

## From the Director

### Christmas Hymns, 2

College Church already has a particular and distinct connection to Timothy Dudley-Smith. In 1998, Ed Childs composed a tune for today's Christmas hymn text. The Chancel Choir has sung it in several services, for Lessons and Carols and Christmas Eve. Ed's tune was published as a 4-part hymn by Selah Publishing Company in 2000.

Ed captured so well the phrase that concludes each stanza, "for love and love alone." And he expertly set up that excellent denouement thus: in the first two lines the melody encompasses an octave with an exuberant athleticism; in line three the stepwise melody is limited in range to a perfect 4th. Then the final phrase consists of 3 pitches, and the note values are extended. I am eager to hear the congregation learn this hymn!

#### **Exult, O Morning Stars Aflame!**

Exult, O morning stars aflame!

With all the works of God proclaim  
the Child of Bethlehem who came  
for love and love alone.

Come earth and air and sky and sea,  
bear witness to his deity  
who lived, the Man of Galilee,  
for love and love alone.

By faith behold the Crucified,  
his arms of mercy open wide,  
the Lamb of Calvary, who died  
for love and love alone.

Let every eye his glories see,  
who was, and is, and is to be;  
who reigns as Christ in Majesty  
for love and love alone.

#### **Calendar Corner:**

*Sunday, Dec. 24*—Advent 4. Morning services at 8:00 & 9:30 (no 11AM service): Jerry and Jane Sundberg, Chancel Choir, string trio, violins

*Sunday, Dec. 24*—Christmas Eve services at 3:30 (children's choirs), 5:00 (family brass), 11:00 (Chancel Choir; Norm Ruiz, guitar; Robin Wiper)

*Sunday, Dec. 31*—morning services at 9:30 & 11:00 (no 8:00 service): Charles Gray, violin; Bill Billingham

O world, by strife and sorrow torn,  
new hope is yours on Christmas morn,  
the Prince of Peace a child is born,  
for love and love alone.

Timothy Dudley-Smith © 1992 Hope Publishing Co.

The morning stars sang together at creation.  
And the good bishop is not the first theologian  
to identify those same angels as the heralds of  
the Nativity. All heaven and earth are called to  
witness the wonder. And not simply the wonder  
of his birth, but of his life—the Man of Galilee,  
of his death—the Lamb of Calvary, and of his  
present reign as resurrected Lord—who reigns  
as Christ in Majesty... *for love, and love alone!*

The text is the gospel, isn't it? And with it an  
invitation: *O world, new hope is yours in this Prince  
of Peace: for love, and love alone.*

Well, so much for new songs. May they blend  
with our long-loved familiar hymns and become  
part of our ever-growing capacity to praise the  
Word made flesh!

**Sing on!**

*Chuck*

#### **Advent/Christmas at College Church**

Thank you, College Church Singers, for a beautifully  
sung "Christmas Communion" this past Sunday!

This Sunday morning, Dec. 24, is our last Advent  
service. Christmas Eve begins ... well, in the PM!  
Join the Children's Choirs (3:30), Christmas Brass  
(5:00), the Chancel Choir, Norm Ruiz, and Robin  
Wiper (11:00) as we welcome Christmas!

THE PRAYER COLUMN  
LEE HOFFNER, CHOIR CHAPLAIN

*After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed:*

*“Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him. Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.”*

John 17:1-5 (NIV)

This is what we look forward to in our Christmas celebrations. Completed work, freedom in Christ.

As you finalize your preparations for your at-home celebration, include some time to reflect on this gift for you, which was delivered as the gift of a master craftsman. Think on the Lamb as well as the babe. A blessed, Merry Christmas to you all!

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*To include your new prayer requests, call or email Chuck King (668-0878 x122; [cdking@college-church.org](mailto:cdking@college-church.org)).*

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## Chancel Choir Rehearsal Music:

### Voice Building

*Music for 11pm Christmas Eve only! Guests welcome and included.*

If you are singing in one or both of the morning services, please come to the choir room 15 minutes before the service. (7:45 for 8:00; 9:15 for 9:30). We will sing descants, lead a cappella stanzas, and sit through both services. [See choir email for more details]

**The Chancel Choir sings at the 11pm Christmas Eve service, Sunday, Dec. 24. Singing family members and College Church folk are invited and welcome to join us in rehearsal on Thursday, Dec. 21, 7pm. We meet again at 10:30pm Sunday, Dec. 24 for that service. It's an "all Rutter" service for the choir that night!**

### Choir Calendar:

Following Christmas Eve, we do not rehearse or sing until Thursday, January 4. Choir is in service on January 7 (a communion service), 3 services, normal times.

### Jubilation Bells Rehearsal

*Wednesday 6:45 PM in the Choir Room*

### Brass Ensemble Rehearsal

*Wednesday 8:15 PM in the Old Balcony*

### String Ensemble Rehearsal

*1st and 3rd Thursdays at 7:30 PM  
in the Sanctuary, September through May*

### Concert Series

College Church Sanctuary

*January 21, 2007, 4:00pm*

*Pressenda Trio*

*Members of the Chicago Symphony*

*David Taylor, violin*

*Gary Stucka, cello*

*with Andrea Swan, piano*

*In a program of works by*

*Beethoven, Ravel and Brahms*