

A blue-tinted photograph of a Chicago city street during a snowfall. A silver and grey elevated train is moving along its tracks, curving to the right. The background features a mix of modern glass skyscrapers and older brick buildings. The overall atmosphere is wintry and serene.

CHICAGO  CHORALE

A  
Chicago Chorale  
Christmas

MERRY CHRISTMAS FROM CHICAGO CHORALE! We are a professional-level ensemble of singers drawn from throughout the Chicago area, who cultivate our craft out of genuine love and dedication, giving freely of our time and talent. This collection of Advent and Christmas choral pieces is drawn from our diverse repertoire, featuring well-loved favorites, classic masterpieces, and new, unfamiliar works. Chicago Chorale performs music that challenges and thrills listeners and performers alike. This season has inspired poets and composers since the beginning of the Christian era, to express the warmth, joy, and love of new birth illuminating the darkness of midwinter, with some of their loveliest and most heartfelt music. We trust you will enjoy what we offer here, and that it will enrich the beauty of the season.

1 **O come, o Come Emmanuel,**

*Plainsong, arr. Bruce Tammen*

TRANSLATED JOHN MASON PEALE

2 **Ave Maria,**

*Franz Biebl (1906–2001)*

The angel of God visited Maria and she conceived of the Holy Spirit. Maria said: See the servant of the Lord.

May it happen to me according to your word.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us.

Hail Mary, Full of grace, the Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,

Holy Mary, pray for us now and in the hour of our death. Amen.

WILDY'S MUSIKVERLAG, 1964; HINSHAW MUSIC, 1992 HMC1253

3 **Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming,**

*Michael Praetorius (1571–1621), arr. Jan Sandström*

SVERIGES KÖRFBUND'S FÖRLAG, STOCKHOLM; WALTON MUSIC CORPORATION, 1995

4 **Virga Jesse floruit,** WAB 52,  
*Anton Bruckner (1824–1896)*

The branch from Jesse blooms:  
a Virgin brings forth God and man:  
God restores peace,  
reconciling in Himself the lowest  
with the highest. Alleluia.

C.F. PETERS, 1961. #6317

5 **Bogoroditse Devo** (Vespers, Op. 37),  
*Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873–1943)*

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with Thee.  
Blessed art Thou among women,  
and blessed is the Fruit of Thy womb,  
for Thou hast borne the Savior of our souls.

MUSICA RUSSICA, 1991

6 **Den signade dag,**

*Traditional Swedish, arr. Nils Lindberg*

This blessed day, which is now upon us, comes to us from Heaven; he gives us his blessing, he lets us behold him,

for our benefit and joy.

Yes, may the mighty Lord protect us today from sins and sorrows.

This blessed day, this blessed time, may I have it in mind each morning, when the sun of mercy, so glorious and gentle, rises to shine for all the world.

And the shepherds harkened to God's angels in the sky; they sang, that the day was here.

But like a bird lifts himself on his wings towards the height of the sky, as he praises his God, and is happy and content, when he soars above the earth; thus, the soul rises, in heartfelt joy, to Heaven with paeon and prayers.  
GEHRMANS MUSIKFÖRLAG, STOCKHOLM 1992

7 **A Spotless Rose,**

*Herbert Howells (1892–1983)*

STAINER AND BELL, 1919 GALAXY MUSIC CORPORATION

8 **In The Bleak Midwinter,**

*Gustav Holst (1874–1934)*

SERVICE BOOK AND HYMNAL, LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA, 1958

9 **O magnum mysterium,**

*Javier Busto (b. 1949)*

O great mystery and wonderful sacrament, that animals should see the new-born Lord, lying in a manger! Blessed is the Virgin whose womb was worthy to bear the Lord, Jesus Christ. Alleluia!

USED BY PERMISSION. BUSTOVEGA 2004.  
DEPOSITO LEGAL SS-0288-04

10 **Hodie Christus natus est,**  
*Francis Poulenc (1899–1963)*

Today Christ is born:  
Today the Savior appeared:  
Today on Earth the Angels sing,  
Archangels rejoice:  
Today the righteous rejoice, saying:  
Glory to God in the highest. Alleluia.

