



LIVING WORD

LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL



a Christmas Concert

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025

FEATURING:

*basiC, Concert Choir, Concert Band,
Honors Band Ensemble & Una Voce*

DIRECTORS:

Mr. Zach Roeglin & Ms. Katie Wierschem

ACCOMPANIST:

Ms. Valerie Bremer

"FOR UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY IN THE CITY



OF DAVID A SAVIOR, WHO IS CHRIST THE LORD"

LUKE 2:11

Program

COMBINED CHOIRS

Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head

Carl Schalk

Soloists: Jacob Webster, Tierra Allen

CHRISTMAS CAROL - PLEASE SING ALONG

Angels We Have Heard on High

LSB #368

1. Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply, Echoing their joyous strains.

Refrain: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be, Which inspire your heav'nly song? [Refrain]

3. Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. [Refrain]

CONCERT CHOIR

A Call To Christmas

Adam Miller

BASIC

Light of the World

Lauren Daigle
Paul Duncan
Paul Mabury

COMBINED MEN'S CHOIR

Ding, Dong, Merrily On High

Judith Herington

Sara Glick

UNA VOCE

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

Craig Courtney

Violinist: Carla Pisani

Accompanied By Shangyi Zhou

BASIC

Joy To the World (Joyful, Joyful)

Phil Wickham

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COMBINED WOMEN'S CHOIR

There Is Faint Music

Dan Forrest

Guest Conductor: Abigail Moeller (CUW Pre-Student Teacher)

UNA VOCE

No Room, No Room

Ruth Morris Gray

BASIC

Holly Jolly Christmas

Michael Bublé

COMBINED CHOIRS

A New Noel

Travis Boyd

CHRISTMAS CAROL - PLEASE SING ALONG

Silent Night

LSB #363

During this song, we will be collecting a free-will offering to support our school.

1. Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright. Round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy Infant, so tender and mild. Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heav'nly hosts sing, Alleluia! Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!

3. Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light. Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Concert Band

A Charlie Brown Christmas

Paul Martha

Boomwacker Ensemble

Ukrainian Carol of The Bells

Nicholas Hanson

Concert Band

The First Noel

Julie Girox

Flugel Horn Solo: Caleb Masenthin

Honors Band Ensemble

The Polar Express

Johnnie Vinson

Concert Band

A New Orlean's Nutcracker Suite

Michael Kamuf

Mvt I. Overture

Mvt II. Dirge for a Sugar Plum Fairy

Mvt III. Tremé Trepak

CHRISTMAS CAROL - PLEASE SING ALONG

The First Noel

English Carol

1. The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain: Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

2. They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night. [Refrain]

3. Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of naught, and with his blood our life hath bought.
[Refrain]

Program Notes

Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head

Carl Schalk

Carl Schalk's arrangement of "*Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head*" beautifully reimagines this traditional Appalachian carol with his signature clarity, warmth, and reverence. The piece captures the simplicity of the nativity scene—gentle, folk-like melodies paired with elegant choral writing that invites listeners into the quiet wonder of Christ's birth. Tonight, the choirs will surround the audience as they sing, allowing the music to unfold from all directions. This immersive placement is meant to reflect the carol's message of humility and welcome, wrapping the audience in the same sense of intimacy found in the stable on that holy night. As the voices blend from around the room, may you sense the peace and tenderness of the Child who came to bring rest to the world.

A Call To Christmas

Adam Miller

A Call to Christmas by Adam Miller is a vibrant and energetic invitation into the joy and anticipation of the Christmas season. With rhythmic drive, bright harmonies, and soaring melodic lines, the piece captures the excitement that builds as the world prepares to celebrate Christ's birth. Miller blends contemporary choral textures with a festive spirit that feels both fresh and familiar, echoing the call of the angels as the music grows in intensity. *A Call to Christmas* sets a celebratory tone and invites the audience to experience the wonder, hope, and promise at the heart of this season.

