



"Let Creation Praise Its Lord"

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Christmas With Wartburg



*“Now he shines, the long expected;
Let creation praise its Lord
Evermore and evermore.”*

Christmas With Wartburg

The audience is kindly requested to refrain from
applause until the completion of the program.

Celebration Overture
Concert Band

Paul Creston

In the Beginning was the Word

Castle Singers

Of God's perfect love begotten
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending he,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore.*

Salvation is Created
Castle Singers, Choir, Concert Band

Paul Tschesnokov

Salvation is created in midst of the earth,
O God, O our God. Alleluia.

The Word Came as Flesh

Castle Singers

Oh, that birth forever blessed,
When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the Savior of our race,
And the babe, the world's redeemer,
First revealed his sacred face,
Evermore and evermore.*

*Stanzas from this 4th Century Christmas hymn by Prudentius, with a 13th Century
Plainsong melody, will be sung by the Castle Singers throughout the program.

Like a Flower

Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming

Choir

15th Century German

I know a rose-tree springing forth from an ancient root;
As those of old were singing, from Jesse came the shoot
that bore a blossom bright amid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.

This rose-tree, blossom laden, whereof Isaiah spake;
Is Mary, spotless maiden, who mothered, for our sake
the little Child, new born by God's eternal counsel
on that first Christmas morn.

O flow'r whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air;
Dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere;
Human, yet very God, from sin and death now save us,
and share our ev'ry load.

Among the Beasts of the Earth

Away in a Manger

Audience (All Stand)

19th Century American

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the sky . . . looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
And fit us for heaven to live with you there.

Cradle Song

Castle Singers

John Rutter

In Bethlehem, all in a stable,
Lies a new-born infant mild,
By his side a virgin mother
Watches o'er the holy child.
Jesus, lying in the manger,
Comes to us on earth a stranger
Lullaby; Angels round you watch will keep.
Ah . . .

Saint Joseph stands beside the cradle,
Fill'd with wonder, awe, and love.
See, the infant King lies sleeping,
Sent from God in heav'n above.
Ox and ass before him kneeling,
Mary's love his sorrows healing;
Lullaby, O lullaby.

Hosanna in the highest heaven;
Peace to all on earth.
Seraphim on high in chorus
Bring the song to earth.
Seraphim in chorus
Greet the Saviour's joyful birth.
Mary's voice, in descant blending,
Joins the heav'nly song unending:
Lullaby, O little one sleep;
Angels round you watch will keep.

In Human Form

The Exaltation of Christ

Choir

Charles Forsberg

Alleluia, Exalted Christ: Deo Gratias!
Being in the form of God, humbled as a servant,
Obedient, unto death, even the death of the Cross.
Glory to the Lord: Deo Gratias!
Being highly lifted up, Name above every Name.
Every knee shall bow, of things in heaven,
And things on earth, and things under the earth;
Every tongue confess: Domine Deus, Jesu Christe.
Blessing, honor, power and glory to the Lamb
Upon the Throne.
Alleluia, Exalted Christ: Deo Gratias!

At Night upon the Hills of Bethlehem

Angels from the Realms of Glory

Audience (All Stand)

Henry T. Smart

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Once you sang creation's story;
Now proclaim Messiah's birth;
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
Yonder shines the infant light
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn king.

Gloria from Carol Fantasy

Castle Singers, Choir, Concert Band

Norman Lockwood

When the winter sun had set
Down below the twilight sun.
Angels' voices ever bright,
Sang to them this gladsome strain:
Gloria, Gloria, Gloria.

Winter twilight.
From the wintry sky above
Came a sound so heavenly;
Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria, Gloria, Gloria.

Shepherds watched their flocks that night
There on the cold and wintry plain,
Angel voices everbright
Sang to them this gladsome strain:
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

Come and join us in our song,
Ye who with the Lord abide,
For we too with Him belong
We who sing at Christmas tide.
Gloria, Gloria, Gloria.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

We Beheld His Glory

The Earth Proclaims His Name

My Lord, What a Mornin'

Negro Spiritual

Choir

My Lord what a mornin'
My Lord what a mornin',
Oh, my Lord what a mornin',
When de stars begin to fall,
When de stars begin to fall,
My Lord what a mornin',
My Lord what a mornin',
Oh, my Lord what a mornin',
When de stars begin to fall.

