

Una
Voce
chamber choir
chambre choir

carols reimagined
Lumen

*December 12th and 13th, 2025
Unitarian Universalist Church
Brunswick, Maine*

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Dear Friends of Una Voce Chamber Choir,

Welcome — and thank you for joining us!

We are thrilled to present **Lumen**, Una Voce's first-ever holiday concert series, and we hope the beauty of these choral pieces will shine bright in the darkness of these short winter days.

As Board Chair, I want to express my deepest gratitude — to our singers, our creative artists, our generous donors and sponsors, and especially to you, our audience. Your support makes possible our mission to promote contemporary choral literature with artistic excellence and imaginative programming.

We hope you find joy, reflection, connection, and inspiration in the music, and that you'll return to many more concerts with us.

Warm wishes,
Claire Berkowitz
Board Chair, Una Voce Chamber Choir



2025-26 Una Voce Chamber Choir Board of Directors

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Dear Friends of Una Voce Chamber Choir,

On behalf of our singers and Board of Directors, I'd like to welcome you to *Lumen: Carols Reimagined*. This will be UVCC's first ever holiday themed program, and we couldn't be more excited to share it with you. In constructing *Lumen*, Drew and I endeavored to create a concert that felt simultaneously ancient and modern. And so we began looking for settings of old and lesser known chants and carols that made us feel as though we were experiencing them for the first time. This includes highly percussive and quasi-industrial treatments of two sacred songs from the *Piae Cantiones* (1582), a brilliant telescoping of the German carols *Leise reiselt der Schnee* and *Vom Himmel Hoch*, a shimmering double choir setting of *Es ist ein Ros entsprungen*, a canonic arrangement of the Wexford Carol (how has no one figured out the imitative potential of this well-worn carol until now?!), and a dramatic and declamatory setting of the Coventry Carol that will make you squirm in your seat. Sprinkle in a newly-composed spiritual by Stacey V. Gibbs and Robert T. Townsend, a few carefully selected contemporary compositions for Christmas and Hanukkah, and a gospel-infused encore (I'm not giving this one away), and you have *Lumen*: a holiday program that feels like who UVCC is, and what we are passionate about.



Unlike many previous programs, I will refrain from tiring your eyes out with copious program notes. You will find all the texts and translations in this program. Feel free to read along if that is your preference, but otherwise we don't want you to have to work as hard in this concert. Sit back, relax, and allow yourself to experience these carols from a new and fresh perspective, and in the words of that famous airline advertisement..."Leave the flying to us".

If this is your first time attending an Una Voce performance, we hope that you will come back again to experience our peculiar brand of musical mischief. On June 12th and 14th, UVCC will be undertaking its most adventurous program yet; James MacMillan's towering *Stabat Mater* for chorus and string orchestra, with both performances at the magnificent Studzinski Hall on the campus of Bowdoin College. It will definitely be an event to mark in your calendars!

Happy Holidays!

Virgil

Program Order

Personent Hodie

Piae Cantiones (1582)
arr. Mark Burrows (b. 1971)

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Latin Hymn, pre-9th cent.
Kyle Pederson (b. 1971)

Cónditor Alme Síderum

Jacob Narverud (b. 1986)

Gaudete!

Piae Cantiones (1582)
arr. Michael Engelhardt (b. 1974)

Vom Himmel hoch, da rieselt der Schnee

Eduard Ebel (1839-1905), Martin Luther (1483-1546)
arr. Burkhardt M. Schürmann (b. 1972)

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen

Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)
Jan Sandström (b. 1954)

Lovely is the dark blue sky

Jacob Gerhard Meidell (1778-1857)
arr. Kim André Arnesen (b. 1980)

The Everlasting Flame

Yoni Fogelman (b. 2002)

Wexford Carol

Trad. Irish Carol
arr. Stephen Dombek (b. 1953)

Coventry Carol

Trad. English Carol
arr. Garrett Breeze

Long, Long Ago

Sarah Quartel (b. 1982)

Innkeeper

Stacey V. Gibbs/Robert T. Townsend

The Choir

Artistic Director: Virgil Bozeman IV

Assistant Director: Drew Albert

Collaborative Pianist: Kellie Moody

Guest Percussionist: Brody Belanger

Soprano

Emma Akrawi
Stephanie Bernier
Marsey Caswell
Jennifer Caton
Jeannie Giberson
Caroline Koelker
Marybeth McCaffrey
Denise Meiler
Susan Purcell
Hillary Shende
Fiona Vella