Light of the World

Lauren Daigle, Paul Duncan, and Paul Mabury

Light of the World, written by Lauren Daigle, Paul Duncan, and Paul Mabury, is a modern Christmas worship song that reflects on the longing, hope, and wonder surrounding the birth of Jesus. Its gentle melody and heartfelt lyrics draw listeners into the moment when Christ—the true Light—entered a world in darkness, bringing peace, redemption, and promise. This piece invites the audience to pause, reflect, and celebrate the light that continues to shine through Christ's presence in our lives.

Ding, Dong, Merrily On High

Judith Herington, and Sara Glick

Ding, Dong, Merrily on High, arranged by Judith Herington and Sara Glick, is a lively and festive carol that captures the joy and celebration of the Christmas season. Its sparkling melodies and rhythmic energy evoke the ringing of church bells and the cheerful spirit of the holiday. Tonight, the boys from both of our choir ensembles will bring this piece to life, filling the space with bright, jubilant sound and spreading the merriment of Christmas to the audience.

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

Craig Courtney

Where Shepherds Lately Knelt by Craig Courtney is a tender and reflective Christmas anthem that captures the quiet awe and reverence of the nativity scene. The piece features rich harmonies, flowing melodies, and expressive choral textures that evoke the intimate moment when the shepherds first knelt before the newborn Christ. Its lyrical lines and dynamic contrasts invite listeners to feel both the serenity and the profound joy of this holy night, creating a contemplative and moving musical experience that embodies the spirit of the Christmas season.

Joy To the World (Joyful, Joyful)

Phil Wickham

Joy to the World (Joyful, Joyful), by Phil Wickham, is a contemporary reimagining of the classic Christmas hymn, blending the familiar celebratory spirit with fresh, uplifting energy. With vibrant melodies, dynamic rhythms, and soaring harmonies, the piece captures the exuberance and joy of Christ's birth, inviting listeners to lift their voices in praise. Its modern arrangement brings a sense of immediacy and celebration, making the timeless message of Christmas feel alive, joyful, and full of hope.

There Is Faint Music

Dan Forrest

There Is Faint Music, by Dan Forrest, is a gentle and evocative choral piece that captures the quiet wonder and anticipation of the Christmas season. Tonight, it will be performed by the girls from both of our choir ensembles, creating a delicate and harmonious sound that reflects the piece's serene beauty. This performance will be conducted by *Abigail Moeller*, a pre-student teacher from Concordia University Wisconsin, who joined us this past semester for a few weeks to gain teaching experience before beginning her official student teaching in the spring. Abigail's leadership and fresh perspective bring a unique and heartfelt touch to this stirring piece, inviting the audience to pause and experience the peaceful majesty of the season.

No Room, No Room

Ruth Morris Gray

No Room, No Room, by Ruth Morris Gray, is a poignant and dramatic Christmas anthem that reflects on the humble and challenging circumstances of Christ's birth. Through expressive harmonies, evocative text painting, and shifting dynamics, the piece portrays the crowded, chaotic world into which the Savior came, highlighting both the struggle and the profound significance of that night. Performed by *Una Voce*, this work invites listeners to reflect on the depth of the Christmas story and the humility and grace of the Christ child.

Holly Jolly Christmas

Michael Bublé

Holly Jolly Christmas is a cheerful holiday classic that brings timeless Christmas joy through its upbeat swing feel and festive energy. Originally written by Johnny Marks and popularized again through Michael Bublé's smooth, big-band style, this arrangement captures the sparkle and warmth of the season. While the song focuses on the lighthearted fun of Christmastime, its cheerful spirit ultimately points us back to the true reason we celebrate—Christ's coming into the world, bringing hope, joy, and the greatest gift of all.

A New Noel

Travis Boyd

A New Noel by Travis Boyd is a contemporary Christmas choral piece that celebrates the joy and wonder of Christ's birth. With soaring melodies, lush harmonies, and uplifting rhythms, the work captures the excitement of a world welcoming the Savior. This performance features a combined choir, allowing the voices to blend and swell, emphasizing the grandeur and communal spirit of the piece. Through its vibrant energy and heartfelt expression, *A New Noel* invites listeners to rejoice in the hope, love, and renewal that the Christmas season brings.

