



Bella  
Lumina

spreading light, hope & joy  
through song

**SINGING HER STORY**

Bella Lumina's Seventh Season



# THE JOY OF MARY AND THE SEASON

**Michelle Gehrz, artistic director**

**Jeffrey Patry, collaborative pianist**

*Special guest musicians:*

**Amy Nam, harp**

**Barb Savereide, violin**

# PROGRAM

– Please hold applause until end of program –

**Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming** | *Soloist: Jill Oliveri* arr. J. Edmund Hughes

**O Magnum Mysterium** Tomas Louis De Victoria/arr. Russell Robinson

**Gabriel's Ave** arr. Ken Berg / Text by Sabine Baring-Gould

**Dancing Day: A Cycle of Traditional Christmas Carols** John Rutter

**Prelude**

**Angelus ad Virginem**

**A Virgin Most Pure** | *Soloists: Nancy Pearson and Cara Schoenberg*

**Personent Hodie**

**Interlude**

**There Is No Rose** | *Soloists: Mari Espeland and Nancy Pearson*

**Coventry Carol**

**Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day** | *Soloist: Doreen Lorentz*

**Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** Traditional Polish carol/ arr. Elizabeth Alexander

**Silent Night** arr. Pinkzebra

**How Great Our Joy!** Craig Courtney

*Bella Lumina*  
*Fall 2024*  
*Roster*

Cheri Almquist  
Helen Arneson + \* ^  
Shawna Bartelmehs ^  
Darcy Bodger  
Ruth Campbell  
Angela Carpenter  
Charlotte Currier  
Caroline Drew  
Mari Espeland # \* ^  
Liz Farmer  
Gena Gerard  
Ally Girard \*  
Gay Gonnerman \* ^  
Sydney Gramstad  
Kathleen Grindeland ^  
Monica Healy #  
Julianne Heil  
Stephanie Henry  
Ruth Hoffman  
Kate Johnston \*  
Paige Kamin +  
Barbara Kern-Pieh +

Tanya Kirschenman \* ^  
Jan Lillemo \* ^  
Julie Lindstrom  
Emma Lohman  
Doreen Lorentz  
Rhonda Lundgren  
Mindy Mennicke # \*  
Joan Nelson \*  
Kay Netland ^  
Jill Oliveri  
Jean Olson +  
Sandy Olson ^  
Nancy Pearson \*  
Larissa Penny ^  
Tricia Porter  
Kim Ries \*  
Cynthia Scherer #  
Jamie Schmidt #  
Cara Schoenberg  
Chris Starr #  
Cindy Stauffer  
Julie Stauffer ^

Amy Steffen  
Annie Stewart ^  
Judy Sunderland  
Suz Swanson \*  
Noreen Carlson Tingerthal + #  
Shari Tivy  
Virve Van Sloun  
Karin Vavrichek +  
Nancy Verba  
Beth VonEschen  
Jodi Washek  
Zoë Zarth

+ *board member*

# *section leader*

\* *small group singer for*  
*O Magnum Mysterium*

^ *small group singer for*  
*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*



## TEXTS

### Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Of the Father's love begotten  
Lo, how a rose e'er blooming  
Ere the world began to be  
From tender stem hath sprung  
He is Alpha and Omega  
Of Jesse's lineage coming  
He the source, the ending he  
As men of old have sung  
Of the things that are that have been  
Amid the cold of winter  
And that future years shall be  
When half spent was the night  
Ever more and ever more  
Blooming  
Blooming  
Ever more and ever more  
Lo, how a rose e'er blooming  
Blooming  
Blooming  
Ever more and ever more

### O Magnum Mysterium

O magnum mysterium  
et admirabile sacramentum,  
ut animalia viderent Dominum natum  
jacentem in praesepio.  
O beata Virgo, cujus viscera meruerunt  
portare Dominum Jesum Christum.  
Alleluia!

