

Sixth Annual
Sing-along
Messiah

by George Frideric Handel

Dr. Lillian Quackenbush
Conductor

Serena Hill
Soprano

Mark Husey
Tenor

Holly Cole
Mezzo-Soprano

Daniel Cole
Bass

Monday, December 15, 2008

7:00 p.m.

Washington Street United Methodist Church
Columbia, South Carolina

The Reverend Dr. Paul Harmon, Senior Minister
The Reverend Evelyn Middleton, Associate Minister
The Reverend Don Thrasher, Minister of Education
Mrs. Arletta Raley, Director of Music

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 Jennins 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 Revelation. 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.

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers or set them to vibrate only during the performance.
At the end of the performance, please return all borrowed scores to the narthex.

Messiah

by George Frideric Handel

* Audience Sing-along

	Page	
	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.

Washington Street Orchestra

VIOLIN 1

Neil Casey

Concertmaster

Frank Thomas

Susan Cramer

Susan Christian

CELLO

Colleen Marcou

Carol Murray

BASS

Dustin Retzlaff

BASSOON

Stephanie Whitson

TRUMPET

James Ackley

David Allison

VIOLIN 2

Jennifer Hill

Laura Thomas

Kevin Rogers

OBOE

Benjamin Woodruff, Jr.

Judi Shirley

TIMPANI

Scott Herring

HARPSICHORD

Jerry Curry

VIOLA

Maurice Hood

Audrey Harris

Participating Choirs

Columbia Choral Society

Dr. Will Carswell, Director

Shandon Presbyterian Church

Dr. Lillian Quackenbush, Director

St. Peter's Catholic Church

Mark Husey, Director

Washington Street United Methodist Church

Arletta Raley, Director

Soloists

Daniel Cole brings to the stage an attractive basso cantante voice, an elegant stage presence, and an astute musical intelligence. After interrupting his doctoral degree in conducting from Indiana University School of Music to pursue a Professional Studies in Opera degree at Temple University, he subsequently placed first in the Metropolitan Opera National Council auditions in the New Jersey district and in the New York regional finals. He has since performed in theatres throughout the world. Mr. Cole served on the voice faculty at the University of Delaware. He is currently Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church.

Holly Cole received both her Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Music from Indiana University. She has performed with the Sarasota Opera, the Netherlands Opera, the Indianapolis Opera, the Central City Opera, and the Opera Theater of Philadelphia. Her Awards include a Richard F. Gold Career Grant, a Presser Foundation Music Award, and an Encouragement Award from The Metropolitan Opera District Competition. Ms. Cole currently sings in the choir of First Presbyterian Church where her husband, Daniel, is the Director of Music.

Originally from Laurel, Mississippi, **Serena Hill** holds an MM Degree in Vocal Performance from the University of South Carolina and a BM Degree from the University of North Alabama. She was a finalist in the Orpheus National Young Artist Vocal Competition and the Southeast Regional Metropolitan Opera Auditions. Selected as the 2006 Artist of the Year with FBN Productions, Inc., Miss Hill is an active performer and is committed to the education of young vocalists as an adjunct voice faculty member at Columbia and Coker Colleges.

Mark Husey has been widely acclaimed as “a musical Renaissance man” for his gifts as conductor, organist, accompanist, and tenor. A native of Hartford County, Maryland, he is director of Music and Liturgy at Saint Peter's Catholic Church. Mr. Husey holds an MA in Pastoral Liturgy and Music from Saint Joseph's College in Indiana, and he won first prizes in the MTNA-Wurlitzer Organ competition and the Baltimore-Washington Young Artist AGO Competition. In recent years Mr. Husey taught at the University of Miami and Florida International University. He currently serves as a visiting vocal coach and accompanist at the University of South Carolina.

Thanks to First Baptist Church, First Presbyterian Church,
Shandon Presbyterian Church, and Trenholm Road United Methodist Church
for graciously loaning their *Messiah* scores for tonight's program.

Producer..... Arletta Raley
Assistant ProducerCharlotte Broome
Publicity..... Brian Murrell
Program Teresa Fisher and Ed McClain
Facilities Manager Jerry Sumpter

A Choral Happening You Won't Want to Miss!

We are pleased to invite you to the Choral Happening at Washington Street United Methodist Church. The first 150 singers who register will enjoy a time of fun, fellowship, and blessed sacred singing with Paul Leddington Wright on Friday and Saturday, February 6 and 7, 2009. Mr. Leddington Wright, formerly organist and choir director at the Coventry Cathedral in Coventry, England, serves with Sir David Willcocks as co-director of the International Church Music Festival in Europe. The Sanctuary Choir of Washington Street UMC was fortunate to participate in this festival in 2004.

All anthems and hymns composed or arranged by Mr. Leddington Wright and used in the Choral Happening will be free to participants and free for use in their churches.

A donation of \$5.00 per singer per evening is requested to help defray the expense of having Mr. Leddington Wright in Columbia. For more information, please call Arletta Raley at (803) 256-2417 or email her at Arletta@sc.rr.com.

Mr. Leddington Wright will play the 11:00 a.m. worship service at Washington Street UMC on Sunday, February 8, 2009, and he will present an organ recital that afternoon at 4:00 p.m. on the newly renovated Ralph Rozier E. M. Skinner Organ.