

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

December 9-11, 2022

Co-produced with Richard Eaton Singers

Featuring:

Timothy Shantz, Conductor

Hannah Pagenkopf, Soprano

Sara Staples, Mezzo-Soprano

John Tessier, Tenor

Michael Kurschat, Bass

Richard Eaton Singers

Messiah, HWV 56

(Watkins Shaw edition)

Part I

1	Orchestra	Sinfonia
2	Tenor recit	Comfort ye my people
3	Tenor aria	Every valley shall be exalted
4	Chorus	And the glory
5	Bass recit	Thus saith the Lord
6	Alto aria	But who may abide
7	Chorus	And he shall purify
8	Alto recit	Behold, a Virgin shall conceive
9	Alto aria/chor	O Thou that Tellest
10	Bass recit.	For behold, darkness shall cover the earth
11	Bass aria	The people that walked in darkness
12	Chorus	For unto us a child is born
13	Orchestra	Pifa Sinfonia (Version I)
14	Sop recit	There were shepherds
15	Sop recit	And the angel said unto them
16	Sop recit	And suddenly there was with the angel
17	Chorus	Glory to God
18	Soprano aria	Rejoice greatly
19	Alto recit	Then shall the eyes of the blind
20	Alto/sop aria	He shall feed his flock
21	Chorus	His yoke is easy

INTERMISSION (20 minutes)

Part II

22	Chorus	Behold the Lamb of God
23	Alto aria	He was despised
24	Chorus	Surely He hath borne our griefs
25	Chorus	And with His stripes
26	Chorus	All we like sheep
27	Tenor recit	All they that see Him

28	Chorus	He trusted in God
29	Tenor recit	Thy rebuke hath broken his heart
30	Tenor recit	Behold, and see if there be any sorrow
31	Tenor recit	He was cut off from the land of the living
32	Tenor aria	But thou did'st not leave his soul in hell
33	Chorus	Lift up your heads
38	Soprano aria	How beautiful are the feet
39	Chorus	Their sound is gone out
40	Bass aria	Why do the nations?
41	Chorus	Let us break their bonds
42	Tenor recit	He that dwelleth in heaven
43	Tenor aria	Thou shalt break them
44	Chorus	Hallelujah

Part III

45	Aria	I know that my Redeemer liveth
46	Chorus	Since by man came death
47	Bass recit	Behold I tell you a mystery
48	Bass aria	The trumpet shall sound
53	Chorus	Worthy is the Lamb – Amen

Texts

Part I

Recit

Comfort ye, my people, saith your God; speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness:

Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Aria

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low: the crooked straight and the rough places plain.

[Isaiah 40:1-4]

Chorus

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

[Isaiah 40:5]

Recit

Thus saith the Lord of Hosts: Yet once a little while, and I will shake the heavens, and the earth, and the sea and the dry land, and I will shake all nations, and the desire of nations shall come. The Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in, behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts.

[Haggai 2:6-7; Malachi 3:1]

Aria

But who may abide the day of His coming? And who shall stand when He appeareth? For He is like a refiner's fire.

[Malachi 3:2]

Chorus

And He shall purify the sons of Levi, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness.

[Malachi 3:3]

Recit

Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel, God with us.

[Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23]

Aria/Chorus

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain; O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah: Behold your God! Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

[Isaiah 40:9; 60:1]

Recit

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people: but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

[Isaiah 60:2-3]

Aria

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light, and they that dwell in the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

[Isaiah 9:2]

Chorus

For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace

[Isaiah 9:6]

Recit

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.

Recit

And the angel said unto them: Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people: for unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Recit

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying:

[Luke 2:8-11,13]

Chorus

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men.

[Luke 2:14]

Aria

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion, shout, O daughter of Jerusalem, behold, thy King cometh unto thee. He is the righteous Saviour, and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

[Zechariah 9:9-10]

Recit

Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

[Isaiah 35:5-6]

Aria

He shall feed his flock like a shepherd, and He shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young. Come unto Him, all ye that labour, that are heavy laden, and He will give you rest. Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him, for he is meek and lowly of heart, and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

[Isaiah 40:11; Matthew 11:28-29]

Chorus

His yoke is easy, and his burthen is light.

[Matthew 11:30]

Part II

Chorus

Behold the lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world.

[John 1:29]

Aria

He was despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief. He gave His back to the smiters, and His cheeks to them that plucked off the hair; He hid not His face from shame and spitting.

[Isaiah 53:3; 50:6]

Chorus

Surely He hath borne our griefs and carried out sorrows. He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities, the chastisement of our peace was upon Him.

Chorus

And with His stripes we are healed.

Chorus

All we like sheep have gone astray, we have turned every one to his own way. And the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

[Isaiah 53:4-6]

Recit

All they that see Him laugh Him to scorn: they shoot out their lips, and shake their heads, saying:

[Psalms 22:8]

Chorus

He trusted in God that He would deliver Him: let Him deliver Him, if He delight in Him.

[Psalms 22:9]

Recit

Thy rebuke hath broken His heart; He is full of heaviness: he looked for some to have pity on Him, but there was no man, neither found He any, to comfort Him

[Psalms 69:21]

Recit

Behold and see if there be any sorrow like unto His sorrow.

[Lamentations 1:12]

Recit

He was cut off out of the land of the living, for the transgression of Thy people was He stricken.

[Isaiah 53:8]

Aria

But Thou didst not leave His soul in hell, nor didst Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption.

[Psalms 16:10]

Chorus

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. The Lord of Hosts: He is the King of Glory.

[Psalms 24:7-10]

Aria

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things.

[Romans 10:15]

Chorus

Their sound is gone out into all lands, and their words unto the ends of the world.

[Romans 10:18]

Aria

Why do the nations so furiously rage together, and why do the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord and His Anointed.

[Psalms 2:1-2]

Chorus

Let us break their bonds asunder, and cast away their yokes from us.

[Psalms 2:3]

Recit

He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn: the Lord shall have them in derision. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

[Psalms 2:4,9]

Chorus

Hallelujah! for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever. King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

[Revelation 19:6; 11:15; 19:16]

Part III

Aria

I know that my redeemer liveth, and that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth: and though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God. For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that sleep.

[Job 19:25-26; I Corinthians 15:20]

Chorus

Since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

[I Corinthians 15:21-22]

Recit

Behold, I tell you a mystery: we shall not sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

Aria

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality.

[I Corinthians 15:51-53]

Chorus

Worthy is the lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by his blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Blessing and honour, glory and power be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever and ever.

[Revelation 5:12-13]

Chorus

Amen.