#### ENGLISH TRANSLATION:

O great mystery, and wonderful sacrament,  
that animals should see the new-born Lord,  
lying in a manger!  
Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy  
to bear Christ the Lord.  
Alleluia!

### Gabriel's Ave

The angel Gabriel from heaven came  
His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame  
Said he, "Thou lowly maiden Mary, lowly Mary, most highly favor'd lady."

*Gloria*

For known a blessed mother thou shalt be  
All generations laud and honor thee  
Thy Son, Emmanuel, by seers foretold, most highly favor'd lady

*Gloria*

Then gentle Mary meekly bow'd her head  
"To me be as it pleaseth God." she said  
"My soul shall laud and magnify His holy name."  
Most highly favor'd lady

*Gloria*

Of her Emmanuel, the Christ, was born  
In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn  
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say,  
"Most highly favor'd lady. Gloria."

*Gloria*



# Spiritus sancti gratia

## Dancing Day: A Cycle of Traditional Christmas Carols

### Angelus ad Virginem

Angelus ad virginem,  
Subintrans in conclave,  
Virginis formidinem  
Demulcens inquit 'Ave!  
Ave, regina virginum:  
Caeli terraeque Dominum  
Concipies et paries intacta  
Salutem hominum;  
Tu porta caeli facta,  
Medela criminum.'

*Verse 2 is the translation of verse 1.*

Th'angel to the Virgin said,  
Ent'ring into her bower,  
For dread of quaking of this maid,  
He said 'Hail, with great honour.  
'Hail! be thou queen of maidens mo,  
Lord of heaven and earth also  
Conceive thou shalt,  
And bear with-al the Lord of might,  
Heal of all mankind.  
He will make the gate of heaven bright,  
Med'cine of all our sin.'

'Quomodo conciperem,  
Quae virum non cognovi?  
Qualiter infringerem,  
Quod firma mente vovi?'  
'Spiritus sancti gratia  
Perficiet haec omnia.

Ne timeas, sed gaudeas, segura,  
Quod castimonia  
Manebit in te pura  
Dei potentia.'

*Verse 3 TRANSLATION:*

*How could I conceive,  
I did not know a man?  
How could I break  
what I vowed with a firm mind?  
'The grace of the Holy Spirit will  
accomplish all these things.  
Do not be afraid, but rejoice, secure,  
that chastity will remain in you  
by the pure power  
of God.'*

### A Virgin Most Pure

A virgin most pure, as the prophets do tell,  
Hath brought forth a baby, as it hath befel,  
To be our Redeemer from death, hell, and sin,  
Which Adam's transgression hath wrapped us in.

*Chorus*

Aye and therefore be merry, rejoice and be you merry,  
Set sorrow aside;  
Christ Jesus our Saviour was born on this tide.

Then they were constrain'd in a stable to lie,  
Where oxen and asses they used for to tie;  
Their lodging so simple they took it no scorn,  
But against the next morning our Saviour was born. *Chorus*

The King of all glory to this world being brought,  
Small store of fine linen to wrap him was sought,  
And when she had swaddled her young son so sweet,  
Within an ox-manger she laid him to sleep. *Chorus*

At Bethlem in Jewry a city there was  
Where Joseph and Mary together did pass,  
And there to be taxèd, with many one mo',  
For Caesar commanded the same should be so. *Chorus*

Then God sent an angel from Heaven so high,  
To certain poor shepherds in fields where they lie,  
And bade them no longer in sorrow to stay,  
Because that our Saviour was born on this day. *Chorus*

But when they had entered the city so fair,  
A number of people so mighty was there,  
That Joseph and Mary, whose substance was small,  
Could find in the inn there no lodging at all. *Chorus*

Then presently after the shepherds did spy  
A number of angels that stood in the sky;  
They joyfully talkèd, and sweetly did sing,  
To God be all glory, our heavenly King. *Chorus*

