Illinois State University Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts School of Music

Civic Chorale Fall Concert

John M. Koch, *director* Dennis Gotkowski, *piano*

"The Sounds of Light"

Featuring works of

Dan Forrest Elaine Hagenberg Morten Lauridsen John Rutter

> Center for the Performing Arts November 9, 2025 Sunday Afternoon 3:00 p.m.

This is the forty-fourth program of the 2025-2026 season.

Program

Please silence all electronics for the duration of the concert. Thank you.

Lead, Kindly Light

music by Dan Forrest (b. 1978) text by Henry Newman and Edward Henry Bickerstith

"I will love the light for it shows me the way, yet I will endure the darkness for it shows me the stars."

~Og Mandino, American author of The greatest salesman in the world

Lead kindly light, Amid the encircling gloom,

The night is dark, and I am far from home,

Keep Thou my feet, I do not ask to see the distant scene.

One step enough for me.

Lead kindly light.

So long Thy power hath blest me, sure it still will lead me on,

Over moor and ren, over crag and torrent, till the night is gone,

And with the morn, those angel faces smile, which I have loved long since,

And lost awhile.

Lead kindly light.

Meanwhile, along the narrow rugged path, Thyself hath trod,

Lead me home in childlike faith, home to my God.

O rest forever, after earthly strife, in the calm light of everlasting life.

Lead kindly light.

Candlelight carol

arranged by John Rutter (b. 1945)

"Nothing can dim the light that shines from within." ~Maya Angelou

How do you capture the wind on the water? How do you count all the start in the sky? How can you measure the love of a mother? Or how can you write down a baby's first cry?

Candlelight, angel light, firelight and starglow shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn. Gloria in excelsis Deo, Angels are singing: the Christ child is born.

Shepherds and wise mem will kneel and adore him, Seraphim 'round him their vigil shall keep;

Nations proclaims him their Lord and their Saviour, Mary will hold him and sing him to sleep.

Candlelight, angel light, firelight and starglow shine on his cradle till breaking of dawn. Gloria in excelsis Deo, Angels are singing: the Christ child is born.

Find him at Bethlehem laid in a manger: Christ our Redeemer asleep in the hay, Godhead incarnate and hope of salvation: A child with his mother that first Christmas Day. "In the midst of darkness, light persists." ~Mahatma Gandhi

Silent night, holy night, all is calm all is bright, 'round you virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace. Silent night, holy night, Son of God, Love's pure light.

~~BRIEF PAUSE~~

Lux Aeterna

Morten Lauridsen (b. 1943)

"Only when we are brave enough to explore the darkness will we discover the infinite power of our light."

~Brené Brown

I. Introitus

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

A hymn befits thee, O God of Zion, and to thee a vow shall be fulfilled in Jerusalem: Hear my prayer, for unto thee all flesh shall come.

Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

II. In Te, Domine Speravi

To deliver us, you became human and did not disdain the Virgin's womb.

Blunting the sting of death, You opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.

A light has risen in the darkness for the upright.

Have mercy on us, O Lord. Let thy mercy be upon us, O Lord, as we have trusted in thee.

In thee, O Lord, I have trusted: let me never be bewildered.

III. O Nata Lux

O light born of light, Jesus, redeemer of the world, mercifully deem worthy and accept the praises and prayers of your prayerful ones.

Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh for the sake of the lost ones, let us be members of your holy body.

IV. Veni, Sancte Spiritus

Come, Holy Spirit, send forth from heaven the ray of thy light. Come, Father of the poor, come, giver of gifts, come, light of hearts.

Thou best of Consolers, sweet guest of the soul, sweet refreshment. In labor, thou art rest, in heat, the tempering, in grief, the consolation.

O Light most blessed, fill the inmost heart of all thy faithful. Without your grace, there is nothing in us, nothing that is not harmful.

Cleanse what is immoral, moisten the arid, heal what is injured. Flex what is rigid, warm what is cold, correct what goes astray.

Grant to thy faithful, those trusting in thee, thy sacred seven-fold gifts.

Grant the reward of virtue, the deliverance of salvation and everlasting joy.

V. Agnus Dei

Lamb of God, take away the sins of the world, give them rest.

Lamb of God, take away the sins of the world, give them eternal rest.

May light shine upon them, O Lord, in the company of thy Saints for ever and ever; for thou art merciful.

Give them eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Alleluia. Amen.

"Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness." ~Archbishop Desmond Tutu

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