



Gospel Christmas

**NORTHWEST COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHORUS
OREGON SYMPHONY**

CHARLES FLOYD, CONDUCTOR

About Gospel Christmas

December 2018 marks the 20th anniversary of Gospel Christmas, an extraordinary collaboration between the Northwest Community Gospel Chorus and the Oregon Symphony. For years, their celebrated concerts in Portland, Oregon have ranked among the most highly attended gospel performances in the United States. With generous recording support, the Oregon Symphony now is able to share this music with the world.

Gospel Christmas

1	King of Kings <i>DeMarcus Williams</i> (Alonzo Chadwick, soloist)	4. 09
2	Sacrifice of Praise <i>Bill Winston</i> (Robin Henderson, soloist)	5. 06
3	Jesus Is Born <i>Milton Biggham</i> (Quiana Crittenden, soloist)	5. 13
4	And His Name Shall Be Called <i>Terry Davis</i>	5. 40
5	You Oughta Know <i>Michael McElroy/Joseph Joubert/Buryl Red</i> (Jelani Greenidge, soloist)	2. 57
6	Emmanuel <i>Norman Hutchins</i> (Alonzo Chadwick, soloist)	5. 00

7	Jesus Savior, Come as a Child <i>Gary Hemenway/Charles Floyd</i> (Chelsea Hostetler, soloist; Tracey Harris/Ashley Seamster/ Saeeda Wright, trio)	4. 58	11	Christmas Worship Medley Erasmus Mutambira: Alpha and Omega Traditional: O Come All Ye Faithful Gary Sadler/Lynn DeShazo: Be Unto Your Name Israel Houghton: Magnificent and Holy Israel Houghton: The Almighty Reigns (Clairece Rosati-Hemenway, soloist; Alonzo Chadwick, soloist; Jonathan Vaughn, soloist; Tracey Harris, soloist; MaryEtta Callier, soloist)	10. 27
8	Go Tell It/Wonderful Child <i>James Fortune</i> (arr. AyRon Lewis) (Wendy Jackson, soloist; Alonzo Chadwick, soloist)	6. 07			
9	Zion Rejoice <i>Joseph Pace II</i> (Marla Sampson, soloist)	5. 08	12	Joy to the World <i>George Frideric Handel</i> (arr. Mervyn Warren, words by Isaac Watts) (Saeeda Wright, soloist)	5. 59
10	Hallelujah (from Handel's Messiah: A Soulful Celebration) <i>George Frideric Handel</i> (arr. Mervyn Warren, Michael Jackson, Mark Kible) (Emmanuel Henreid, soloist; Marilyn Keller, soloist)	7. 38	Total playing time: 68. 29		
			Northwest Community Gospel Chorus Choral conductor: Gary Hemenway		
			Rhythm section: Chris Turner , piano Jerry Harris , bass Rodrick Nightingale , drums		
			Oregon Symphony Conductor and orchestrator: Charles Floyd		

CHARLES FLOYD

Conductor, pianist, and composer Charles Floyd has been heard in concert with more than 500 orchestras since 1991 in performances including classical music and pops. His eleven-year partnership with singer Natalie Cole included such projects as the multiple Grammy Award-winning tribute to Nat King Cole entitled “Unforgettable, With Love,” the Emmy Award-winning PBS Great Performances concert video of the same title, and the Grammy-winning releases “Take a Look” and “Stardust.”

As an annual guest conductor of the Boston Pops Orchestra since 1994, his performances have included Gospel Night at Pops at Boston’s Symphony Hall, a program that features orchestral classics as well as a 120-voice gospel chorus. He has done similar concerts since 1995 with the Atlanta Symphony, the Akron Symphony, the Baltimore Symphony, the Cincinnati

Symphony, the Houston Symphony, and the Saint Louis Symphony with such artists as Micah Stampley, Marvin Winans, CeCe Winans, Edwin Hawkins, Daryl Coley, Oleta Adams, Yolanda Adams, and Patti LaBelle. Floyd now celebrates 20 years with the Oregon Symphony and Gospel Christmas.

His compositions range from chamber music to large orchestral and vocal works. A tribute to the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, One Man’s Dream for narrator and orchestra, was commissioned and premiered by the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra in 2001. His Four Spirituals for soprano and orchestra was premiered at Boston’s Symphony Hall with the Boston Pops in 1995, and his oratorio Hosanna for gospel chorus and orchestra premiered there in 2000. Other compositions include a Cello Concerto (2014), a Piano Concerto (2014), a song cycle entitled Song of Solomon (2014), and numerous orchestral adaptations and arrangements.



