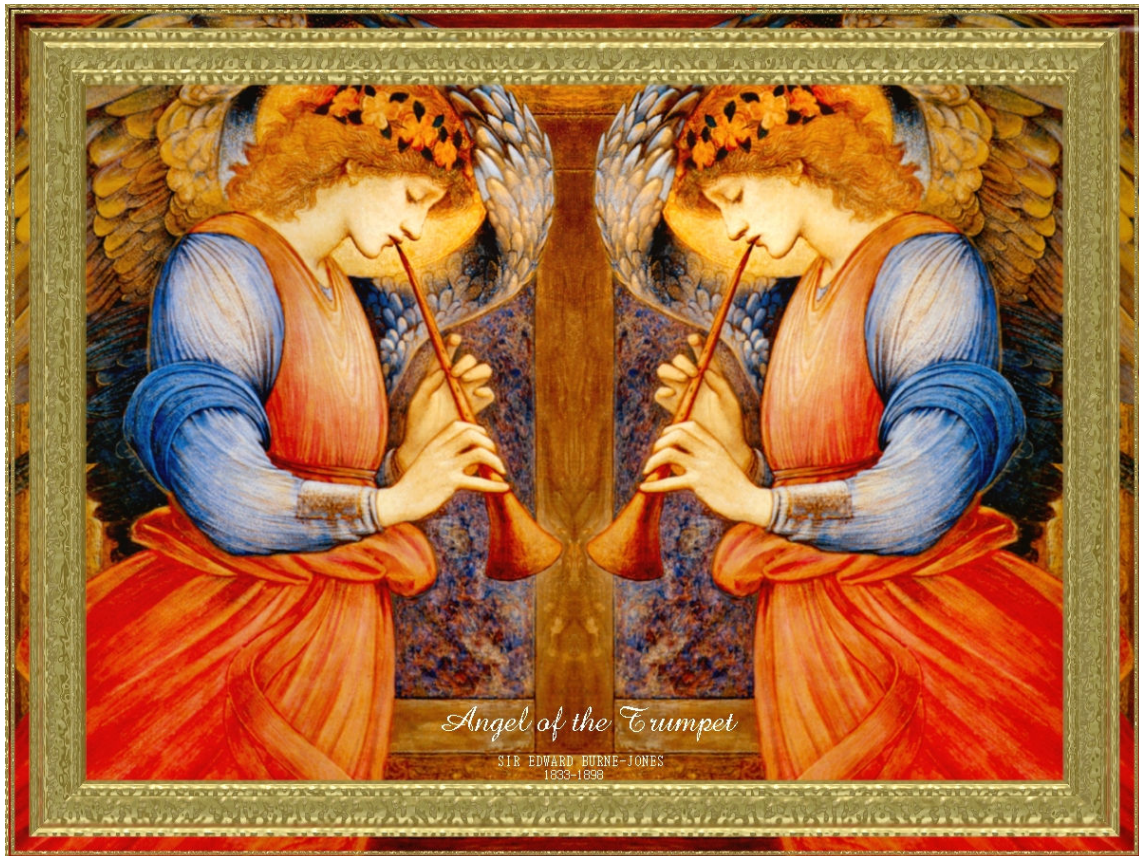


LA JOLLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
CONCERT SERIES
PRESENTS

Magnificat



*J.S. Bach's magnificent setting of Luke 1:46-55, "The Song of Mary"
plus favorite Christmas Lessons & Carols, and more!*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023 at 4PM & 7PM & LIVE & STREAMED & FREE!

featuring

LJPC CHANCEL CHOIR WITH PROFESSIONAL ORCHESTRA

4PM LJPC CHILDREN'S CHOIRS ~ SONSHINE SINGERS & JOYFUL SOUND!

7PM LJPC HANDBELL CHOIR

LA JOLLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 7715 DRAPER AVENUE, LA JOLLA, CA 92037

Welcome!

We are thrilled that you are here today, sharing in this season of Hope & Joy!

GREETINGS, AND WELCOME to the annual Christmas presentation of the La Jolla Presbyterian Church and its music ministry. Tonight we commemorate the birth of Jesus with a varied program featuring various ensembles of the church. With readings and song we will tell the story of that first Christmas long ago, and you will be invited to join us in our congregational choir as we sing favorite traditional carols.

