



Festival Singers

Director: Jonathan Berkahn

Accompanied by: Thomas Nikora

& The Northern Chorale

COME CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS

7.00 pm Sunday 10 December 2017

St Barnabas Anglican Church

35 Box Hill, Khandallah

Your koha for Downtown Community Ministry
is appreciated

www.festivalsingers.wordpress.com

Programme

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

How lovely shines the Morning Star
(*Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*)

Zoltán Kodály (1882–1967)

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Isaiah 9:2-7

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Come, Redeemer of our race
(*Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland*, BWV 61)

Luke 1:39-45

Edward Elgar (1857–1934)

Ave Maria, Op.2/2

Luke 2:1-7

Alan Spinks

Son of the highest

Luke 2:1-12

William Billings (1746-1800)

Shiloh

(“Methinks I see an heavenly host”)

Jonathan Berkahn

Christmas Pastorate

Readers:

Raewyn Berkahn,
Alexander Garside

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

(1756–1791)

Missa Brevis in G, K 140

(“*Pastoralmesse*”)

Malachi 3:1-6

Kyrie

Luke 2:13-20

Gloria**

Philippians 2:5-11

Credo

Isaiah 6:1-3

Sanctus - Benedictus

John 1:23-31

Agnus Dei - Dona nobis pacem**

John 1:1-14

Jonathan Berkahn

Behold, the joyful day is nigh**

**with The Northern Chorale

Semichorus:

Sinéad Keane, Diana Helen,
Ingrid Schoenfeld, Karen Espersen,
Margaret Seconi, Joe Fecteau,
Michael David, Samuel Berkahn,
Philip Garside

About the Concert

We are delighted to perform tonight with our special guests *The Northern Chorale*, conducted by Monika Smith.

Advent is a time of hope; but it is also a time of darkness (in the northern hemisphere it is of course literally in the depths of winter.) We hear readings from prophets in exile, speaking of unimaginable hope at a time of national catastrophe. Over time these utterances would coalesce into the hope of a Saviour, a Messiah, who would come and save his people.

Our concert today begins with settings of three ancient Advent hymns, two from Germany, one (originally) from France. We respond to the encounter between Mary and her cousin Elizabeth with an Ave Maria, and then we are into the Christmas music proper.

The centrepiece of the concert is what may be the first complete New Zealand performance of Mozart's *Mass in G*, K 140. Although not well known here, it is frequently sung in Europe around this time of year; and it is not hard to see why. Simpler and prettier than most of Mozart's church music, the mass may not actually have been written by him at all, but it really doesn't matter.

You will notice the music is interspersed with brief readings (this concert was originally going to be a traditional "Lessons and Carols" service); and even the sections of the mass are preceded by Advent or Christmas readings that relate to following movement.

We wish you all the best for this season, and for the year to come.

Festival Singers

Musical Director: Jonathan Berkahn

Accompanist: Thomas Nikora

Sopranos

Heather Garside, Rozie Gorman, Diana Helen, Janice Hopkins,
Carol Inge, Sinéad Keane, Pam Southey, Christine Taylor, Megan Ward

Altos

Rosemary Biss, Heather Collins, Karen Espersen, Jan Hamil, Adrienne Leuchars,
Wendy Nelson, Margaret Seconi, Irene Swadling, Rita Urry

Tenors

Michael David, Joe Fecteau, Paul Kilford, Alan Spinks

Basses

Samuel Berkahn, Philip Garside, Ian Livingstone, Brian Patchett

About the choir

Festival Singers of Wellington is a community choir with a 40 year history and practice of seeking to work alongside the Christian church.

This includes singing in local church services and providing music for weddings, funerals and other events.

Festival Singers:

- Has lively, fun rehearsals and workshops
- Gives performances that communicate
- Has a diverse, quality repertoire
- Celebrates New Zealand compositions
- Performs in public, and in churches
- Is friendly, with many social events.

Our public concerts include large classical works – oratorios, cantatas and masses, as well as smaller pieces from all over the world. We also choose to support local composers and expose exciting new repertoire by regularly performing New Zealand compositions.

Rehearsals are on
Mondays 7.00–9.00pm at
Newlands Christian Assembly,
126 Newlands Road, Newlands.

New singers are very welcome.
To join us please contact:

Jonathan Berkahn (musical director)
jonathan@berkahn.net.nz
0210 241 7233, or

Heather Collins (committee member)
hetbruce@gmail.com
04 237 4070

Our 2018 programme

- Manawatu-Whanganui Regional SingFest at Palmerston North on Saturday 7 April 2018.
- Wellington Choral Federation Workshop Friday, Saturday 5/6 May 2018
- Haydn *Creation*. Sunday 24 June 2018.
- Friends of Pataka Winter Music Series for 2018. Porirua Museum. Afternoon of 5 August 2018.
- Singalong *Messiah*. Evening of 24 November 2018.

Our CD — on sale tonight



People of the Light includes *The Third Day* cantata, which tells the Easter story from the cross, through low

Saturday, to finding the empty tomb, Jesus' appearance in the locked room and giving the great commission. The work ends with a glorious finale that proclaims, "Christ is Risen, Alleluia!"

\$25.00 each for 1 or 2 copies;
\$20.00 each for 3 or more copies

Website

<https://festivalsingers.wordpress.com/>