GARY HEMENWAY

At four years old Gary Hemenway's first musical question to his mother was, "when do I get to play piano in church?" Raised in the small town of Pilot Rock in Eastern Oregon, Hemenway's early interest grew to encompass a wide variety of musical styles. As a pre-teen, he was captured by the sounds of André Crouch and the Disciples, Stevie Wonder, Elton John, Chicago, and The Temptations. It was while attending Warner Pacific College in arts-rich Portland, Oregon, that Gary saw his abilities expand. With a passion for excellence and a love for many styles of music, countless doors have been opened to him.

Hemenway's diverse abilities have afforded him plentiful opportunities to work in the fields of soundtrack, production, direction, composition, arrangement, teaching, work shopping, and live performance. Hemenway has composed and arranged numerous vocal, choral, and instrumental pieces in every style

including classical, film score, gospel, jazz, pop, and rock. His work has appeared in Nike & Avia videos and events, as well as at the World Olympics. His live performance work has taken him throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia.

Amongst his many musical abilities, choral work has become one of his greatest musical strengths. As the choral conductor of the Oregon Symphony's Northwest Community Gospel Chorus for 18 years, he has enjoyed working with the Grammy-nominated Oregon Symphony. Hemenway also serves as the artistic director for the Walla Walla Choral Society and the director of worship at Walla Walla Presbyterian Church. He enjoys sharing his talent and expertise as a studio music instructor of jazz piano at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington.

His other credits include work with the Oregon Symphony, the Heritage Singers, Pink Martini,

Will Vinton Studios, George Fox University, and more. His greatest joy has been found in the people that he has worked with. They include Dr. Charles Floyd, Mick Gillette and Lenny Pickett (Tower of Power), Daniel Cox, Tim Ellis, Dr. Dennis Piles, and many others.

The joy of his life, his wife, Clairece, and his three daughters (Sarah, Olivia, and Amelia) are all accomplished artists in their own right.



GARY HEMENWAY

DOROTHY DAVIS

Dorothy Davis is one of the founding members of the Northwest Community Gospel Chorus and has served as manager since its inception in 1999.

Dorothy has been serving in music ministry since the age of thirteen. She was appointed by the late Pastor Rev. A.A. Newton, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, as senior choir director. She has served as Sunday school teacher and women's retreat coordinator. She continues to serve as choir director (more than sixty years) in the Senior, Mass, and Women of Hope choirs. A former minister of music and director of the Angels & Followers of Christ Choir, she was installed as the first chapter representative of the Portland/Vancouver Chapter of the Gospel Music Workshop of America, Inc., in 1994. Currently, as chapter representative emeritus, she serves as one of the directors

for the organization. Dorothy is an original member of the Sermonettes gospel singing group, whose ministry has spanned more than thirty years. She graduated from Clark College on a music scholarship.

Dorothy has received several awards and honors during her ministry, which include the following:

- New Hope Missionary Baptist Church's "Woman of the Year"
- 2014 Oregon's Gospel Greats at Highland Christian Center, Portland, OR
- 2015 Gospel Music's Living Legends of the Pacific Northwest, Tacoma, WA
- 2018 Portland Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. 37th Women of Excellence Award

Dorothy, a faithful wife to the late Bobby Davis for 48 years, is the mother of Terry Davis (minister of music, Worship Center of Central Ohio, Columbus, OH) and Marla Sampson (choir director of New Song

Church, Portland, OR). She is grandmother to Talia and Isaiah Sampson.

Dorothy humbly, yet skillfully, uses her God-given gifts to teach, direct, interpret, support, and encourage anyone with a desire to sing.

TERRY DAVIS

Terry Davis is one of the founding members of the Northwest Community Gospel Chorus, serving as the chorus' music director for the initial two years. A native of the Portland/Vancouver area, Terry has been involved in music as a singer, gospel songwriter, musician,



and choir director for over 30 years. From his beginnings at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church to local/regional community workshop choirs and the Gospel Music Workshop of America, Terry has had the privilege of presenting and recording his music. His music has been performed and recorded by Portland Mass Choir, GMWA Youth Mass Choir, New Song Church (Portland, OR), Pacific Northwest Mass Choir, and many other artists. Recently, one of Terry's compositions was published and released in the new GIA Publications hymnal, "One Lord, One Faith, One Baptism," and in 2017 he presented music in the New Music Seminar during the Gospel Music Workshop of America's 50th Anniversary Convention. Some of his musical influences include Stevie Wonder, jazz keyboardist Alex Bugnon, Gospel musician Jeffrey LaValley, and the late Thomas Whitfield.

He currently serves as minister of music for the Worship Center of Central Ohio. It is Terry's desire to share with the world the gifts

that God has given him. Terry is married to his beautiful wife, Jennifer, and currently resides in Columbus, OH.

