



HOUSTON LUTHERAN CHORALE

HLC Newsletter

Fall 2023

From the President's Desk

The night the angels sang – can you imagine? A shepherd sitting on a hill tending his sheep when a multitude of the heavenly host appears and starts singing and praising God. One angel would be awe inspiring, but a multitude?! I'm not sure how many constitutes a multitude, but I'm pretty sure it's a lot!

Then the angels proclaim the Good News – God's promise of a Savior is fulfilled! The shepherds left their flocks and ran to Bethlehem to behold this wondrous gift and what did they find? Jesus!

But did He come as a regal king or a commanding general at the head of a mighty army? No, He came as an infant in a humble stable surrounded by animals. He came to live among us, love us and finally, to die for us, taking all our sins and conquering death. He did this according to His Father's plan and willingly sacrificed Himself so that we would have the amazing gift of eternal life in Him! No wonder the angels were singing!

During this season of Christmas, and all year, may we remember the joy and wonder that is the birth of the Savior.

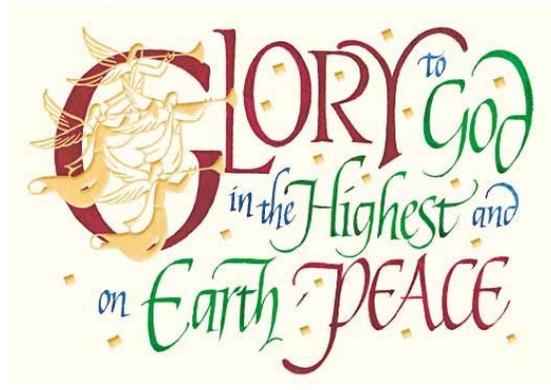
From our Houston Lutheran Chorale family to yours, we wish you a Blessed and merry Christmas and a Happy New Year full of His grace and mercy.

Sheri Fryer, President

*"During this season of Christmas,
and all year, may we remember
the joy and wonder that is the
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Sheri Fryer, President*

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Director's Column

The Night the Angels Sang

Christmas brings such joy and excitement in so many ways. From the lights, decorations, fellowship, music, food, cards, and of course, gifts. Of all the joys of Christmas, the one that has always stood to me was the night the angels visited the shepherds on that quiet, star filled night. One can only imagine what the shepherds felt as the angels broke into song proclaiming "Glory to God in the Highest!"

You see, on this side of heaven we can experience everything about Christmas except the songs of the angels. We can decorate our homes and churches with beautiful lights and ornaments. We can gather with family and friends around beautiful music and good food. We can share the joy of exchanging gifts, but the one thing we can not do is hear that beautiful song that the angels sang.....Or can we?

God has given us such a gift in sending His only Son to us to win salvation and life eternal all who believe. God has given us His Holy Word to learn about His plan for salvation. God has also given us the gift of music to express and convey His text in a very special way.

Please join us on December 1st, 2nd and 3rd as the Houston Lutheran Chorale join our voices with the angels to the shepherds in proclaiming the birth of our Savior. There will be a variety of pieces as well as several Christmas carols for all in attendance to share.

This is an event you will not want to miss and will definitely put you in the Christmas spirit.

*Blessings,
Jeff Armstrong
Director, Houston Lutheran Chorale*



July 4th Concert 2023—Trinity-Downtown
—photo by Edward Johnson

Who We Are...

The Houston Lutheran Chorale is comprised of singers from multiple congregations throughout the greater Houston area.

Formal musical training is NOT required, and we would welcome anyone interested in singing to join us next spring!



Keep up with us on our website

<http://www.hlc-tx.org>

The 2023 HLC Board

President Sheri Fryer
Vice President Babs Scott
Secretary September Nelson
Treasurer Barbara Szalkowski

Busy Spring-Summer 2023 Season

The Chorale had a busy spring-summer 2023 season! Of course, the highlight of the season was the resumption of our annual July 4th concert — it was thrilling to again thank God for our country and recognize those who have served in our Armed Forces.

In June, we resumed our annual Awards Dinner, and several members earned pins for milestone years of service.



(L-R) Ed Scott (5 yrs)
 Sheri Fryer (30 yrs)
 Matt Scott (5 yrs)
 Barbara Marchand (25 yrs)
 Dave Graesser (10 yrs)
 Babs Scott (5 yrs)
 Barbara Szalkowski (30 yrs)

In June and July we auditioned candidates for a permanent director and selected Jeff Armstrong. Jeff serves as Minister of Music at Our Savior Lutheran (OSL) Church-Houston, leading all the choirs, including handbells, and serving as organist for all the worship services. He also teaches music and choir at OSL School.





Houston Lutheran Chorale
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SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

Please keep the Houston Lutheran Chorale, our members, and our ministry in your prayers.

Thrivent lets eligible clients with membership choose where Thrivent distributes a portion of its funding each year. Eligibility is based on a client's insurance premiums and contract values. Learn more about Thrivent Choice and direct your Choice Dollars by logging into your account on the Thrivent website <https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice>.

Checks can be mailed to the Houston Lutheran Chorale at our address below. The Chorale is a 501(c)(3) organization and your donation is 100% tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Christmas 2023 Concerts *The Night the Angels Sang*

**Friday, Dec. 1, 7:30pm
Memorial Katy
Lutheran Church**

**Saturday, Dec. 2, 7:30pm
New Life Lutheran
Church, Pearland**

**Sunday, Dec. 3, 4:00pm
Immanuel Lutheran
Church, Houston**