Alto

Claire Berkowitz
Abby Bozeman
Eileen Brown
Covey Crolus
Jean Edmondson
Shira Gersh
Susan Kring
Kit Pfeiffer
Dana Reynolds
Rachel Turner
Karen Topp

Tenor

Drew Albert
Nate Bates
Rowan Etzel
Robert Gersh
Salvatore Guzzardi
Gabe Jones
Derek LaPlume
Robert Haines
Scott Hanson

Bass

Sheldon Bird
Ben Baumgarte
Jon Chellis
John Gilmour
Matt Jones
Josh Koelker
Del Leonard
Thomas McLaughlin
Harrison Merrill
Adam Sobczak

Artistic Leadership

Virgil Bozeman IV, Artistic Director

Virgil received his Bachelor of Arts in Music Literature and Performance from Northeastern University, where he studied choral conducting with Dr. Joshua Jacobson. He served as Student Conductor of the NU Choral Society, sang with the world-renowned Zamir Chorale of Boston, and was named the university's inaugural Gideon Klein Scholar. Virgil holds a Master of Music in Choral Conducting from the University of Illinois, where he continued his conducting studies with Dr. Fred Stolfus, Dr. Don V Moses and Dr. Chester Alwes. He served as Assistant Conductor of the University of Illinois Concert Choir, the school's top auditioned undergraduate chorus.

Upon returning to Maine in 2000, Virgil accepted a position as Middle/High School Choral Music Teacher in Richmond, a position he still holds. Since 2003, he has been the Senior Choir Director at South Parish Congregational Church, U.C.C. in Augusta. From 2006 to 2020, Virgil was the Artistic Director of the Greater Freeport Community Chorus. In 2023 he was appointed to the position of Chorus Master for Opera Maine, where his credits include *La Cenerentola*, *Aida* and *Sweeney Todd*; *The Demon Barber of Fleet Street*. Additionally, he recently prepared the chorus for a joint PSO/Opera Maine production of *La Bohème*. An active member of the American Choral Directors Association and the Maine Music Educators Association, Virgil served as Chairman of MMEA District III and Vice-President (Choral Music) for the MMEA State Executive Board. In 2018, he was named MMEA District III Educator of the Year. In 2024, Virgil received the Russell-Cox Distinguished Choral Directors award from the Maine Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association. Also in 2024, Virgil was awarded third place in the American Prize for Choral Conducting "Dale Warland Award/Community Division", and Una Voce received an honorable mention for its 2023 performance of Michael Gilbertson's *Born*, and Daniel Pinkham's *Wedding Cantata*. This summer Virgil will again serve as Chorus Master for Opera Maine's production of *Roméo et Juliette*. Virgil lives in Richmond with his wife Abby, their pup Fritz, and Gus the cat.

Drew Albert, Assistant Conductor

Drew Albert is a native Mainer, born and raised in Millinocket. He graduated from the University of Maine in Orono with a degree in Music Education. There, Drew had the privilege of studying with Dr. Dennis Cox and served as the music director of the Maine Steiners and the Assistant Conductor of the University of Maine Singers. Although he started his musical training as a percussionist, choral and vocal music became his biggest passion while an undergrad. He considers his time performing with the chamber choir "Euphony," directed by Jeff Hallowell, as one of his biggest musical influences. The group specialized in contemporary a cappella choral music.

Drew has been teaching high school music since 2011 and has taught instrumental and vocal ensembles as well as a wide range of general music courses. He is an active adjudicator, clinician, and guest conductor throughout the state. He has served as Choral Music chair in the Maine Music Education Association and is the membership chair of the Maine chapter of the American Choral Directors Association. In 2022, Drew joined the Camden Hills Regional High School faculty, teaching vocal music. He directs three choirs that are very active in Maine choral music. Drew is also the Music Director for Camden Hills' fall musical.

Now the father of two wonderful kiddos, Eloise and Bowen, Drew has his hands full outside of work. He and his immensely talented choral director wife, Mrs. Ashley Albert, live in Gardiner.