## Personent Hodie

Personent hodie  
Voces puerulae  
Laudantes jucunde  
Qui nobis est natus  
Summo Deo datus  
Et de vir vir vir  
Et de vir vir vir  
Et de virgineo  
Ventre procreatus

In mundo nascitur  
Pannis involvitur  
Praesepe ponitur  
Stabulo brutorum  
Rector supernorum  
Perdidit dit dit  
Perdidit dit dit  
Perdidit spolia  
Princeps infernorum

Magi tres venerunt  
Parvulum inquirunt  
Bethlehem adeunt  
Stellulam sequendo  
Ipsam adorando  
Aurum, thus thus thus  
Aurum, thus thus thus  
Aurum, thus, et myrrham  
Ei offerendo

Omnes clericuli  
Pariter pueri  
Contenti ut angeli  
Advenisti mundo  
Laudes tibi fundo  
Ideo, o, o,  
Ideo, o, o,  
Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo

## Personent Hodie TRANSLATION

*Translation by Jane M. Joseph*

*On this day earth shall ring  
with the song children sing  
to the Lord, Christ our King,  
born on earth to save us;  
him the Father gave us.*

*His the doom, ours the mirth;  
when he came down to earth,  
Bethlehem saw his birth;  
ox and ass beside him  
from the cold would hide him.*  
*Refrain*

*God's bright star, o'er his head,  
Wise Men three to him led;  
kneel they low by his bed,  
lay their gifts before him,  
praise him and adore him.*  
*Refrain*

*On this day angels sing;  
with their song earth shall ring,  
praising Christ, heaven's King,  
born on earth to save us;  
peace and love he gave us.*  
*Refrain*



## There is No Rose

*There is no rose of such virtue  
As is the rose that bare Jesu.  
Alleluia.*

*For in this rose contained was  
Heaven and earth in little space;  
Res miranda.*



## Coventry Carol

Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child  
By by, lully, lullay, thou little tiny child  
By by, lully, lullay

O sisters too, how may we do  
For to preserve this day?  
This poor youngling for whom we do sing  
By by, lully, lullay?

Herod the king, in his raging  
Charged he hath this day  
His men of might in his own sight  
All young children to slay

That woe is me, poor child, for thee  
And ever morn and day  
For thy parting neither say nor sing  
By by, lully, lullay

Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child  
By by, lully, lullay, thou little tiny child  
By by, lully, lullay

## Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day

*Tomorrow shall be  
my dancing day*

I would my true love did so chance  
To see the legend of my play  
To call my true love to my dance  
Sing O, my love  
O my love, my love, my love  
This have I done for my true love

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day  
I would my true love did so chance  
To see the legend of my play  
To call my true love to my dance  
Sing O, my love  
O my love, my love, my love  
This have I done for my true love

Then was I born of a virgin pure  
Of her I took fleshly substance  
Thus was I knit to a man's nature  
To call my true love to my dance  
Sing O, my love  
O my love, my love, my love  
This have I done for my true love

In a manger laid, and wrapp'd I was  
So very poor, this was my chance  
Betwixt an ox and a silly poor ass  
To call my true love to my dance  
Sing O, my love  
O my love, my love, my love  
This have I done for my true love

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day  
I would my true love did so chance  
To sing the legend of my play  
To call my true love to my dance  
Sing O, my love  
O my love, my love, my love  
This have I done for my true love  
This have I done for my true love



## Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Verses 1 and 2

Traditional text by Edith M. G. Reed

Verse 3

New text by composer, Elizabeth Alexander

Infant holy, infant lowly,  
for His bed a cattle stall;  
oxen lowing, little knowing  
Christ, the babe, is Lord of all.  
Swift are winging, angels singing,  
noels ringing, tidings bringing:  
Christ the babe is Lord of all!  
Christ the babe is Lord of all!

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping  
vigil till the morning new.  
Saw the glory, heard the story,  
tidings of a gospel true.  
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,  
praises voicing, greet the morrow:  
Christ the babe was born for you;  
Christ the babe was born for you.

