

Sing-along
Messiah

by George Frideric Handel

Dr. Lillian Quackenbush
Conductor

Serena Hill
Soprano

Mark Husey
Tenor

Brittnee Siemon
Mezzo-Soprano

Hal McIntosh
Bass

Monday, December 17, 2007

7:00 p.m.

Washington Street United Methodist Church
Columbia, South Carolina

The Reverend Dr. Paul Harmon, Senior Minister
The Reverend Diana Westerkam, Associate Minister

Program Notes

One of the interesting things about the origin of *Messiah* is the fact that when Handel was writing this signature work in 1741, he, unlike his predecessors Bach and Telemann, was not composing under contract with a church. He was, however, exceptionally popular, having established a stellar reputation in the field of opera. In 1737 Handel turned from a 39-year focus on composing operas, a declining genre in England, toward developing the oratorio genre, more as a matter of practicality than religiosity. In most of his oratorios Handel paraphrased Biblical texts, focusing on characters and setting them as stories similar to characters in his operas. In *Messiah*, Handel's librettist Charles Jennens sets the text using actual Biblical phrases rather than paraphrasing the text and setting it as "story." The central idea then is not a representation of the life of Christ, but rather a dialogue of the struggle of dark and light and the ultimate redemption of humanity. Tonight's performance focuses on Part I with texts combining the prophecies of Isaiah, Haggai, Malachi and Zechariah and the gospels of Matthew and Luke, juxtaposed against the stirring words of "Hallelujah" and "Worthy is the Lamb" from the book of Revelations. Though it was originally written to be performed during the Easter season, no Christmas season seems complete without a public performance of this monumental work. Thank you for helping us continue this tradition as an offering to and celebration of our community.

Messiah

by George Frideric Handel

* Audience Sing-along

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	Novello	Schirmer
Part One		
Sinfonia (Overture).....	1	3
Comfort ye my People.....	4	7
Every valley shall be exalted.....	6	10
* And the glory of the Lord.....	11	16
Thus saith the Lord.....	19	24
But who may abide the day of his coming?.....	21	27
* And He shall purify.....	35	36
Behold, a virgin shall conceive.....	41	47
* O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion.....	46	54
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth.....	50	60
The people that walked in darkness.....	51	62
* For unto us a child is born.....	55	66
Pastoral Symphony.....	65	77
That there were shepherds abiding in the field.....	66	79
And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them.....	66	79
And the angel said unto them.....	67	80
And suddenly there was with the angel.....	67	81
* Glory to God.....	68	82
Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.....	73	87
Then shall the eyes of the blind.....	79	94
He shall feed his flock.....	80	94
* His yoke is easy, and his burthen is light.....	86	98
Part Two		
* Hallelujah.....	171	193
* Worthy is the lamb.....	217	237
* Amen.....	225	246

Dr. Lillian Quackenbush

Conductor

Lillian Quackenbush is associate professor and chair of the Department of Music at Columbia College. Her musical resume includes numerous performances of Handel's *Messiah* as chorus member, soloist, and conductor. Dr. Quackenbush is the founder/artistic director of the Sandlapper Singers, a 25-voice professional choral ensemble, and she also serves as Director of Music at Shandon Presbyterian Church. She has had an extensive career as a vocal performer in musical theater, opera, and oratorio and frequently serves as clinician for choral festivals and workshops.

Orchestra

VIOLIN 1

Neil Casey

Concertmaster

Frank Thomas

Kevin Rogers

Andrea Craft

CELLO

Cora Phillips

Aubrey Gray

BASS

Dustin Retzlaff

BASSOON

Adam Estes

TRUMPET

James Ackley

David Allison

VIOLIN 2

Stacy Wiley

Laura Thomas

Cindy Chen

OBOE

Benjamin Woodruff, Jr.

Charles Courtney

TIMPANI

Malcolm Brashear

HARPSICHORD

Jerry Curry

VIOLA

Kelly King

Debbie Apple

Participating Choirs

Columbia Choral Society

Dr. Will Carswell, Director

Shandon Presbyterian Church

Dr. Lillian Quackenbush, Director

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Chip Stubbs, Director

St. Peter's Catholic Church

Mark Husey, Director

Washington Street United Methodist Church

Arletta Raley, Director

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ProducerArletta Raley
Assistant Producer..... Charlotte Broome
Publicity Brian Murrell
Program..... Teresa Fisher and Ed McClain
Facilities Manager..... Jerry Sumpter
Ushers..... Charlotte Broome, Mike Broome, Jim Lane, Margaret Nesbitt, and Elizabeth Ouzts