

**Hexham Orpheus Choir**

# **Charity Christmas Concert**



**In aid of**



**Wednesday December 18th, 7:30**

**St. Mary's Church, Hexham**

**Musical Director: Mark Edwards**

**Accompanist: Warren Smith**

**Hexham Orpheus Choir Regd. Charity No.514942**

**Welcome to our Christmas Concert in aid of ‘Crisis at Christmas’.**  
**We have some choir carols as well as opportunities to join in with four carols.**

**Audience carol**                      **As with gladness men of old**                      **arr. David Willcocks**

Choir                                              Torches                                              John Joubert

Choir                                              The Truth from above                      arr. Vaughan Williams

*Reading (Alan Verheyden)*    *from a Child’s Christmas in Wales*                      *Dylan Thomas*

**Audience carol**                      **It came upon the midnight clear**                      **arr. Arthur Sullivan**

Organ (Warren Smith)                      Sonata in C min mvts i & iii                      G.B. Pescetti

Choir                                              Sans day Carol                                              arr. John Rutter

Choir                                              See amid the winter’s snow                      arr. David Willcocks

*Reading (Judi Cornforth)*                      ‘Psalm’ 151                                              *Anonymous*

Choir                                              Sing out, Rejoice, Sing out!                      Fiona Lander  
                                             This piece has been commissioned in 2019 by Hexham Orpheus Choir

Choir                                              Infant Holy, Infant Lowly                      arr. David Willcocks

**Audience Carol**                      **Once in Royal David’s City**                      **H. J. Gauntlett**  
                                             Solo verse 1: Martha Cook

*Reading (Carolyn Below)*                      *The Twelve Days of Turkey*                      *Anonymous*

Organ (Warren Smith)                      Thema met Variaties                      Hendrik Andriessen

Choir                                              Shepherd’s Farewell  
                                             (from *L’enfance du Christ*)                      Hector Berlioz

Choir                                              Nativity Carol                                              John Rutter

*Reading (Judi Cornforth)*                      *Christmas in Hexham*                      *Stan Beckensall*

**Audience carol**                      **Hark! The Herald**                      **Mendelssohn**

Choir                                              We wish you a Merry Christmas                      arr. Arthur Warrell

---- Please join us for refreshments after the concert ----

**Hexham Orpheus Choir Regd. Charity No.514942**

**As with gladness men of old**  
did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious God, may we  
evermore be led to thee.

As with joyful steps they sped  
to that lowly cradle-bed,  
there to bend the knee before  
him whom heav'n and earth adore;  
so may we with willing feet  
ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare  
at that cradle rude and bare;  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure, and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to thee, our heav'nly King.

In the heav'nly country bright  
need they no created light;  
thou its light, its joy, its crown,  
thou its sun which goes not down;  
there forever may we sing  
alleluias to our King.

**It came upon the midnight clear,**  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth,  
To touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to men  
From heavens all gracious King!"  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,  
With peaceful wings unfurled;  
And still their heavenly music floats  
O'er all the weary world:  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hovering wing,  
And ever o'er its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,  
By prophets seen of old,  
When with the ever-circling years  
Shall come the time foretold,  
When the new heaven and earth shall own  
The Prince of Peace, their King,  
And the whole world send back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

Supporting



**Together**  
**we will end**  
**homelessness**

[crisis.org.uk](http://crisis.org.uk)

-----Solo verse 1-----

### **Once in Royal David's City**

Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all his wondrous childhood  
He would honour and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly Maiden,  
In whose gentle arms he lay:  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as he.

Not in that poor lowly stable,  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him; but in heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high;  
When like stars his children crowned  
All in white shall wait around.

### **Hark! the herald angels sing**

Glory to the new-born King,  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled.  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim,  
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come,  
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.  
Veil'd in flesh the Godhead see!  
Hail, the Incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel:  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth:  
Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King.

### **Next Concert**

## **Edward Elgar The Music Makers**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2020**

**Hexham Abbey**