Done quit all my worl'y ways,
Done quit all my worl'y ways,
Done quit all my worl'y ways
Jine dat hebbenly ban'
Oh, My Lord what a mornin'
My Lord what a mornin'
Oh, My Lord what a mornin'
When de stars begin to fall,
When de stars begin to fall.

Joy to the World

George F. Handel

Audience (All Stand)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive its King;
Let every heart prepare him room
And heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love.

The Heavens Join the Glad Refrain

Castle Singers

Let the heights of heav'n adore him;
Angel hosts, his praises sing;
Pow'rs, dominions, bow before him
And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Ev'ry voice in concert ring
Evermore and evermore.*

From Heaven Above

Concert Band

J.S. Bach
arr. Don Malin

All God's Creatures Offer Praise

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Audience (All Stand)

Ludwig von Beethoven

Joyful, joyful we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,
Praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
Drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine!

All thy works with joy surround thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird, and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in thee.

Sing a New Song

Castle Singers, Choir, Concert Band

Frank Benschiscutto

Sing to the Lord a new song; O sing to the Lord ye lands.
Shout to the Lord, sing to the Lord; shout with joy.
O sing to the Lord a new song, O bless his name.
Talk of his salvation.
Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised.
Honor and majesty are before Him.
Strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.
Ascribe to the Lord ye peoples.
Ascribe to the Lord all glory.
Ascribe to the Lord all strength.
Ascribe ye peoples and worship the Lord.
Let the heavens be glad; let the earth rejoice.
Let the sea roar with all might, let the fields exalt the Lord.
Then shall all the trees of the woods sing for joy;
For the Lord comes to judge us with righteousness.
Let us sing to the Lord a new song, let us exalt and shout.

Castle Singers

**Christ, to thee, with God Creator,
And, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
And unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory
Evermore and evermore! Amen***

The Wartburg Bookstore will be open for your convenience before and after the Sunday performance of Christmas With Wartburg in Neumann Auditorium. The hours are 2 - 8 p.m.

Iowa Public Television will broadcast this year's Christmas With Wartburg on Thursday, Dec. 14, at 8 p.m. and on Sunday, Dec. 24, at 3:30 p.m.

Christmas With Wartburg is a seasonal expression of Wartburg College's fidelity to its Christian heritage. Each year, in words and music, the program tells the Christmas story anew.

The strength of Christmas With Wartburg's message and the quality of its music have attracted increasingly larger audiences. From the tradition of group caroling popular in the early days of the college's history, the first formal program, a candlelight service, evolved during the 1930s. Dr. Conrad Becker, college president from 1945-64, suggested offering the program to the community, and what originally was a single performance eventually expanded into two on-campus productions open to the public. In 1980, Christmas With Wartburg was performed in the Waterloo-Cedar Falls community for the first time, and in 1986, Des Moines was added to the itinerary. This year marks the first appearance of Christmas With Wartburg in the Des Moines Civic Center.

For many in the audience, the late November-early December performances are a fitting opening to the Advent Season. For students, the performances also climax the Fall Term and are among the last events scheduled before final examination week.

Students begin rehearsing months in advance. Three major music organizations, involving 170 musicians, participate. Each organization has a rich performance history, conducting international tours every fourth year and touring within the United States in other years. The Wartburg Choir, which performed a solo concert in Carnegie Hall last May, boasts 77 vocalists. The Wartburg Concert Band has 59 musicians, and the Castle Singers number 30 vocalists and four instrumentalists. The student performers represent almost every academic discipline at the college.

Wartburg College is a selective, private, four-year liberal arts college of 1,456 students, located in Waverly, Iowa. It has been recognized by a *Changing Times* magazine panel of experts as one of only 42 "best of the best" colleges and universities nationwide offering high quality education at below-average cost.

It grants four undergraduate degrees: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Music Education, and Bachelor of Applied Arts or Science. A student may choose from more than 50 majors and pre-professional programs. Wartburg is a college of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, with a history dating to 1852.

The name Wartburg honors the German landmark, Wartburg Castle, located in the German Democratic Republic near Eisenach. The castle has a 900-year history. During the stormy days of the Reformation, it served as refuge for Martin Luther, who translated the New Testament into German there in 1521, thereby contributing to the unification of the German language.