CHRIS TURNER

Chris Turner is a native of Portland, OR. He took an interest in music at a young age. He honed his ability to hear, play, and read music through jazz band, church, and various local bands and artists working in the music scene. His musical influences are George Duke, Ramsey Lewis, and Herbie Hancock. Chris produced and co-wrote songs featured on the "Bespeak Love" project, which soared to #1 on the UK Soul charts featuring some of the best artists from the Northwest. This project led to Chris' most recent work, which can be found on a project he co-produced called "AKA BESPEAK," featuring local artist Ronnie Wright. Chris has been producing and working on his debut project set to release in 2019 entitled "Party Time." He has appeared on television programs, such as Jimmy Fallon, David

Letterman, Jimmy Kimmel, and BET's Super Bowl Gospel Celebration with various artists. Chris has been a member of the Gospel Christmas rhythm section for fifteen years.

JERRY HARRIS

Jerry Harris has played music his entire life and has been playing for Gospel Christmas for fifteen years. He enjoys playing many different instruments, including drums, guitar, bass, and keyboards. He has toured with several notable artists. Jerry loves God. He is the father of three wonderful young people and has been married for 23 years to his wife, Velaida.

RODRICK NIGHTINGALE

Rodrick Nightingale loves God, food, and football. His passion for music is the common thread that runs through all three of them. He is a former Portland resident and has returned to his native Texas. Rod has been the resident

drummer for Gospel Christmas for seventeen years. His mother has sung in the choir since its inception. He fosters a humble spirit and has a great love for musicianship. Rod is committed to his work with Gospel Christmas and returns each year to support its success.

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY GOSPEL CHORUS

The multi-cultural choir consists of approximately 90 members from 33 houses of faith and organizations in the Portland area and beyond. There are approximately twenty singers who have been choir members since the inception of Gospel Christmas. There are also several families who sing in the choir.

The choir's mission and commitment is to bring a message of faith, hope, love, and joy through the perpetuation of gospel music as an original American art form. The 20th anniversary is the culmination of hard work, dedication, and fellowship. It is a true blessing to have been able to share the Good News with our audiences for these many years and now to have the opportunity to share this recording.

The founding members of the choir are Charles Floyd, conductor and orchestrator;

Dorothy Davis, a highly-respected leader in the Portland/Vancouver Gospel Music Workshop of America; Terry Davis, music minister at New Hope Missionary Baptist Church; and Susan Nielsen, director of operations for the Oregon Symphony. Terry Davis relocated to Columbus, OH, following the first two years, and the choir was fortunate to have engaged Gary Hemenway to serve as choral conductor, for which he has been dedicated for 18 years.

SOPRANO

Malinda Dixon Buckles
Zetta Burton
MaryEtta Callier
Phinizea Chadwick
Natasha Dawson
Christina Estes
Madoria Gloud
Lissa Guyton
Gwen Hamilton

Mary Harper
Chelsea Hostetler
Ruby Jones
Rochelle McElroy
Ericka Marin
Ashley Minniweather
Clairece Rosati-Hemenway
Marla Sampson
Shirrell Shepherd

Mariah Taylor
Gail Thomas
Pearl Thomas
Denise Pruitt Townley
Helen Warren
Carlotta Washington
Jeannie Wiggins
Saeeda Wright

ALTO

Camille Bass
Diana Bustos
Coleen Carey
Sarah Carpenter
Quiana Crittenden
Regina Cunningham
Darcell Dance
Wendy Daniels-Jackson
Seritha Ford
Lynn Green
Evelyn Gunels-Lewis
Tracey Harris

Sarah Hemenway
Robin Henderson
Janice Hopkins
Patricia Howard
Briana Jordan
Marilyn Keller
Lisa Knox
Rosie Lovings
Lynn Mangum
Mary Marshall
Esther Martinez
Sheila Mitchell

Shaina Pasi
Jeanne Rennie
Antoinette Saunders
Dianne Smith
Justine Snyder
Karen Stenzel
Candilyn Ushery
Elaine Walpole
Teyona Watkins
Wanda West

TENOR

ReShawn Brown
Alonzo Chadwick
Amber Cobb III
Dorothy Davis
Gladys Foster
Peter Gallagher
Jelani Greenidge
Emmanuel Henreid
Harry Hopkins
Annette Hunt
Cinda Jackson
Eldon Jones
Bruce Krieg
Chrysanthius Lathan
Eugene Leverett, Jr.
Nate Orr
Vivian Parker
Richard Probasco
Steven Robinson, Jr.
Blenda Ryles
Jerel Scott
Ron Silver
Ryan Smith

