

Chatham Chorale P.O. Box 1111 West Dennis, MA 02670

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"A CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS" WITH CHATHAM CHORALE Much-Loved Holiday Concerts Return to Chatham's First Congregational Church

Chatham, MA / November 24, 2023 – The Chatham Chorale and Chambers Singers once again offer a bounty of seasonal music in the festive and beautiful space of Chatham's First Congregational Church, on Saturday, December 16, at 2:00 pm and Sunday, December 17, at 2:00 and 5:00 pm. This holiday season, for the first time in many years, the Chorale offers the entire "Christmas portion" (Part I) of Handel's *Messiah*. Led by Music Director Joe Marchio, the singers will be joined by an orchestral ensemble, vocal soloists, and Chorale accompanist Donald Enos on piano and organ.

Traditional carols won't be overlooked, and audiences are invited to sing along on several ones. Stirring new arrangements of classic favorites are also featured, such as Mack Wilberg's setting of "The First Nowell" and Dan Forrest's arrangements of "O Come, All Ye Faithful" and "Silent Night," which has become an audience favorite. "It's remarkable how many gifted composers working today have re-visioned this beloved body of music into exciting new forms," says Marchio.

And for those whose Christmas wouldn't be complete without the "Hallelujah" chorus, the singers and instrumentalists will perform that too — even if it technically comes from a later part of Handel's great oratorio.

Chatham Chorale is one of Cape Cod's longest-established choral ensembles, for over 50 years presenting an annual concert series with programs ranging from choral masterworks to Broadway, pops stylings, and premieres of new works by regional composers. The Chorale also regularly collaborates with the Cape Symphony—as earlier this month in the Holiday Pops concerts—and sings in service to the community.

All tickets to these concerts are \$25, with open seating. Tickets can be purchased at info@chathamchorale.org, by phone (774-212-9333), or at the door the day of the concert. In addition, the Chatham Chorale is proud to participate in Mass Cultural Council's Card to Culture program, in partnership with the Massachusett Executive Office of Health and Human Services. Discounted tickets are available to holders of EBT or WIC cards. Please see the Chorale's website, www.chathamchorale.org, for details.

Captions for included photos (all photos used with permission):

The Chatham Chorale, Music Director Joseph Marchio at far left, Chorale Accompanist Donald Enos far right. Photo by Paul Blackmore.