From the DIRECTOR

The celebration of Christ's birth is one of the most anticipated events in Christendom. The annual Hanging of the Green inaugurates this season, filled with the joy of Christmas. More than just a tradition, the Hanging of the Green is a familiar anchor in the life of worship at Whitesburg Baptist Church. Featuring our nearly 200-voice student choir and 60-piece orchestra, this musical evening gives worshipers, young and old alike, an exciting prelude to the Christmas season through music, spoken narrations, and visual elements.



The theme of Christmas at Whitesburg Baptist Church this year is focused around the carols of Christmas and the theology that informs our beliefs as Christians. The choir and orchestra will open the evening with a spirited version of *Joy to the World*, followed by two contemporary pieces that describe King Jesus' coming to earth: *The King Has Come* and *King of Glory*, *King of Love*. Next, a highlight of the evening is sure to be the quartet-led gospel piece, *Fear Not*. The congregation will add their voice to the evening as we read a responsive Scripture passage together. An exciting version of *Gloria in Excelsis Deo* will follow, highlighting the angels' chorus in the sky as they proclaim the news to the shepherds in the fields. Our 34 choir seniors will assemble the Nativity as the story is read with a dramatic underscore.

The congregation is again invited to sing along with the familiar carols *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* and *Angels We Have Heard on High*. Our student ensemble will reflect on the story of Christmas in a gospel-style piece, *Gotta Whisper, Gotta Shout*, followed by *Hope*, a piece that explores the excitement and tension of Christ's birth using a single word: alleluia. We'll once again revisit the carols as the choir sings a simple but moving arrangement of *The First Nowell*. The ensemble will return with one more piece that echos how Mary touched God through her song, referred to as the Magnificat in Luke 1:46-55. The song is a moving expression of how we can bring praise and joy to God through singing and music. This piece will be followed by a moving narration featuring Mary as she contemplates the birth of Christ.

Cradle Hymn is a deeply moving song focused on baby Jesus in the manager. Sung in four-part harmony by the women of our choir and accompanied by strings, it's a beautiful lullaby that will warm your heart this Christmas. The song will be followed by a candlelit congregational singing of *Silent Night*. Our pastor will share a word of encouragement in a brief Christmas devotion before we conclude the evening with another song of joy! *A Joyful Hallelujah* incorporates the familiar *Joy to the World* with the *Hallelujah Chorus* as we end the evening as we began: celebrating the joy of Christmas!

Please join me in extending our gratitude to the student choir, orchestra, technical team, and adult volunteers who have worked tirelessly to make this evening happen. I commend their hard work, creativity, and commitment to excellence. May you experience the peace and joy of the Christmas season, giving thanks for the miracle of Christ's gift of salvation.

Dr. Matthew D. Sloma
Associate Worship Pastor

whitesburg STUDENT CHOIR

The Student Choir is open to all 6th to 12th graders - no audition necessary. We meet on Sundays from 5:15-6:45 pm in the Choir Room. Join us for our spring semester starting January 10, 2027.

2027 STUDENT CHOIR MISSION TRIPS:
March 13-20, 2027 | Dallas, TX | High School
April 23-25, 2027 | Nashville, TN | Middle School

For more information on the Whitesburg Student Music program, call the Whitesburg Baptist Church Music Office at (256) 704-5678, ext. 229 or email matthew.sloma@whitesburgbaptist.org.

WhitesburgBaptist.org

Upcoming EVENTS

Behold the King

Sunday, December 13, at 6 pm

An evening of Christmas worship featuring the Whitesburg Adult Choir and Orchestra, Student Choir, Kids' Choir, and Ballet Ministry. No tickets required.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Thursday, December 24, at 3:30 & 5 pm

All ages are invited to a brief family service with well-known carols, a meaningful message, and candle lighting tradition.

Special NOTES

Whitesburg Baptist Church will present a live video stream of both the 4 pm and 6:30 pm Hanging of the Green 2026 services on the church YouTube Channel. For more information and access, please visit the church website: whitesburgbaptist.org.



