

St  
Martin  
in  
the  
Fields

# A Candlelight Christmas

The Royal Parish Church of  
St Martin-in-the-Fields

St Martin's Voices  
Andrew Earis conductor  
Polina Sosnina organ

## Programme

**Once in Royal David's City**

**Sussex Carol** – arr. David Willcocks

**In dulci jubilo** – arr. Robert Pearsall

**I wonder as wander** – arr. John Rutter

**Ding dong! merrily on high** – arr. Charles Wood

**O little town of Bethlehem**

**Nativity Carol** – John Rutter

**The Holly and the Ivy** – arr. H. Walford Davies

**It Came Upon the Midnight Clear**

**Away in a Manger** – arr. David Willcocks

**Silent Night** – arr. Wolfgang Lindner

**In the Bleak Midwinter** – Harold Darke

**God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen**

**Carol of the Bells** – Mykola Leontovich

**Follow that Star** – Peter Gritton

**Hark! the Herald-Angels Sing**

**We Wish You a Merry Christmas** – arr. Arthur  
Warrell

## Audience Carols

### Once in Royal David's City

Once in Royal David's City  
Stood a lowly cattle-shed  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for his bed.  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from heaven  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shelter was a stable,  
And his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor and mean and lowly  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all his wondrous childhood  
He would honour and obey,  
Love, and watch the lowly maiden  
In whose gentle arms he lay;  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as he.

Not in that poor lowly stable  
With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see him; but in heaven,  
Set at God's right hand on high;  
When like stars his children crowned  
All in white shall wait around.

### 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 morning stars together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King  
And peace to men on earth;  
For Christ is born of Mary  
And gather'd all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.

How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming,  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will  
receive him, still  
The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem  
Descend to us we pray!  
Cast out our sin, and enter in  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell.  
O come to us, abide with us  
Our Lord Emmanuel.



**It came upon the midnight clear**  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold:  
'Peace on the earth, good-will to men,  
from heav'n's all-gracious King!'  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,  
with peaceful wings unfurled;  
And still their heav'nly music floats  
o'er all the weary world:  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
they bend on hov'ring wing:  
And ever o'er its Babel sounds  
the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
the world has suffered long:  
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled  
two thousand years of wrong:  
And man, at war with man hears not  
the love-song which they bring:  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife  
and hear the angels sing!

For Lo! the days are hastening on,  
by prophet-bards foretold,  
when, with the ever-circling years  
comes round the age of gold:  
When peace shall over all the earth  
its ancient splendours fling,  
and the whole world send back the song  
which now the angels sing.

**God rest you merry, gentlemen,**  
let nothing you dismay,  
for Jesus Christ our Saviour  
was born on Christmas day,  
to save us all from Satan's power  
when we were gone astray:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy,  
comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

From God our heav'nly Father  
a blessed angel came,  
and unto certain shepherds  
brought tidings of the same,  
how that in Bethlehem was born  
the Son of God by name:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy...*

But when to Bethlehem they came  
whereat this infant lay,  
They found him in a manger  
where oxen feed on hay;  
His mother Mary kneeling,  
unto the Lord did pray:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy...*

Now to the Lord sing praises  
all you within this place,  
and with true love and brotherhood,  
each other now embrace;  
This holy tide of Christmas  
All others doth deface,  
*O tidings of comfort and joy...*

**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 th'angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.  
*Hark! the herald-angels sing  
glory to the new-born King.*

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,  
Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come  
offspring of a virgin's womb:  
veiled in flesh the Godhead see,  
hail th'incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
*Hark! the herald-angels sing ...*

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
ris'n with healing in his wings;  
mild he lays his glory by,  
born that man no more may die,  
born to raise the sons of earth,  
born to give them second birth.  
*Hark! the herald-angels sing...*

## St Martin's Voices



**Soprano**  
Eleanor Bray  
Ailsa Campbell  
Maisie Hulbert

**Tenor**  
James Botcher  
Thomas Perkins

**Alto**  
Sophie Timms  
Lydia Ward

**Bass**  
George Cook  
Alexander Dance

St Martin's Voices is one of the UK's most versatile professional vocal ensembles, performing concerts on the international stage as well as giving regular BBC broadcasts and special services at London's iconic St Martin-in-the-Fields. The ensemble performs regularly alongside the Academy of St Martin in the Fields and London Mozart Players and is featured in the Church of England's online worship resources that have attracted over 4 million downloads.

### Andrew Earis – director



Andrew Earis is Director of Music at St Martin-in-the-Fields where he oversees the music programme at this busy London church. He is a graduate of the Royal College of Music and Imperial College, London, and holds a PhD from the University of Manchester. Recent performances include Mozart's *Mass in C Minor* with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields and Beethoven *Mass in C* with Southbank Sinfonia. He has given organ recitals in venues including King's College Chapel, Cambridge, Westminster Cathedral, Westminster Abbey and Washington National Cathedral, and has performed as soloist in Poulenc's *Organ Concerto* and Saint-Saëns' *Organ Symphony*. In addition to his duties at St Martin's, Andrew is a regular contributor to BBC Radio's religious output as a producer of programmes including Radio 4's *Sunday Worship* and Radio 3's *Choral Evensong*.

### Polina Sosnina – organ



Polina Sosnina is Associate Organist and Director of Children's Voices at St Martin-in-the-Fields. She recently graduated with a distinction from the Royal College of Music, where she studied organ performance with David Graham, Andy Dewar and improvisation with Sophie-Véronique Cauchefer-Choplin. Her studies were supported by the RCM Kenneth and Violet Scott Scholarship, the Organists Charitable Trust, Eric Thompson Trust and the Leonard Freestone Scholarship from the Royal College of Organists. After graduating from Magdalene College, Cambridge, Polina held organ scholarships at Temple Church and the London Oratory, and the Director of Music post at St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Brentwood. As a soloist, recent performances include recitals at Temple Church, Westminster Abbey and St John's Smith Square.

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**Spirit**  
OF ST MARTIN'S  
shine brightly

This Christmas, your support will help bring people together – no matter who they are or where they are from. It will mean St Martin's can continue to shine brightly and offer community, compassion, and a little carolling to everyone who steps through our doors.

To help St Martin's shine brightly, please visit [www.smitf.org/spirit](http://www.smitf.org/spirit)