SALABERT, PARIS; FRANCO COLOMBO,  
NY. 1962 E.A.S. 16762

11 **O Jesu so Meek,**  
*Georg Christian Schemelli (1678–1762);*  
*harmonized by J.S. Bach (1685–1750)*

SERVICE BOOK AND HYMNAL, LUTHERAN  
CHURCH IN AMERICA, 1958

12 **The Bethlehem Star,**  
*Bob Chilcott (b. 1955)*

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 2013

13 **O Little Town of Bethlehem,**  
*Lewis H. Redner (1831–1908)*

SERVICE BOOK AND HYMNAL, LUTHERAN  
CHURCH IN AMERICA, 1958

14 **Es ist das Heil uns kommen her,**  
*Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)*

Salvation has come to us  
from grace and sheer kindness  
Works never help,  
they cannot protect us.  
Faith looks towards Jesus Christ

who has done enough for all of us.  
He has become our mediator.  
C.F. PETERS, 1968. #66133

15 **Ding Dong Merrily on High,**  
*16th century French, arr. Charles Wood*

CAROLS FOR CHOIRS, OXFORD  
UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1961

16 **Lux fulgebit,**  
*Javier Centeno Martin (b. 1973)*

A light shall shine upon us this day:  
for the Lord is born to us:  
and He shall be called Wonderful,  
God, the Prince of Peace,  
and Father of the world to come: of  
whose reign there shall be no end.

USED BY PERMISSION. NAUCLERO EDICIONES  
COLECCION TITANIA DL VA 1059-2015

17 **Infant Holy, Infant Lowly,**  
*arr. David Willcocks*

CAROLS FOR CHOIRS, OXFORD  
UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1961

18 **A Merry Christmas,**  
*arr. Arthur Warrell*

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS, 1935

19 **Toast pour le nouvel an,**  
*Gioachino Rossini (1792–1868)*

On this day so sweet,  
everyone to the rendezvous, let the  
New Year be feted by us!

Pleasures, songs, gifts, candy, hurry,  
boys and girls.

Friendship, tender love, each in turn  
will celebrate this fine day's return.  
With joyful feasts, young hearts, old  
wines, isn't this heavenly happiness?

Yes, for us all, it's the image of  
heaven.

Companions, in long draughts, drink!  
o Virgin mother, look favorably  
on us, guard on earth our blessed  
sons!

On this day so sweet ... Tra la la la la;  
Let champagne foaming, sparkling,  
froth, true happiness is there.  
Companions, without fuss pull out  
the corks, empty the bottles, feast,  
clink glasses!

To the New Year, clink glasses!  
CARUS VERLAG, 1992

## Bruce Tammen, Artistic Director

Conductor and Artistic Director Bruce Tammen holds degrees from Luther College, Northwestern University, and the University of Chicago. He has taught voice and directed choirs at Luther College, the University of Chicago, and the University of Virginia. He is the recipient of the 2012 Weston Noble Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Vocal Music. Tammen studied extensively in France with Dalton Baldwin and Gerard Souzay, and for several years studied with Max Van Egmond at Oberlin's Baroque Performance Institute. He has performed several seasons under Helmuth Rilling at the Oregon Bach Festival, and with the Robert Shaw Choral Institute, in Souillac, France. Tammen is baritone soloist on the Telarc/Shaw compact discs *Appear and Inspire* and *Liebeslieder Waltzes*.

## Chicago Chorale Members

### SOPRANO

Rebecca Blumer  
Elena Buis  
Genevieve Faber  
Jenn Hawe  
Rebecca Incedon  
Sophie Krahnke  
Erin Lane  
Katie Little  
Sophie Littleton  
Talina Madonna  
Leslie Mataya  
Jessica Melger  
Jennifer Meyer  
Maura Monahan  
Cassandra Pautler  
Katherine Price  
Janet Romo Bridgett  
Kelsey Welch  
Jill White  
Rebecca Witmer

### ALTO

Sasha Austin  
Erielle Bakkum  
Megan Balderston  
Mary Bellmar  
Kirsten Belzer  
Abby Bunce  
Allison Hoover-Kinne  
Eleanor Hughes  
Rachel Jaicks  
Kirsten Mallik  
Amy Mantrone  
Mollie McFee  
Claire McWilliams  
Abigail Bunce Morgan  
Sarah Oaks  
Madeleine Polovick  
Bethany Powell  
Amy Ripepi  
Charis Wuerffel

### TENOR

Jonah Benning-Shorb  
Dan Bertsche  
Paul Erling  
Rory Frydman  
Mason Heller  
Temmo Kinoshita  
Vance Lauderdale  
Alex Luke  
Bill McDougall  
David Moore  
Patrick O'Connor  
Kris Rosentel  
Graham Smith  
Christopher Swenson