Kellie Moody, Collaborative Pianist

Maine native and resident of Standish, dedicated to her work as a pianist and music director. A graduate of the University of Southern Maine, she studied piano with Dr. Laura Kargul, voice with Judith James, and music direction and conducting under the mentorship of Ed Reichert.

Kellie collaborates with musicians of all levels across the state. She accompanies numerous school programs and spends summers coaching and performing with young artists at USM's Osher School of Music camps. For several years, she served as accompanist for USM auditions, juries, recitals, and ensembles, while music directing for the university's musical theatre program.

Kellie regularly works with ChoralArt, the Greater Freeport Community Chorus, Opera Maine, and Una Voce Chamber Choir. In 2024, she joined Opera in the Pines as Music Director, where she is now preparing for the company's fifth season. Recent highlights include the Maine premiere of Robert Ward's *The Crucible*, an original adaptation of Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*, titled *The Barber of the Cape*, and a four-hand performance of Brahms' *Requiem* with ChoralArt. Offstage, Kellie serves as pianist and vocalist at Mountainside Community Church in Falmouth. When she's not at the piano, she enjoys time with her dog, Winston, who's convinced he's her manager.

Texts and Translations

Personent Hodie

Personent hodie
voces puerulae,
laudantes jucunde
qui nobis est natus,
summo Deo datus
et de virgineo ventre procreatus.

In mundo nascitur,
pannis involvitur
praesepe ponitur
stabulo brutorum,
rector supernorum.
Perdidit spolia princeps infernorum

Magi tres venerunt,
munera offerunt,
parvulum inquirunt,
stellulam sequendo,
ipsum adorando,
aurum, thus, et myrrham ei offerendo.

Omnes clericuli,
pariter pueri,
cantent ut angeli:
Advenisti mundo,
laudes tibi fundo,
Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

Piae Cantiones, 1582

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Veni, veni, Rex Gentium,
veni, Redemptor omnium,
ut salvas tuos famulos
peccati sibi conscios.
Gaude! Gaude! Emmanuel,
nascetur pro te Israel.

Latin hymn, pre - 9th cent.

Let resound today
children's voices.
praising joyfully
he who is born to us,
by most high God given,
and of a virgin's womb begotten.

Into the world he was born,
in swaddling clothes wrapped,
and placed in a manger
in a stable for animals,
the master of the heavens.
The prince of hell lost his spoils.

Three Magi came,
bearing gifts,
looking for the little one,
following a star,
to worship him,
Gold, frankincense, and myrrh they offered him.

All the clerics,
likewise the children,
sing like the angels:
You have come into this world,
I pour out praise to you,
Therefore, glory to God in the highest.

O come, o come, King of nations,
O come, Redeemer of all,
so that you save your servants
who are conscious of their sins.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

tr. Composite

Cónditor Alme Síderum

Cónditor alme síderum,
aeterna lux credentium,
Christe, redemptor omnium,
exaudi preces supplicum.

Qui condolens interitu
mortis perire saeculum,
salvásti mundum lánguidum,
donans reis remedium.

Vergénte mundi vespere,
uti sponsus de thálamo.
egréssus honestissima.
Virginis matris cláusula.

Cuius forti poténtiae
genu curvántur omnia:
Caeléstia, terréstria
nutu fanténtur súbdita.

Te, Sancte fide quáesumus,
venture iudex saeculi,
consérva nos in témpore
hostis a telo perfidi.

Virtus, honor, laus, glória,
Deo Patri cum Filio,
Sáncto simul Paráclito,
in saeculorum saecula.

Medieval Latin hymn - 7th cent.

Gaudete!

Gaudete, gaudete! Christus est natus
ex Maria Virgine: gaudete!
Tempus adest gratiae,
hoc quod optabamus;
Carmina laetitiae
devote reddamus.

Deus homo factus est,
Natura mirante;
Mundus renovatus est
a Christo regnante.

Creator of the stars of night,
eternal light of believers,
Christ, redeemer of all,
hear the prayers of the supplicants.

Who, mourning the passing of death
sees the world perishing,
You saved the languid world,
granting the guilty a remedy.

As the evening of the world draws near,
like the Bridegroom from a wedding,
leaves the most honorable chamber,
the Virgin Mother's confinement.

