UNIVERSITY MUSICAL SOCIETY

CHARLES A. SINK, PRESIDENT

HARDIN VAN DEURSEN, CONDUCTOR

Extra Concert No. 4

1946-1947

Complete Series 2940

"Messiah"

GEORG FRIEDRICH HANDEL

SOLOISTS:

Lura Stover, Soprano Ralph Lear, Tenor EILEEN LAW, Contralto ALDEN EDKINS, Bass

University Choral Union

SPECIAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

CHARLES E. VOGAN, Organist HARDIN VAN DEURSEN, Conductor

Sunday Afternoon, December 15, 1946, at 3:00 Hill Auditorium, Ann Arbor, Michigan

PROGRAM

(The audience is invited to participate in the singing of the "Hallelujah" chorus.)

OVERTURE

TENOR

Comfort ye, My people, saith your God; speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem; and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned.

The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness: Prepare ye the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low, the crooked straight and the rough places plain.

CHORUS

And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it.

BASS

Thus saith the Lord of Hosts: Yet once a little while and I will shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all nations; and the desire of all nations shall come.

The Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to His temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in; Behold, He shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts.

But who may abide the day of His coming? and who shall stand when He appeareth?

For He is like a refiner's fire.

CONTRALTO

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name EMMANUEL: God with us.

CONTRALTO AND CHORUS

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain! Lift up thy voice with strength! Lift it up, be not afraid! Say unto the cities of Judah, Behold your God! Arise, shine, for thy light is come; and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee!

BASS

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people; but the Lord shall arise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee. And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light; and they that

dwell in the land of the shadows of death, upon them hath the light shined.

CHORUS

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulders; and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

PASTORAL SYMPHONY

SOPRANO

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And lo! the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them: Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the City of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God, and saying:

CHORUS

Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men.

SOPRANO

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem: Behold, thy king cometh unto thee! He is the righteous Savior, and He shall speak peace unto the heathen.

CONTRALTO AND SOPRANO

Then shall the eyes of the blind be open'd, and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then shall the lame man leap as an hart, and the tongue of the dumb shall sing.

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd, and He shall gather the lambs with His arm, and carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

Come unto Him, all ye that labor, and that are heavy laden; and He will give you rest. Take His yoke upon you, and learn of Him, for He is meek and lowly of heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

CHORUS

His yoke is easy, and His burden is light.

INTERMISSION

CHORUS

Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world.

CONTRALTO

He was despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief.

CHORUS

Surely He hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows; He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him.

And with His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way. And the Lord hath laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

TENOR

Thy rebuke hath broken His heart; He is full of heaviness. He looked for some to have pity on Him, but there was no man, neither found He any to comfort Him.

Behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto His sorrow.

He was cut off out of the land of the living: for the transgression of Thy people was He stricken.

But Thou didst not leave His soul in hell, nor didst Thou suffer Thy Holy One to see corruption.

CHORUS

Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of glory shall come in. Who is the King of glory? The Lord strong and mighty in battle. The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of glory.

SOPRANO

How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!

Bass

Why do the nations so furiously rage together? Why do the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth rise up, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against His anointed.

CHORUS

Let us break their bonds asunder, and cast away their yokes from us.

TENOR

He that dwelleth in heaven shall laugh them to scorn; the Lord shall have them in derision.

Thou shall break them with a rod of iron; Thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.

CHORUS AND AUDIENCE

HALLELUJAH: for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.

The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever.

Soprano

I know that my Redeemer liveth, and

that He shall stand at the latter day upon the earth; and though worms destroy this body; yet in my flesh shall I see God.

For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first-fruits of them that sleep.

CHORUS

Since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive.

BASS

Behold, I tell you a mystery; we shall not all sleep, but we shall all be

changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet.

The trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible; and we shall be changed.

CHORUS

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain, and hath redeemed us to God by His blood, to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and glory, and blessing.

Blessing and honor, glory and power, be unto Him that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb, for ever

and ever. AMEN.

THE UNIVERSITY CHORAL UNION

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