

# Great Sacred Music

## Sunday, November 28, 2021

Johannes Cruger: Now thank we all our God  
Choir of St. Paul's Cathedral, London; English Brass Ensemble, John Scott  
Christopher Dearnley, organ

Mark Hayes: Psalm 150, Praise the Lord!  
Turtle Creek Chorale, Timothy Seelig  
Christopher Berry, organ

Felix Mendelssohn: Thanks be to God! from Elijah  
Edinburgh Festival Chorus; Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, Paul Daniel  
Bryn Terfel, bass-baritone

Martin Rinkart (1586-1649) wrote the words for "Now Thank We All Our God." Catherine Winkworth translated it. The hymn appears in 637 hymnals. Mark Hayes (1953-) is an American composer. ELijah was first performed in Birmingham in 1846.

Samuel Adler: A Prophecy of Peace  
Gloriae Dei Cantores, Elizabeth C. Patterson

Andrea Gabrieli: O sacrum convivium  
Lincoln Cathedral Choir, Colin Walsh

Andrea Gabrieli's setting of "O sacred feast" was published in 1565 in *Sacrae cantiones quinque vocum, liber primus*. American composer Samuel Adler (1928-) taught at the Eastman School of Music and The Julliard School.

Commentary: Jeremy Thompson

Georgy Sviridov: Having beheld a strange nativity  
Credo Chamber Choir, Bogdan Plish

Felix Mendelssohn: Veni Domine, Op. 39 No. 1  
St. Albans Abbey Girls Choir, Tom Winpenny  
Peter Holder, organ

Russian composer Georgy Sviridov (1915-1998) composed music for the Orthodox liturgies as well as instrumental music. The St. Albans Abbey Girls Choir was established in 1996. It sings Evensong in the Cathedral twice a week.

Sergei Rachmaninoff: The Beatitudes  
Cambridge Singers, John Rutter

Malcolm Boyle: Thou, O God, art praised  
Choir of St. John's College, Cambridge, Christopher Robinson

Sigfrid Karg-Elert: Marche triomphale: Nun danket alle Gott  
Sir Stephen Cleobury, organ  
Harrison & Harrison organ at King's College, Cambridge

The Russian of Rachmaninoff's work is "Vo tsarstvii Tvoem". The text is taken from Matthew 5:3-12. English organist Malcolm Boyle (1902-1976) was organist of Chester Cathedral. His anthem "Thou, God, art praised" was not published for many years. Dr. George Guest had written it down from memory when he was a chorister at Chester Cathedral. Sir Stephen Cleobury (1948-2019) was Director of Music at King's College, Cambridge from 1982 to 2019.

J.S. Bach: Cantata 36, "Schwingt freudig euch empor"  
Holland Boys' Choir; Netherlands Bach Collegium, Pieter Jan Leusink  
Ruth Holton, soprano; Sytse Buwalde, alto  
Knut Schoch, tenor; Bas Ramselaar, bass

From Craig Smith's notes in Emmanuel Music: "Cantata BWV 36 has a complicated history. It began life in 1727 as a secular cantata. By 1731 there had been as many as four versions of the work, all of them for specific celebratory secular occasions. In 1731 Bach added all of the chorale-based movements and adapted the text to fit the first Sunday in Advent." The German translates as "Raise yourself up joyfully."

Thomas Tallis: Ave Dei patris filia  
Tallis Scholars, Peter Phillips

Peter Philips notes that musicologist David Skinner reconstructed Ave Dei patris filia so that it is once again available in singable form. The Latin translates as "Hail, most noble daughter of God the Father."

Max Reger: Toccata and Fugue in D, Op. 69 Nos. 6 and 7  
Bernard Haas, organ  
Link organ in Evangelical Church, Giengen an der Brenz, Germany

German composer Max Reger wrote a prodigious amount of music for a composer who died at the young age of 43.

Various: Advent Live  
Choir of St. John's College, Cambridge, Andrew Nethsingha

The second in St. John's College Choir's series of live recordings from their Advent Carol Services, Advent Live - Volume 2 features recordings from the 2008, 2018 and 2019 services, broadcast on BBC Radio 3 since 1981. This recording offers ample proof that plenty of exciting new music is being written for a liturgical season often overwhelmed by Christmas.

Track list

I am the day (Jonathan Dove)  
Böggöditsye Dyevo (Arvo Pärt)  
A Spotless Rose (Herbert Howells)  
A Prayer to St John the Baptist (Cecilia McDowall)  
Vox clara ecce intonat (Gabriel Jackson)

The last and greatest Herald (John McCabe)  
Antiphon – O Wisdom (Traditional)  
Antiphon – O Adonai (Traditional)  
A tender shoot (Otto Goldschmidt)  
Es ist ein Ros entsprungen (Hugo Distler)  
Out of your sleep (Anthony Milner)  
An introduction to Hark, the glad sound (Judith Bingham)  
Hymn – Hark, the glad sound (Tune: Bristol)  
There is no rose (Elizabeth Maconchy)  
Antiphon – O Root of Jesse (Traditional)  
Antiphon – O Key of David (Traditional)  
Ach so laß von mir dich finden (Georg Philipp Telemann)  
E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come (Paul Manz)  
The Linden Tree Carol (Traditional, arr. Reginald Jacques)  
Deo gracias (Benjamin Britten)  
Einklang (Hugo Wolf)  
Hymn – Lo! he comes with clouds descending (Tune: Helmsley, Descant: Christopher Robinson)  
Chorale Prelude 'Nun komm. der Heiden Heiland' BWV 661 (Johann Sebastian Bach)

Daniel de Lange: Requiem  
Netherlands Chamber Choir, Uve Gronostay

Dutch composer Daniël de Lange (1841-1918) wrote his Requiem in 1868. de Lange made his living as a composer, teacher and conductor. He introduced the orchestral music of Anton Bruckner to Dutch audiences.

Hieronymus Praetorius: Magnificat quinti toni  
Voces8

North German composer Hieronymus Praetorius (1560–1629) bridges the late Renaissance and early Baroque periods.