

An abstract painting of a tree with white and red branches against a dark background. The tree's branches are rendered in a textured, almost fabric-like style, with white and red threads or fibers woven together. The background is dark and moody, with hints of blue and brown. The overall composition is vertical and expressive.

Woven Into Fire

**University of Mount Union
Christmas Festival**

Thursday, December 10, 11:15 a.m.

Friday, December 11, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, December 12, 7:30 p.m.

Myers Sanctuary, Dewald Chapel

*The fiery torso that descends into our darkness is a covering of glory,
a robe of righteousness. " -Grace Carol Bomer*

Organ Prelude "Christ Is the World's Light" Robert A. Hobby
CHRISTE SANCTORUM, *Paris Antiphoner*, 1861

Glow.....Eric Whitacre

In memoriam Sydney Claire Breyer, who "set the earth aglow"

Softly falls the winter snow,
Whispers to the sleeping world below:
"Wintertide awakes."
Dawning breaks and sets the earth aglow.

In gentle tones of warmest white,
Proclaim the glory of Aurora's light.

Sparrow sings in a clear, clean voice,
A sweet, silver carol for the season born.
Radiant wings as the skies rejoice,
Arise and illuminate the morn.

Softly falls the morning snow,
Whispers to the sleeping world below: "Glow!"

Reading: "Advent" Suzanne Underwood Rhodes

Through the needle's eye
the rich man came
squeezing through stars
of razor light
that pared his body
down to thread.
Gravity crushed his heart's chime
and his breath that breathed out worlds
now flattened as fire between walls.
The impossible slit stripped him,
admitting him
to stitch the human breach.

Veni creator spiritus Anthony Bernaducci

Come, Creator Spirit, visit the souls of your devoted;
With your divine grace fill the hearts which you have created.

Enkindle your light in our minds, infuse your love into our hearts;
Strengthen the frailties of our flesh by your perpetual power.

CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE

People, Look East
(The audience is invited to stand)

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

Prayer of Invocation

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Reading from "The Wreck of the Deutschland" Gerard Manley Hopkins

Now burn, new born to the world,
Doubled-natured name,
The heaven-flung, heart-fleshed, maiden-furled
Miracle-in-Mary-of-flame,
Mid-numbered he in three of the thunder-throne!
Not a dooms-day dazzle in his coming nor dark as he came;
Kind, but royally reclaiming his own;
A released shower, let flash to the shire, not a lightening of fire hard-hurled.

Hymn to the Eternal Flame.....Stephen Paulus

Ev'ry face is in you, ev'ry voice, ev'ry sorrow in you,
Ev'ry pity, ev'ry love, ev'ry mem'ry, woven into fire.

Ev'ry breath is in you, ev'ry cry, ev'ry longing in you,
Ev'ry singing, ev'ry hope, ev'ry healing, woven into fire.

Ev'ry heart is in you, ev'ry tongue, ev'ry trembling in you,
Ev'ry blessing, ev'ry soul, ev'ry shining, woven into fire.

Verbum caro factum est Dan Forrest

In memoriam Dr. Donna J. Michalek

The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us; and we beheld His glory,
The glory as of the only-begotten by the Father, full of grace and truth.

Scripture Reading Luke 2:8-20

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Wexford Carol Traditional Irish
arr. Howard Helvey

Good people all, this Christmas time, consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done, in sending His beloved son.
With Mary holy we should pray, to God with love this Christmas Day:
In Bethlehem upon that morn, there was a blessed Messiah born.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;
To whom God's angel did appear, which put the shepherds in great fear.
"Prepare and go," the angels said, "to Bethlehem, be not afraid;
For there you'll find, this happy morn, a princely babe, sweet Jesus, born."

With thankful heart and joyful mind, the shepherds went the babe to find,
And as God's angel had foretold, they did our Savior Christ behold.
Within a manger He was laid, and by His side a Virgin Maid
Attending on the Lord of Life, who came on earth to end all strife.

O Little Town of Bethlehem Kenneth Jennings

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light,
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sins and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell:
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE
Hark! the Herald Angels Sing
(The audience is invited to stand)

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 angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing; "Glory to the new-born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased with us in flesh 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 Son of Righteousness!
Light and Life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing; "Glory to the new-born King!"

Medieval Gloria Vijay Singh

Glory to God in the highest. And on earth peace to those of good will.
We praise thee. We bless thee. We worship thee. We glorify thee.
We give thanks to thee according to thy great glory.

Festival Alleluia James Whitbourn

Alleluia!