THE FEATURED WORK of the program is a famous setting of the *Song of Mary* from Luke 1:46-55. In Mary's words we have a model of how to praise God. We can hear her emotional freedom, her confidence in God, and her humility. Yet in the recounting of the various mighty deeds of God, her words also provide an explication of the revolutionary way in which Christ's message should impact our world morally (*Fecit potentiam*), socially (*Deposuit potentes*), and even economically (*Esurientes implevit bonis*). Mary's song is a reminder that the worship of God in our daily lives has a two-fold dimension: yes, there should be praise and reflection directed to God for His kindness, but these mercies should challenge us to evaluate the way we view and treat ourselves and those around us.

When Bach set this text 300 years ago, he sought to portray musically the various meanings of these words which Mary sang. Each verse is given a separate movement, so that the music's emotional character can closely reflect the changing emotional content of the words. He also used various musical devices to illustrate more precisely the meaning of the words—a concept now called “text painting.” For example, in the tenor solo *Deposuit potentes de sede* (“He has deposed the powerful from their seats”), Bach chose a dramatic explosive setting to represent the dynamic force of this action. Moreover, the jagged rhythms and descending motion of the melody's first part depicts the fall of the mighty,

whereas the smoother ascending motion of the last section of the melody reflects the exaltation of the humble. Additional examples of text painting can easily be heard in *Omnis generationes*, with the whole choir representing “all generations,” *Fecit potentiam*, with fragmented choral entrances depicting the the word *disperit* (“dispersed”), and *Esurientes implevit bonis*, in which a silence in the music represents the word *inanes* (“empty”).

The result is a work of astounding variety. The attention to textual detail, however, never causes Bach to lose sight of his overarching goal to make a joyful noise to the Lord! Joy concludes the work by repeating at the end of the doxology the praise music of the first movement (“As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be”). Amen!

WE ARE PLEASED to once again include our children and young people in this LJPC Christmas program! Both SONSHINE SINGERS and JOYFUL SOUND are made of the next generation of budding church musicians. It's uplifting to have them contribute to this family celebration.

The second half of our program is a collection of Christmas carols and anthems old and new, organized as a series of lessons and carols. This tradition—started over 80 years ago at King's College, Cambridge—tells the Christmas story through a selection of scriptures and uses music to reflect on each reading. Though the tradition goes back a lifetime, each new generation adds to it. Consequently, our music reflects the variety of music styles we use in the contemporary church. We hope this evening's collection of beautiful carols and new compositions will remind us not only of the great tradition of Christmas music that we enjoy today, but also of the great gift that this music is to us, bringing us joy and enriching our lives every December as we celebrate the Incarnation and Nativity of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

-Dr. Keith Pedersen

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES PRIOR TO THE CONCERT. THANK YOU.

The use of cameras and recording equipment is strictly prohibited.

Enjoy the **ENCORE** recording at LJPres.org/Concert-Series!

Magnificat!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2023

CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

LA JOLLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Len Srnka, LJPC Chancel Choir President

*O Come, All Ye Faithful** (#171, vv. 1, 2, & 3; see p.5) arr. D. Wilcocks LJPC Chancel Choir and Orchestra, Congregation

Remarks

Keith Pedersen

A READING

Luke 1:46-55

Angela King

Magnificat, BWV 243 Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

LJPC Chancel Choir, Orchestra, and Organ

SOLOISTS:

Abigail Alhwein, SOPRANO ~ *Abla Hamza*, SOPRANO II ~ *Mary Boles Allen*, ALTO
Tony Malerich, TENOR ~ *Vincent Martin*, BASS

1. CHORUS: *Magnificat anima mea* [My soul magnifies the Lord.]
2. SOPRANO II: *Et exultavit* [and my spirit has rejoiced]
3. SOPRANO: *Quia respexit* [For He has regarded the low estate]
4. CHORUS: *omnes generationes* [all generations.]
5. BASS: *Quia fecit mihi magna* [For he who is mighty]
6. ALTO and TENOR: *Et misericordia* [And his mercy is on them]
7. CHORUS: *Fecit potentiam* [He has shown strength with his arm]
8. TENOR: *Deposuit* [He has deposed the mighty]
9. ALTO: *Esurientes* [The hungry he has filled]
10. SOPRANO, SOPRANO II, ALTO: *Suscepit Israel* [He has helped his servant Israel]
11. CHORUS: *Sicut locutus est* [As it was spoken to our fathers]
12. CHORUS: *Gloria Patri* [Glory be to the Father, and to Son, and to the Holy Spirit]

