

FINE ARTS DIVISION Department of Music

presents

MASS OF THE CHILDREN BY JOHN RUTTER

Pepperdine Concert Choir and Children's Choir Ryan Board, director, audio mix Hiroyo Hatsuyama, rehearsal pianist Kevin Su Fukagawa, digital orchestration Danielle Lobello & Holly Jackson, video production

Kaytlin Withers, soprano Jack Gerding, baritone

Pepperdine Choir Masterworks
Friday, May 14, 2021 • 7:30 PM PDT

A virtual benefit concert for RaisingHOPE, benefiting children and young adults experiencing foster care.

A Mary Pickford-Stotsenberg Performance

RaisingHOPE

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Mass of the Children was written in response to an invitation to compose a new work for a concert during the American Choral Directors' Association national convention in New York in February 2003. Rutter's larger-scale choral works have been relatively few—the *Gloria*, the *Requiem*, and the *Magnificat* are the most often performed—but each one has a distinct character. *Mass of the Children* represents something new in the composer's work insofar as it was conceived with an integral role for a children's choir alongside an adult mixed choir, two soloists, and orchestra. The role of the children's choir is to add a further dimension to the traditional Latin Mass sung by the adult choir, sometimes commenting, sometimes amplifying the meaning and mood.

The Mass text itself (a *Missa Brevis*, that is to say a mass without a Credo section) is mainly sung by the adult choir or the soloists. The children sometimes sing the Latin—for example at the *Christe eleison*, the opening of the *Gloria* and at the *Benedictus*— but elsewhere they and the two soloists sing specially chosen English texts which in some way reflect upon or illuminate the Latin. The work opens with two verses from Bishop Thomas Ken's morning hymn for the Scholars of Winchester College, and it closes with the children singing his evening hymn with Tallis' timeless melody, as the adults intone the traditional *Dona nobis pacem*, a prayer for peace. This creates a framework (from waking to sleeping) within which other texts and moods appear in kaleidoscopic succession, like events in a day or landmarks in a life.

(johnrutter.com/music/programme-notes)

1. Kyrie

Children

Awake my soul, and with the sun Thy daily stage of duty run; Shake off dull sloth, and joyful rise To pay thy morning sacrifice.

Redeem thy mis-spent time that's past, Live this day as if 'twere thy last: Improve thy talent with due care; For the great Day thyself prepare.

(Thomas Ken, 1637–1711)

Adults (then children and soloists)

Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Lord have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord have mercy.

2. Gloria

Children, then adults:

Gloria in excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis. *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to all men.*

Children:

Glory be to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth.

Adults:

Laudamus te, benedicimus te, adoramus te. We praise the, we bless the, we adore thee. Gratias agimus tibi propter magnam gloriam tuam. We give Thee thanks for Thy great glory.

Soloists:

Domine Deus, Rex caelestis, Deus Pater omnipotens. Oh Lord God, Heavenly King, God the Father almighty. Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe Lord Jesus Christ, only begotten Son

Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
Qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
Who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Qui tollis peccata mundi, suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Who takes away the sins of the world, receive our prayer.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris, miserere nobis.
Who sits at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.

Adults:

Quoniam Tu solus sanctus, tu solus Dominus, tu solus Altissimus, *Thou alone art holy, Thou alone art God, Thou alone art the most high,* Jesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu in gloria Dei Patris, Amen. *Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father, Amen.*

3. Sanctus and Benedictus

Adults:

Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth, Hosanna Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, Hosanna Pleni sunt caeli et terra, gloria tua, gloria. Full are heaven and earth of thy glory. Hosanna in excelsis. Hosanna in the highest.

Children and Adults:

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini, Hosanna Blessed who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna

Soloists:

Benedictus, qui venit in nomine Domini, Blessed who comes in the name of the Lord,

Children and Adults:

Sanctus *Holy*

4. Agnus Dei

Adults:

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis. Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Children:

Little lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee? Gave thee life and bid thee feed, By the stream and o'er the mead; Gave thee clothing of delight, softest clothing, wooly bright; Gave thee such a tender voice, Making all the vales rejoice:

Adults

Little lamb, I'll tell thee; He is called by thy name, For he calls himself a Lamb: God bless thee.

Children:

He is meek and he is mild, He became a little child: I, a child, and thou, a lamb, We are called by his name. Little lamb, God bless thee.

Adults:

Miserere nobis. *Have mercy on us.*

5. Finale (Dona nobis pacem)

Baritone Soloist:

Lord, open thou mine eyes that I may see thee,
Lord, open thou my lips that I may praise thee;
Lord, open thou my heart that I may love thee,
Serve thee with joy, fear none above thee.
Christ by my sword and shield, my strong defender;
Christ be my light and my Redeemer.
Lord, be with me this day in each endeavour;
Lord keep my soul with thee now and forever.

Dona nobis pacem, *Grant us peace*

Soprano Soloist:

Christ, be my guide today, my guide tomorrow,
Christ in my days of joy, my days of sorrow,
Christ in the silent hours when I lie sleeping,
Safe in his holy angels' keeping.
Christ be within the hearts of all who love me;
Christ be all around, and Christ above me.
Christ in my thought and prayer and my confessing;
Christ, when I go to rest, Grant me your blessing.
Dona nobis pacem,
Grant us peace

Adults:

Dona nobis pacem, *Grant us peace*Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi. *Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.*

Children's Choir:

Glory to thee, my God, this night
For all the blessings of the light
Keep me, O keep me, King of kings,
Beneath thy own almighty wings.
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him, all creatures here below,
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Children's Choir

James Board

Nicholas Board

Clare Daughrity

Mande Mae Daughrity

Jason Menear

Tevyn Reyes

Samuel Vargas

Santiago Vargas

Elise Aquilon

First-Year
Business Administration
and Music minor
Santa Barbara, CA

Emily Audras

Sophomore English Credential (Vocal Music Minor) Agoura Hills, CA

Avery Beavers

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Junior Music: Applied Voice Kansas City, MO

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Music: Applied Instrumental Helena, MT

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*in memoriam

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