Greg Supriano
Linda Tellis-Kennedy
Jerry Thomas
Jonathan Vaughn
Sybrough Williams
Patrice Woods

THE OREGON SYMPHONY

Carlos Kalmar, Jean Vollum music director chair

VIOLIN

Sarah Kwak, *Janet & Richard Geary concertmaster chair*^
Peter Frajola, *Del M. Smith & Maria Stanley Smith associate concertmaster chair*
Erin Furbee, *Harold & Jane Pollin assistant concertmaster chair*^
Chien Tan, *Truman Collins, Sr. principal second violin chair*
Inés Volgar Belgique, *assistant principal second violin*
Fumino Ando
Keiko Araki
Clarisse Atcherson
Lucia Atkinson*
Ron Blessinger
Lisbeth Carreno
Ruby Chen

Emily Cole
Julie Coleman^
Eileen Deiss
Gregory Ewer
Jonathan Dubay
Daniel Ge Feng
Lynne Finch
Shin-young Kwon
Ryan Lee
Hannah Leland*
Samuel Park^
Searmi Park
Vali Phillips
Deborah Singer

VIOLA

Joël Belgique, *Maybelle Clark Macdonald Fund principal viola chair*
Charles Noble, *assistant principal*
Jennifer Arnold
Silu Fei^
Leah Ilem
Brian Quincey
Ningning Jin
Kim Mai Nguyen*
Viorel Russo^
Martha Warrington^

CELLO

Nancy Ives, *Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Hayes, Jr. principal cello chair*
Marilyn de Oliveira, *assistant principal*
Kenneth Finch^
Trevor Fitzpatrick
Antoinette Gan
Kevin Kunkel^
Gayle Budd O’Grady

BASS

Colin Corner, *principal*
Nina DeCesare
Don Hermanns^
Jeffrey Johnson
Jason Schooler

FLUTE

Martha Long, *Bruce & Judy Thesenga principal flute chair*
Alicia DiDonato Paulsen, *assistant principal*
Zachariah Galatis^

PICCOLO

Zachariah Galatis^

OBOE

Martin Hébert, *Harold J. Schnitzer principal oboe chair*
Karen Wagner, *assistant principal*
Kyle Mustain^

ENGLISH HORN

Kyle Mustain^

CLARINET

James Shields, *principal*
Todd Kuhns, *assistant principal*
Mark Dubac^

BASS CLARINET

Todd Kuhns

BASSOON

Carin Miller Packwood, *principal*^
Evan Kuhlmann, *assistant principal*
Adam Trussell

CONTRABASSOON

Evan Kuhlmann

HORN

John Cox, *principal*

Joseph Berger, *associate principal*

Graham Kingsbury, *assistant principal*

Mary Grant

Alicia Waite

TRUMPET

Jeffrey Work, *principal*

David Bamonte, *assistant principal, Musicians of the Oregon Symphony*

Richard Thornburg

trumpet chair

Doug Reneau

TROMBONE

Casey Jones, *principal*

Robert Taylor, *assistant principal*

Charles Reneau

BASS TROMBONE

Charles Reneau

TUBA

JáTtik Clark, *principal*

TIMPANI

Jonathan Greeney, *principal*

Sergio Carreno, *assistant principal*

PERCUSSION

Niel DePonte, *principal*

Michael Roberts, *assistant principal*

Sergio Carreno

HARP

Jennifer Craig, *principal*[^]

*guest musician

[^]not heard on this recording





Publishers credits

King of Kings

Madimar Publishing

Sacrifice of Praise

Bill Winston Presents Living Word

Jesus is Born

Malaco, Inc.

And His Name Shall Be Called

Praise Place Music (ASCAP)

You Oughta Know

True Vine JEJ Music

Emmanuel

J Robersongs Music

Jesus Savior, Come as a Child

Ex Mea Music Publishing (ASCAP)

Moses' Plea Publishing (BMI)

Go Tell It/Wonderful Child

**FIYA World Entertainment & Light Records,
a division of Entertainment One**

Zion Rejoice

Capitol CMG Publishing

Hallelujah **Warner/Chappell Music
Publishing**

Christmas Worship Medley

Capitol CMG Publishing

Joy to the World

Capitol CMG Publishing

Acknowledgments

PRODUCTION TEAM

Producer: **Blanton Alspaugh**

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Mixing and mastering: **Mark Donahue**

Cover photo: **Tim McCaig** | Design: **Joost de Boo**

Product management: **Kasper van Kooten**

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PENTATONE TEAM

Vice President A&R **Renaud Loranger** | Director **Simon M. Eder**

A&R Manager **Kate Rockett** | Head of Marketing, PR & Sales **Silvia Pietrosanti**



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