To whose strong power
all things bow their knee:
Heavenly and earthly things
confess their subjection.

We beseech you with holy faith,
come, judge of the world,
and preserve us in time
from the weapon of our treacherous enemy.

Power, honor, praise, glory,
to God the Father with the Son,
and with the Holy Paraclete,
forever and ever.

Rejoice, rejoice! Christ is born
of the Virgin Mary: Rejoice!
The time for grace is here,
this which we have longed for;
Songs of joy
Let us devoutly render.

God has become man,
and nature marvels;
The world has been renewed
By Christ's reign.

Ergo nostra concio
Psallat jam in lustro;
Benedicat Domino:
Salus Regi nostro.

Piae Cantiones, 1582

Vom Himmel hoch, da rieselt der Schnee

Leise, rieselt der Schnee,
Still und starr ruht der See.
Weihnachtlich glänzet der Wald.
Freue dich, Christkind kommt bald!

In dem Herzen ist's warm,
Still schweigt Kummer und Harm,
Sorge des Herzens verhallt.
Freue dich, Christkind kommt bald!

Bald ist heilige Nacht,
Chor des Engel erwacht,
Hört nur, wie lieblich es schallt.
Freue dich, Christkind kommt bald!

'S Kindlein, göttlich und arm,
Macht die Herzen so warm,
Strahle, du Stern überm Wald!
Freue dich, Christkind kommt bald!

Eduard Ebel (1839-1905)

Vom Himmel hoch, da komm ich her,
Ich bring euch gute, neue Mär,
Der guten Mär bring ich so viel,
Davon ich sing'n und sagen will.

Euch wird ein Kindlein bald gebor'n,
Von einer Jungfrau auserkoren,
Ein Kindelein so zart und fein,
Das soll eu'r Freud und Wonne sein.

Lob, Ehr sei Gott im höchsten Thron,
Der uns schenkt seinen ein'gen Sohn.
Des freuet sich der Engel Schar,
Und singet uns solch neues Jahr.

Martin Luther (1483-1546)

Therefore let our song
now resound in purification;
Let it give praises to the Lord:
Salvation to our King.

The snow falls softly
The lake lies still and motionless.
The forest shines with Christmas cheer.
Rejoice, the Christchild comes soon!

It is warm in the heart,
Sorrow and harm remain silent,
The heart's sorrow fades away.
Rejoice, the Christchild comes soon!

It will soon be Holy Night,
The choir of angels awakens,
Listen to how sweetly it sounds.
Rejoice, the Christchild comes soon!

The little child, divine and poor,
warms our hearts so much.
Shine, you star above the forest!
Rejoice, the Christchild comes soon!

tr: Burkhardt M. Schürmann

From heaven above to earth I come,
I bring you good news.
I bring so much good news.
That's what I want to sing and say..

A child will soon be born to you,
from a Virgin chosen.
A child so delicate and fine,
shall be your joy and delight.

Praise and glory to God on the highest throne,
He, who gives us his only Son.
The host of angels rejoices at this,
and sing us such a new year.

tr: Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen
aus einer Wurzel zart,
Als uns die Alten sangen:
von Jesse kam die Art.

Und hat ein Blümlein bracht,
mitten und kalten Winter ,
wohl zu der halben Nacht.

Traditional German text

A rose has emerged
from a tender root,
As the old sang to us:
the lineage came from Jesse.

And brought a little flower
in the middle of a cold winter,
When half-spent was the night.

Lovely is the dark blue sky

Lovely is the dark blue sky,
Joy to see for every eye;
How the golden stars are blinking,
How they're smiling, how they're winking
From the earth to Heaven high!

In the midst of Christmas night,
Through the dark a glimmering light;
Suddenly we saw appearing
Brightest flame, the heavens clearing,
Like a little star-sun bright.

Anders Hovden (1860-1943)

Blessed star, as bright as day,
Toward the Child you light the way;
Bright and glorious through the ages
As foretold in sacred pages,
Shine upon our path, we pray!

English translation by Charles Anthony Silvestri

The Everlasting Flame

Baruch atah, Adokai
Elokeinu, Melech haolam,
asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav
v'tzivanu l'hadlik neir shel Hanukkah.

Chag Hanukkah sameach!

