for all THRIVENT FINANCIAL members and the DUTCH FORK CHORAL SOCIETY!

The Dutch Fork Choral Society has been added to the approved list of charities qualified to participate in the "Thrivent Choice" charitable grant program!

"Thrivent Choice" provides an opportunity for Thrivent members to donate "choice" dollars to any approved 501(c)3 charity. ***Please remember the Dutch Fork Choral Society when you have "choice" dollars available.***

We are extremely grateful for this new relationship with Thrivent Financial and look forward to participating in their grant program!



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Thank You!

The success of the Dutch Fork Choral Society is due in part to the generous support of local businesses and individuals. The Board of Directors and members of the Dutch Fork Choral Society would like to thank the following individuals for their help in making this concert possible:

Individual Sponsors



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Patrons

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Lill Mood



Irmo Location:

7001 St Andrews Rd
Columbia, SC 29212
Phone: 803-732-6900

Lexington Location:

718 W Main St
Lexington, SC 29072
Phone: 803-957-3707

Hours:

Monday – Thursday 10am – 7pm
Friday – 10am – 6pm
Saturday – 10am – 5pm
Closed Sunday

Contact Us:

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Acknowledgment

Dutch Fork Choral Society is funded in part by the South Carolina Arts Commission which receives support from the National Endowment for the Arts.



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