A Charlie Brown Christmas

Paul Martha

A Charlie Brown Christmas, arranged by Paul Martha, captures the charm, warmth, and playful spirit of the beloved holiday special. With familiar jazz-inspired melodies, swinging rhythms, and rich harmonies, the piece evokes the nostalgia and joy of the Peanuts holiday classic while showcasing the energy and character of the music. Through its lively textures and expressive phrasing, the arrangement brings to life the humor, heart, and timeless appeal of the story, inviting the audience to celebrate the season with both cheer and reflection.

Ukrainian Carol of The Bells

Nicholas Hanson

Ukrainian Carol of the Bells, by Nicholas Hanson, is a vibrant and energetic arrangement of the traditional Ukrainian carol, known for its cascading rhythms and festive spirit. Tonight, the piece will be performed on Boomwhackers, adding a colorful and percussive twist to the familiar melody. This creative adaptation was inspired by senior student *Amelia Young*, whose enthusiasm and innovation brought this unique presentation to life. The rhythmic drive and bright tones of the Boomwhackers capture the excitement and joy of the season, offering a lively and memorable musical experience.

The First Noel

Julie Girox

The First Noel, arranged by Julie Girox, is a beautiful and reflective setting of the classic Christmas carol, featuring lyrical melodies and rich harmonic textures that highlight the serene wonder of the nativity. This performance includes a featured Flugelhorn solo by senior trumpet player *Caleb Masenthin*, adding a warm and expressive voice to the arrangement. Julie Girox is one of the few female composers and band directors in a field historically dominated by men, making her contributions especially noteworthy. Her work not only brings a fresh and distinctive perspective to traditional band literature but also serves as an inspiring example of the growing impact of women in music leadership.

The Polar Express

Johnnie Vinson

The Polar Express, by Johnnie Vinson, is an exciting and imaginative concert band piece that brings the magic of the beloved story to life through music. With lively rhythms, vivid melodies, and dynamic contrasts, the piece captures the wonder and anticipation of a journey to the North Pole, evoking the thrill of a train ride full of adventure and holiday spirit. Performed tonight by our Honors Band Ensemble, this arrangement immerses listeners in the story's enchantment, conveying both the excitement of the journey and the warmth of the Christmas season.

A New Orleans's Nutcracker Suite

Michael Kamuf

Movement I: The Overture sets the stage with a lively and energetic introduction, blending the familiar themes of Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* with the rhythms and flavors of New Orleans jazz. Bold brass lines, swinging rhythms, and playful woodwind passages immediately draw listeners into a festive, city-inspired reinterpretation of the classic ballet.

Movement II: Dirge for a Sugar Plum Fairy offers a darker, more introspective twist on the traditional "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy." Incorporating bluesy harmonies and soulful melodic lines, the Dirge evokes a sense of longing and melancholy while still retaining Kamuf's signature New Orleans flair. It provides a contrast to the surrounding energetic movements, inviting listeners to pause and reflect.

Movement III: Tremé Trepak concludes the suite with a spirited and rhythmically infectious finale inspired by the vibrant Tremé neighborhood of New Orleans. Syncopated rhythms, swinging brass, and driving percussion propel the music forward, transforming the traditional Russian dance into a joyous, jazz-infused celebration. The energy and exuberance of this movement leave audiences with a sense of fun, vitality, and festive excitement.