Long awaited, celebrated,  
Babes are born each day and night.  
Precious strangers laid in mangers  
or on bedding clean and bright.  
New hearts beating, old hearts warming,  
Blessed greeting all transforming,  
Ev'ry birth brings love's pure light;  
Ev'ry birth brings love's pure light.

## Silent Night

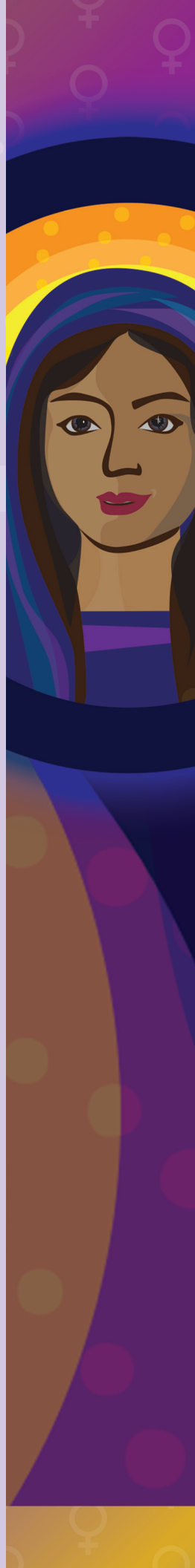
Silent night, holy night  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child  
Holy, holy Infant so tender and mild,  
so mild  
Sleep, sleep in heavenly peace  
In peace  
Sleep in heavenly  
Sleep, sleep in heavenly peace

## How Great Our Joy

While by the sheep we watched at night  
Glad tidings brought an angel bright  
How great our joy

There shall be born, so he did say  
In Bethlehem a child today  
How great our joy

There shall a child lie in a stall  
This child who shall redeem us  
This gift of God we'll cherish well  
That ever joy our hearts shall fill  
How great our joy  
This gift of God  
In Heav'n on high  
How great our joy  
How great our joy  
How great our joy!



Please mark your calendars and join us for the rest of our seventh season of SINGING HER STORY!

Bella Lumina's Seventh Season:

# SINGING HER STORY



## THE JOY OF MARY AND THE SEASON

featuring John Rutter's  
"Dancing Day" Song Cycle  
with harp

Friday, Dec. 6 | 7:30 pm  
Saturday, Dec. 7 | 3:30 pm

Gethsemane Lutheran Church  
715 Minnetonka Mills Road, Hopkins

## OUR SUFFRAGIST SISTERS

featuring Andrea Ramsey's  
"Suffrage Cantata"  
with soprano soloist and narrator

Saturday, March 8 | 3:30 pm

Westwood Lutheran Church  
9001 Cedar Lake Road South, St. Louis Park

## WOMEN'S VOICES FROM BROADWAY

from the unique perspective of  
female stories, characters  
& composers

Saturday, May 10 | 4 pm & 7 pm

Minnetonka United Methodist Church  
17611 Lake Street Extension, Minnetonka



Bella  
Lumina

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Michelle Gehrz, Artistic Director

[www.BellaLuminaChoir.org](http://www.BellaLuminaChoir.org)

*With gratitude ...*

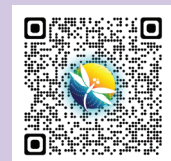
**Gethsemane Lutheran Church, Hopkins:**  
Pr. John Nelson, Rob Reid, Amy Furan,  
Jason Sheats and Russ Sheats

**Photography:**  
Mark Riddle and Jim Arneson

**Recording:**  
Westmark Productions

**Graphic Design and Digital Media:**  
Julie Lindstrom Design

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### MISSION:

Bella Lumina spreads light, hope, and joy through the power of song. We present repertoire of high artistic quality that delivers a powerful message through illuminating texts and inspirational arrangements, showcasing the extraordinary beauty of treble voices.