### BASS

Fred Behlen  
Ryan Fordice  
David John Hailey  
Jacob Karaca  
Erich Kurschat  
Andrew Lee  
Colton Long  
Nathan McConnell  
Michael Modak-Truran  
Austin O'Brien  
Peter Olson  
Colin Rennert-May  
Andy Sons  
Phil Verhoef  
John Zadlo

## About Chicago Chorale

Since its founding in 2001, Chicago Chorale has gained a reputation for sensitive, thought-provoking performances of great music throughout the city. Led by Artistic Director Bruce Tammen, the 60-voice ensemble performs a wide variety of repertoire—from well-loved choral works to overlooked masterpieces—that stimulates and delights its audiences. Chorale has appeared with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Civic Orchestra of Chicago, the Symphony of Oak Park and River Forest, and the Baroque Band, and has undertaken two successful European tours: to Spain and France in 2011, and to the Baltic region in 2015. Chorale has been featured numerous times on “Live from WFMT” with host Kerry Frumkin and has recorded seven CDs, including *Rodion Shchedrin: The Sealed Angel: A Russian Liturgy*, the concert of which was named “Top Performance of 2012” by *Chicago Classical Review’s* Lawrence Johnson. Chicago Chorale’s fall 2015 concert, *Arvo Pärt at Eighty*, was named Top Choral Performance of 2015 by John von Rhein of the *Chicago Tribune*, and its spring 2016 Rachmaninoff *Vespers* was named one of the top ten performances of 2016 by *Chicago Classical Review*.

# CHICAGO CHORALE

1	<b>Come, o Come Emmanuel</b> , <i>Plainsong, arr. Bruce Tammen</i>	3:23
2	<b>Ave Maria</b> , <i>Franz Biebl</i>	6:32
3	<b>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</b> , <i>Michael Praetorius/Jan Sandström</i>	3:50
4	<b>Virga Jesse floruit</b> , <i>Anton Bruckner</i>	4:26
5	<b>Bogoroditse Devo</b> (Vespers, Op. 37), <i>Sergei Rachmaninoff</i>	3:21
6	<b>Den signade dag</b> , <i>Traditional Swedish, arr. Nils Lindberg</i> <i>soloist: Jessica Melger</i>	2:35
7	<b>A Spotless Rose</b> , <i>Herbert Howells</i> <i>soloist: John Zadlo</i>	3:02
8	<b>In the Bleak Midwinter</b> , <i>Gustav Holst</i>	3:36
9	<b>O magnum mysterium</b> , <i>Javier Busto</i>	5:56
10	<b>Hodie Christus natus est</b> , <i>Francis Poulenc</i>	2:15
11	<b>O Jesu so Meek</b> , <i>Cologne, 1623, bass by J.S. Bach</i>	2:14
12	<b>The Bethlehem Star</b> , <i>Bob Chilcott</i>	2:09
13	<b>O Little Town of Bethlehem</b> , <i>Lewis H. Redner</i> <i>soloist: Kirsten Belzer</i>	2:53
14	<b>Es ist das Heil uns kommen her</b> , <i>Johannes Brahms</i>	5:02
15	<b>Ding Dong Merrily on High</b> , <i>16th century French, arr. Charles Wood</i>	1:53
16	<b>Lux fulgebit</b> , <i>Javier Centeno Martin</i>	4:05
17	<b>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly</b> , <i>Polish carol, arr. David Willcocks</i>	2:03
18	<b>A Merry Christmas</b> , <i>traditional West Country carol,</i> <i>arr. Arthur Warrell</i>	1:40
19	<b>Toast pour le nouvel an</b> , <i>Gioachino Rossini</i>	3:00
	<b>Total time:</b>	<b>64:02</b>

## A Chicago Christmas

© 2019 Chicago Chorale  
Recorded at Hyde Park Union Church,  
Chicago, Illinois, December 2018.  
Recording engineer: Mary Mazurek;  
Producer: Mark Travis; Executive  
Producers: Megan Balderston and  
Bruce Tammen; Cover Design:  
Arlene Harting-Josue; Layout:  
David McGaw; Interior photos:  
Christian DeKnock and Brad Knight  
(Unsplash), and trashhand (Pexels)

**ChicagoChorale.org**