4PM *Bethlehem Night*
If I Were There

Terry D. Taylor (b. 1955)

LJPC Sonshine Singers & Joyful Sound

Monica Scott (b. 1982) & Angie Killian (b.1989) Rachel Alessio, LJPC Children's Choir Director;
Kathy Fait, Guest Conductor

7PM *Bethlehem Dreams*

arr. Linda Lamb

LJPC Handbell Choir; Kathryn Kinslow, Director

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Moment of Gratitude: Candace Magee, LJPC Concert Series Director

Recognition of William J. Lullo: Presented by Pastor Paul Cunningham

Offertory: "Toccata on Joy to the World" Martin Setchell (b. 1949) William J. Lullo, Organ

INTERMISSION

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Rhythm of Rejoicing arr. Don Hart

LJPC Chancel Choir and Orchestra

LESSON ONE **Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7** The prophet foretells Christ's birth and kingdom

Scarlett Holland

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing** (#181, vv. 1-3) arr. David Wilcocks

LJPC Chancel Choir, Orchestra, Congregation

LESSON TWO **Luke 2: 1-7** St. Luke tells of the birth of Jesus

Jay Gomez

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

arr. Jay Rouse

LJPC Chancel Choir and Orchestra

LESSON THREE **Luke 2:8-20** The shepherds go to the manger

Lizzet Fitz (4PM); Susi Dhus (7PM)

**Please stand if you are able and sing along! Lyrics appear on the screens in transepts and on the insert.*

Christmas Program *(continued)*

Go Tell It! Jack Schrader/Don Hart LJPC Chancel Choir, Sonshine Singers and Joyful Sound (4PM), Orchestra

The First Noel arr. Dan Forrest LJPC Chancel Choir and Orchestra

LESSON FOUR **John 1: 1-14:** The Mystery of the Incarnation Ron Jones

*Peace, Peace / Silent Night** (#195, vv. 1, 3) (seated) Gruber/Back LJPC Chancel Choir, Orchestra, and Congregation

Benediction Rev. Dr. Paul Cunningham

Choral Benediction: “Hallelujah Chorus” from *Messiah*, G. F. Händel LJPC Chancel Choir and Orchestra



TO FELLOWSHIP HALL!

Please join us immediately following the 7PM performance for a special Christmas Reception!

ENGLISH TRANSLATIONS of J.S. BACH's MAGNIFICAT

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <i>Magnificat anima mea Dominum</i> | 1. My soul magnifies the Lord. |
| 2. <i>Et exultavit spiritus meus</i> | 2. and my spirit has rejoiced |
| <i>in Deo salutary meo.</i> | in God my Savior. |
| 3. <i>Quia respexit humilitatem</i> | 3. For He has regarded the low estate |
| <i>ancillae suae:</i> | of His handmaiden; |
| <i>ecce enim ex hoc</i> | For behold, henceforth, |
| <i>beatam me dicent</i> | I will be called blessed by . . . |
| 4. <i>omnes generationes</i> | 4. all generations. |
| 5. <i>Quia fecit mihi magna</i> | 5. For he who is mighty |
| <i>qui potens est:</i> | has done great things to me; |
| <i>et sanctum nomen ejus.</i> | and holy is his name. |
| 6. <i>Et misericordia ejus a progenie</i> | 6. And his mercy is on them |
| <i>in progenies timentibus eum.</i> | who fear him from generation to generation. |
| 7. <i>Fecit potentiam in brachio suo:</i> | 7. He has shown strength with his arm; |
| <i>dispersit superbos</i> | he has scattered the proud, |
| <i>mente cordis sui.</i> | even the arrogant of heart. |
| 8. <i>Deposuit potentes de sede,</i> | 8. He has deposed the mighty from their seats, |
| <i>et exaltavit humiles.</i> | and exalted the humble. |
| 9. <i>Esurientes implevit bonis</i> | 9. The hungry he has filled with good things: |
| <i>et divites dimisit inanes.</i> | and the rich he has sent empty away. |
| 10. <i>Suscepit Israel puerum suum,</i> | 10. He has helped his servant Israel, |
| <i>recordatus misericordiae suae.</i> | in remembrance of his mercy. |
| 11. <i>Sicut locutus est ad patres nostros,</i> | 11. As it was spoken to our fathers, |
| <i>Abraham et semini ejus in saecula.</i> | to Abraham and his seed for ever. |
| 12. <i>Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto.</i> . . . | 12. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit |
| <i>Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, . . .</i> | As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, |
| <i>et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.</i> | world without end. Amen. |

