

The
Los Alamos Choral Society
and
Sinfonietta

Present the

CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

by

J. S. BACH

John D. Seagrave, Conductor

Catherine Anderson, Contralto

Robert Sprecher, Tenor

Jean Fick, Mezzo-Soprano

Frederick Reines, Bass

Kathryn Benson, Soprano

Los Alamos
Civic Auditorium

8:00 P. M.
December 14, 1953

BACH'S CHRISTMAS ORATORIO

Chorus

Christians, be joyful, and praise your salvation,
Sing, for today your Redeemer is born;
Cease to be fearful, forget lamentation,
Haste with thanksgiving to greet this glad morn!
Come let us worship and fall down before Him,
Let us with voices united adore Him.

Recitative (Tenor)

Now it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be enrolled. And all went to enroll themselves, everyone to his own city. And there also went up Joseph from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, for he was of the house and family of David, to enroll himself, with Mary his betrothed wife, being great with Child. And while they were there, the days were fulfilled that she should be delivered.

Recitative (Alto)

See, now the Bridegroom, full of grace,
The hero of King David's race,
To save and heal the earth
Doth stoop to mortal birth.
See now the Star of Jacob shining,
Its beams delight our eyes;
Up, Zion, and forget thy sad repining,
For high thy bliss doth rise.

Air (Alto)

Prepare thyself, Zion, with tender affection,
The purest, the fairest, this day to receive.
Thou must meet Him with a heart with love o'erflowing.
Haste, then, with ardour the Bridegroom to welcome.

Choral

How shall I fitly meet Thee,
And give Thee welcome due?
The nations long to greet Thee,
And I would greet Thee, too.
O Fount of Light, shine brightly
Upon my darkened heart,
That I may serve Thee rightly,
And know Thee as Thou art.

Recitative (Tenor)

And she brought forth her first-born Son, and she wrapped Him in swaddling clothes, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