Reading: "Mary" Joan Rae Mills

It wasn't that long ago
that he'd spoken these stars
into being
and this woman's life
was just a thought in his mind.
He'd smiled down on her birth
and entered her name in his pages
perhaps with an asterisk
denoting plans too sacred to be spoken
but pondered in his heart.
Now, newborn,
in wide-eyed wonder
he gazes up at his creation.
His hand that hurled the world
holds tight his mother's finger.
Holy light
spills across her face
and she weeps
silent wondering tears
to know she holds the One
who has so long held her.

Ave Maria Thomas Juneau

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee,
Blessed art thou among women,
And blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
Now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Resonet in Laudibus Thomas Juneau

O Joy! A child is born!
Let Zion resound in praises with the joyful acclaim of the faithful:
He whom Mary bore has appeared. The prophesies of Gabriel are fulfilled.
The Virgin has given birth to God that which divine mercy willed.
Today a king has appeared in Israel, born of the Virgin Mary.
Great is the name of the Lord, Emmanuel, which was announced by Gabriel.

What Strangers Are These? Dan Forrest

What strangers are these that wander through the town?
Hush, 'tis Joseph and weary Mary.
And what does he seek so hopeless and in vain?
He is seeking shelter for Mary.
For she is the blest and chosen of the Lord,
Who will bear to us a goodly King.
And who is this King of whom ye proudly sing?
Know ye not the Christ, Jesus the Savior?

What wee child is this that in a manger lies?
Hush, 'tis Jesus Christ, Son of Mary.
Say what fair maid is this whose joy is mixed with awe?
O 'tis Mary, Mother of Jesus.
O these are the shepherds and these the magi kings
Who have brought Him their gifts of gold and myrrh.
But why kneel in homage here before a babe?
They adore their King, Jesus the Savior.

Who are these that march from death unto life?
These are they who love Jesus the Christ Child.
And how do they triumph o'er the gates of hell?
Through the grace of Him, Jesus the Savior.
He is born to redeem mankind from sin and strife,
To bring peace, joy, love and brotherhood.
O where shall I find him? Where shall I seek?
He is here and now, Jesus your Savior.

Benediction Howard Thurman

When the song of the Angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flocks:
The work of Christmas begins.
To find the lost,
To heal the broken,
To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner,
To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among brothers,
To make music from the heart.
Amen.

CAROL FOR THE AUDIENCE

O Come, All Ye Faithful

(The audience is invited to stand)

O come, all ye faithfull, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of Angels:
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest:
O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Organ Postlude: Venite! John Leavitt

Concert Choir

Soprano

Alexandria Augustine	Japanese	Senior
Erin Bell	Neuroscience	Senior
Ali Caldwell	Nursing	Sophomore
Sarah Donkin	English: Writing	Freshman
Elizabeth Galloway-Purcell	Music Education (voice)	Sophomore
Jennifer Gotschall	Biochemistry (Pre-Med)	Freshman
Jacqueline Jepsen	Biochemistry	Junior
Abigail Lantz	Music Performance (voice)	Freshman
Megan Ostrofsky	Theatre and Middle Childhood Education	Senior
Natalie Ricciutti	Psychology	Senior
Jenna Scurich	Early Childhood Education	Senior
Mary Anne Snyder	Early Childhood Education	Junior
Jenna Waterman	Biology and Exercise Science	Senior
Megan Zwart	Biology (Pre-Med) and Spanish	Freshman

Alto

Angelica Bartholomew	Nursing	Sophomore
Rebecca Cooper	Math, Finance and German	Sophomore
Caelyn Eppler	Music Education (voice)	Junior
Abbie Fox	Biology and French	Junior
Victoria Ginty	Music (voice) and Japanese	Sophomore
Sarah Hohenadel	Biology	Senior
Rachel Irwin	Theatre and Communication	Junior
Paige Morris	Music (piano) and French	Senior
Rebecca Passer	International Studies	Junior
Abbigail Robertson	Music Education (voice)	Freshman
Emily Siedel	Psychology and Criminal Justice	Freshman
Abigail Van Auken	Psychology	Freshman
Alex Waitinas	Theatre and Music (voice)	Senior
Haley Walls	Music Education (voice)	Senior
Theresa Waseity	Exercise Science	Senior
Sarah Yannie	Theatre	Junior

Tenor

Tim Anderson	Marketing	Junior
Anthony Bucci	Psychology	Sophomore
George Carr	Theatre and Music	Freshman
Nick Embrogno	Music Education (euphonium)	Senior
Ben Hayes	Sport Business	Sophomore
Kyle Hermann	Mechanical Engineering	Freshman
Marcus Kinnard	Mechanical Engineering	Sophomore
David Lenahan	Theatre and Music (voice)	Junior
Patrick McKitrick	Music Performance (piano)	Freshman
Jesse Reed	Music Education (voice)	Junior
Clinton Simmons III	Political Science	Junior
Chris Tucker	Undeclared	Freshman
Tony Walsh	Religious Studies	Senior