Concert Band

Flute: Simone Manns, Abijah Taylor-Shabaka,

Clarinet: Elizabeth Ammel*+@, Robert Hagner+@, Silas Hansen, Evalet Timothy, Emma Schumacher@, Amelia Young*&+@

Bass Clarinet: David Montguire@

Trumpet: Brooke Makela, Caleb Masenthin*+@

Baritone: Joseph Kott

Trombone: Lucas Kaae, Toby Masenthin*+@

Tuba: Dr. John Anderson (Guest Tuba Player)

Percussion: Conner Becker, Silas Strand*+@, Luke Toeller*, Evan Stolte,

Section Leader = *
Concert Master = &
Honors Band = +
Boomwacker Ensemble = @

basīC

(brothers and sisters in Christ)

Vocals: Kaleah Alles, Eliza Anderson, Amelia Mortenson, Abby Schaufler, Jacob Webster

Guitar: Ezekiel Smedal

Electric Bass: Amelia Young

Keyboard: Emily Lepien

Percussion: Alayna Kurozawa (Electric Guitar), Matthew Merkel

Sound: Caleb Demmon

Concert Choir

Soprano: Cydney Dunlap, Ashlyn Dunn, Enyla Edwards, Cerri Horne, June Huber, Morgan May, Zoe O'Brien, Rosalia Santamaria, Sophia Toerpe

Alto: Amelia Davies, Solara Fulton, Nora Kons, Brooke Makela, Piper Mayworm, Braelyn Passmore, Amelia Slaats, Tatum Zindler

Baritone: Tayvin Bergmann, Ethan Bergstresser, Mason Kutz, Daniel Vierkant, Jonathan Webster

Una Voce - Honors Choir

(With One Voice)

Soprano: Tierra Allen*, Isabell Jordan, Amelia Mortenson, Abby Schaufler

Alto: Laila Gilmore, Serenity Nickson, Ava Paape, Carla Pisani, Rosalia Santamaria, Kiera Timothy*

Baritone: Conner Becker, Gunnar Stark, Abijah Taylor-Shebaka, Jacob Webster*

Choir Accompaniments: Shangyi Zhou

Section Leader = *

SPECIAL THANKS

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Ms. Bremer for accompanying tonight's concert and for the countless hours of preparation that made this evening possible.

Thank you to Grace Lutheran Church for graciously allowing us to perform in this beautiful sanctuary.

Thank you to the LWLHS Administration for their continuous support, both now and in the years to come.

Thank you to the faculty, staff, and coaches at LWLHS for all of their support in our program, and for working with our students to help them keep up with their work during the weeks leading up to our concert, as well as for coordinating all the extra practices. You are truly a blessing to our school.

Thank you to all of the parents and families of our music students for supporting our students and our program in everything we do. From countless hours of driving students to and from performances, to encouraging them to strive for excellence, your support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with tonight's concert and for all of their hard work to make it a success.

Thank you to Mr. Chris Marshall and the Milwaukee Lutheran High School band program for letting us borrow a flugelhorn for tonight's concert.

Thank you to Mr. Winter and Mr. Bynum for their invaluable assistance with the program and their dedication to helping prepare for this concert.

Thank you to everyone who joined us this evening and supported our students and all of their hard work. The students have been working tirelessly on the music and are so excited to share it with you.

Above all, we give thanks to God for the gift of music and the many blessings He has bestowed upon us, especially Jesus - the greatest gift we received on that first Christmas night.

To God be the glory,
Mr. Roeglin, Ms. Wierschem, and the Living Word Music Students

UPCOMING PERFORMING ARTS EVENTS at LIVING WORD

LWLHS Spring Play: *Harvey*

Friday, March 13, at 7:00 pm and Saturday, March 14, at 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Symphonic Band and Una Voce Tour: *Madison and Wisconsin Dells*

April 9 - 12, 2026

Fine Arts Festival at LWLHS

Sunday, May 17, 2026, at 4:30 pm

Class of 2026 Graduation

Saturday, May 30, 2026, at 11:00 am

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THE LWLHS MUSIC PROGRAM?

Thank you for supporting the talented students of the Living Word Lutheran High School music program! Your generosity helps us continue to provide exceptional opportunities for students to grow in their musical gifts, honor God through their talents, and enrich our community with their performances.

How You Can Help:

- **Scan the QR Code:** Quickly and securely make your donation by scanning the QR code below.
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Together, we make music that glorifies our Lord. Thank you for your support!