Baruch atah Adokai
Elokeinu, Melech haolam,
She-asah nisim l'avoteynu
bayamim hahaeim, biz'man hazeh.

Blessings over the Hanukkah candles

Blessed are You, Adonai
our God, Sovereign of all,
who hallows us with *mitzvot*
commanding us to kindle the Hanukkah lights.

Happy Hanukkah!

Blessed are You, Adonai
our God, Sovereign of all,
who performed wondrous deeds
for our ancestors in days of old at this season.

Wexford Carol

Good people all, this Christmastime,
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done,
In sending his beloved Son.

With Mary holy we should pray
To God with love this Christmas Day;
In Bethlehem upon that morn
There was a blessed Messiah born.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;
To whom God's angels did appear,
Which put the shepherds in great fear.

Traditional Irish Carol

Coventry Carol

Lullay, thou little tiny child,
Bye bye, lully, lullay.
Lullay, thou little tiny child,
Bye bye, lully, lullay.

O sisters too, how may we do
For to preserve this day?
This poor youngling for whom we sing,
Bye bye, lully, lullay.

Traditional English Carol

Long, Long Ago

Winds through the olive trees softly did blow,
'round little Bethlehem, long, long ago.
Sheep on the hillside lay whiter than snow:
Shepherds were watching them, long, long ago.

Katherine Parker (dates unknown)

"Prepare and go, "the angels said,
"To Bethlehem, be not afraid;
For there you'll find, this happy morn
A princely babe, sweet Jesus born."

With thankful heart and joyful mind
The shepherds went the babe to find,
And as God's angel had foretold,
They did our Saviour Christ behold.

Within a manger he was laid,
And by his side the virgin maid,
Attending on the Lord of Life,
Who came on earth to end all strife.

Herod the king, in his raging,
Charged he hath this day,
His men of might, in his own sight,
All children young to slay.

Then woe is me, poor child, for thee
and ever mourn and say
for thy parting nor say nor sing,
Bye bye, lully, lullay.

Then from the happy skies angels bent low,
Singing their songs of joy, long, long ago.
For in a manger bed, cradled we know,
Christ came to Bethlehem, long, long ago.

Innkeeper

Innkeeper, why did you send my Lord away?
You made Him be born in a manger hay.
Why did you send my Lord away?

Innkeeper, make some room for my Savior.
Give Him a place to lay His head, 'cause He
come to do so much for me.

On a cold winter's night, dey went to Nazareth Lan'
To pay the taxes de king wanted from them.
Mary, heavy wit' child, she travelled through de storm,
and in a stable dat night, de Holy Chil' was born.

Mary and Joseph went to Egypt Lan'
to save Him from King Herod's army of men.
He was the Counselor, He was the King of Kings,
He was the Son of Man, He was the Prince of Peace.

Stacey V. Gibbs & Robert T. Townsend



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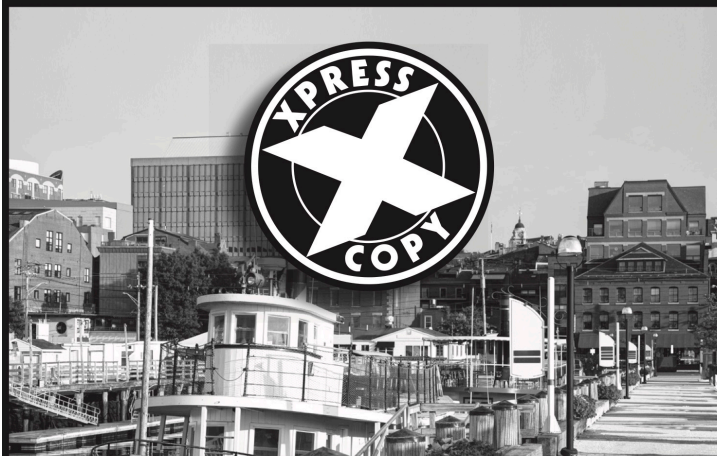
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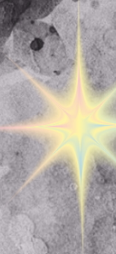
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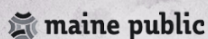


SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026 - 2:30 PM (PREVIEW)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 2026 - 7:30 PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 4, 2026 - 2:30 PM

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