Bass/Baritone

Ian Donaldson	Accounting	Freshman
Collin Edwards	Biology	Junior
Connor Funk	Mathematics	Sophomore
Bradley Geist	Criminal Justice	Junior
Matt Gorman	English: Literature and Writing	Senior
Zach Henkels	Interactive Media	Sophomore
Kenan Irish	Music (piano)	Sophomore
Jason Lopez	Music (trumpet)	Junior
Marcus Morrison	Biology	Freshman
Hunter Munroe	History	Junior
Jacob Rogers	Psychology	Senior
Tommy Wines	Biology	Freshman
Zak Jaeb	Computer Information Systems	Freshman
Martin Zapata	Psychology and Management	Sophomore

Cantus Femina

Soprano I

Alex Augustine	Japanese	Senior
Erin Bell	Neuroscience	Senior
Shaigan Bhatti	Biology and French	Senior
Taylor Castle	Nursing	Sophomore
Liana Marie Durnell	Economics	Freshman
Elizabeth Galloway-Purcell	Music Education (voice)	Sophomore
Alexa Goffos	Early Childhood Education	Sophomore
Jennifer Gotschall	Biochemistry (Pre-med)	Freshman
Yuki Oride	International Business and Economics	Senior
Gabrielle Patterson	Biology	Freshman
Brittany Piatt	Environmental Science and Geology	Senior
Mary Anne Snyder	Early Childhood Education	Junior
Xiao Xue Wang	Marketing	Junior

Soprano II

Allison Bates	Music Education (flute)	Senior
Rachael Beach	Early Childhood Education	Senior
Caelyn Eppler	Music Education (voice)	Junior
Rachel Ferraiuolo	French and Music (flute)	Freshman
Alaina Fuller	Business and Marketing	Freshman
Abigail Lantz	Music Performance (voice)	Freshman
Kayla Lehman	Communication and Theatre	Sophomore
Katherine Letts	Music Education (voice)	Sophomore
Libby Medvin	Athletic Training	Sophomore
Natalie Ricciutti	Psychology	Senior
Emily Siedel	Psychology and Criminal Justice	Freshman
Madison Sikyta	Athletic Training	Junior
Sarah Slagle	Theatre and Music	Sophomore
Haley Walls	Music Education (voice)	Senior
Brittany Yanik	Biology	Senior

Alto

Alexandria Baklarz	Early Childhood Education	Senior
Lexi Marie Chisholm	Sport Business and Marketing	Sophomore
Bethany Cox	Undeclared	Freshman
Olivia DeMartino	International Affairs	Sophomore
Hannah Edwards	Biology	Sophomore
Kelsey Foegen	German and Japanese	Senior
Abbie Fox	Biology and French	Junior
Sarah Hohenadel	Biology	Senior
Joy Hoile	Music Education (instrumental)	Sophomore
Miranda Huebner	Early Childhood Education	Senior
Rachel Irwin	Theatre and Communication	Junior
Starr Klenotic	Public Relations	Freshman
Mikayla Kovacik	Religious Studies and Music (piano)	Junior
Abbey Molnar	Marketing	Sophomore
Paige Morris	Music and French	Senior
Rachael Powley	Marketing and Spanish	Sophomore
Lindsey Purnell	Nursing	Freshman

Abbigail Robertson	Music Education (voice)	Freshman
Abbey Van Auken	Psychology	Freshman
Alex Waitinas	Theatre and Music (voice)	Senior
Sarah Yannie	Theatre	Junior
Emily Zbasnik	Finance	Senior

Officers

Dr. Grant William Cook III, Artistic Director
 Rev. Marty CashBurless, University Chaplain
 Debbie Foster, Physical Plant Staff
 John M. Roberts and Amanda-Joyce Abbot, Music Faculty
 George, Kristine and Theresa Waseity ('16)
 Sarah Yannie, orator
 Megan Ostrofsky, orator
 David Lenahan, orator

Collaborative Artists

Nancy Howenstine, organ and piano
 Erin Bell, soprano
 Abbigail Robertson, mezzo-soprano
 Adam Sarata, guitar
 Allison Bates, flute
 Jason Lopez, trumpet,
 Alex Waitinis, trumpet
 Chris Tucker, trombone
 Nick Embrogno, euphonium
 Connor Funk, percussion
 Rachel Powley, percussion

Cover Art:

Advent/Through the Needle's Eye the Rich Man Came by Grace Carol Bomer (used by permission)

The artist's painting was inspired by Suzanne Rhodes' poem "Advent," which is printed on page one of the program.

www.gracecarolbomer.com



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