The Choral Ministries Program

AT LA JOLLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High. ~ PSALM 9:2

THE CHORAL MINISTRIES PROGRAM at LJPC has long been an important part of worship in our church. The Chancel Choir sings each Sunday and incorporates both experienced singers as well as those new to choral ministry. We also have two active choirs for children (Sunshine Singers, K-2, and Joyful Sound, 3rd-8th grade). La Jolla Pres is a proud member of Choral Consortium of San Diego.

Other music ensembles include the La Jolla Brass, the LJPC Handbell Choir, LJPC Orchestra, and our Worship Band.

Are you ready to explore your musical side? All of our groups would welcome new members! Call 858-729-5520 for more information.

LA JOLLA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Paul A. Cunningham, Pastor

Rev. Scott Mitchell, Associate Pastor / Rev. Chad Fransen, Associate Pastor

Rev. Daryl Bryant, Pastor of Administration / Michelle Whitney, Executive Assistant to Rev. Cunningham

Jim Sedgwick, Communications Director / Justin Kent, Technical Director; Saul Plaza and Humberto Nava, Sound Techs

Roy Graf, Facilities Director / LJPC Facilities Staff, Office Staff, & Volunteers

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You: MAKING A DIFFERENCE to Lives in Our Community

DID YOU KNOW.... Your generosity is amazingly impactful! *Why?* Because your gift makes a real world of difference! We bring great music to La Jolla thanks *entirely* to your contributions: Concert-by-concert free-will cash and check offerings; Annual giving; Legacy Gifts; RMDs; and Matching Gifts. LJPC Concert Series is dedicated to bringing quality musical performances to our church and community. Our joy is in sharing high-caliber artistry, at no charge. This is all made possible by crucial financial support from people like you.

Through workplace MATCHING GIFTS Programs, you may double or even triple your gift to the Concert Series and have your company's name added to our program. A recent example you'll notice on the donor acknowledgements list is that Microsoft Corp. contributed a match to a generous donation from Jen Chen & Suresh Bollapragada. We would be happy to explore this option with **you!** **Bottom line: You help us hire fine artists; in effect, you support the livelihoods of those who, in turn, bring us great beauty through their talents.** This is a completely donation-based outreach of LJPC's Worship & Arts Ministry. We're heartened that you find great delight in sharing joy by making a contribution.

OUR LJPC CONCERT SERIES is one of the oldest in San Diego. For six+ decades, our ministry has provided a variety of music, both sacred and secular, for the enjoyment, education, and enrichment of our congregation and community—as well as to challenge and reward the commitment of our dedicated choir members—and to honor and praise God through and for the gift of music.

Thank YOU for making it possible for us to freely share this great happiness with others in person and remotely.

A WORD OF WONDER & THANKS to all of you, our loyal supporters—volunteers, committee members, financial donors, and church staff—who have made so many magical musical moments possible over the years. It is astounding! And just wait until you see what you are making possible in 2024! Check us out at LJPres.org/Concert-Series.

There are many easy ways to contribute financially in support of these free concerts presented by this LJPC. If you are so moved by this inspiring artistry, please consider donating today. You may mail your check or drop it off to:

La Jolla Presbyterian Church CONCERT SERIES

7715 Draper Avenue, La Jolla, CA 92037



IF IT'S YOUR AIM TO SUPPORT LJPC CONCERT SERIES:



YOUR TIMING IS RIGHT! THIS ONLINE GIVING QR Code directly supports LJPC Concert Series this week: from today, **12/10/23 to 12/17/23**. Other forms of gifting ~ check, credit card, cash donations ~ accepted year-round. *Our Artists thank you!*