The 38th Annual Hanging of the Green

December 6, at 4 & 6:30 pm

PROGRAM

JOY
A Video Introduction

JOY TO THE WORLD
Arr. Mack Wilberg
Student Choir & Orchestra

SPOKEN OFFERING/WELCOME
Maddie Lowery

THE KING HAS COME
Carol Cymbala, Onaje Jefferson, & Jason Michael Webb
Student Choir & Orchestra
Duet: Kellen Smith & Grace Kretz

KING OF GLORY, KING OF LOVE
Travis Cottrell & David Moffitt
Student Choir & Orchestra
Soloists: Janie Dickey & Farris Powell

FEAR NOT
Arr. John Bolin
Student Choir & Orchestra
Quartet: Brooks Brady, Jack Norman, Colton Roach, & Elijah Priestley

SPOKEN OFFERING
Colton Roach, Stirling Turnbull, Anna Stroud, & Mary Elmore

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO (FROM GLORIA)
Mary McDonald
Student Choir & Orchestra

THE NATIVITY
Gary Fry
Narrators & Orchestra
Narrators: Blake French, Esther Pierce, & Alice Vanderveer
Nativity: 2027 Seniors

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING
Arr. Cliff Duren
Student Choir & Orchestra
Soloists: Ivy Hillis & Amberly Cabra

SPOKEN OFFERING
Sawyer Dewald & Anna Joy Dawson

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH
Arr. Joseph Martin
Student Choir, Orchestra, & Congregation
* Congregation please stand and sing

GOTTA WHISPER, GOTTA SHOUT
Victor C. Johnson
Student Ensemble
Soloist: Charlotte Powell

HOPE
Zachary J. Moore
Student Ensemble
Percussion: Robbie Cabra & Ryan Cabra

THE FIRST NOWELL
Arr. Mack Wilberg
Student Choir & Orchestra

I TOUCH GOD IN MY SONG
Ivo Antognini
Student Ensemble

SPOKEN OFFERING
Allalay Powell

CRADLE HYMN
Kim Andre Arnesen
Student Choir Women & Orchestra

SILENT NIGHT
Arr. Joseph Martin
Student Choir, Orchestra, & Congregation
* Congregation please remain seated and sing

CHRISTMAS MOMENT
Dr. Darryl Craft

A JOYFUL HALLELUJAH
Arr. John Bolin
Student Choir & Orchestra

STUDENT CHOIR

Joe Adam
Elias Adams *
Josiah Adams *
Edie Grace Allen
Leigh Ann Backus
Tanner Baker
Brooklyn Beck
Sarah-Kate Berry
Eddie Bilyk
Yana Bilyk
Abigail Bishop
Davis Bourgeois
Briggs Brady #
Brooks Brady #
Bree-Anna Brock #
Elijah Brook
Sally Broom
Jacob Brown
Leah Brown *
Raley Brown *
Barrett Bruno
Grace Bullen
John Bullen
Lee Bullen * #
Ashlyn Burkhart
Annelyse Burkhart *
Kaylee Cabra #
Amberly Cabra * #
Melissa Caldwell
Asher Campbell
Alexa Canevaro *
Camryn Carmickle
Simona Carmickle *
Ella Carver
Sidney Catey
Cordelia Christopher
Charlene Christopher
Kendall Ciaio
Hannah Cross *
Julia David
Anna Joy Dawson
Abigail Denton *
Katelyn Denton
Ava Dewald
Connor Dewald
Sawyer Dewald
Janie Dickey *
Benjamin Didyk
Eric Didyk
Hudson Edwards
Solomon Edwards
Meri Gammon Edwards
Molly Claire Edwards
Bennett Lawson Elmore
Joy Lynn Elmore
Merry Layne Elmore
Camden Ethridge
Madelyn Ethridge
Sunday Ezell
Eunice Featherkile
Evelyn Featherkile
Gabrielle Featherkile
Jedidiah Featherkile
John Fisher
Hannah Kate Ford
Dylan Foulk
William Fox
Blake French #
Layne Garner * #
Trip Garner
Edden Gaston *
Charlie Gettys
Shepherd Gettys
William Goldmon *
Alice Goldsmith
Vivian Goldsmith
Clementine Gower
Lillianna Gray
Hannah Haygood
Madeline Haygood
Fisher Helms
Peyton Henson
Ellie Hillis
Ivy Hillis * #
Emmalyn Hitt
Lillian Hitt
Nathan Hitt
Caroline Hobbs * #
Desley Holland
Serenity Holland *
Anna Kate Holt
Emma Holt
Jude Hubbard
Addyson Johnson
Harper Johnson
Avaleigh Jones
Ophelia Knight
Grace Kretz #
Timothy Kull
Daniel Lake
David Lake
Devyn Leventry
Tessa Lewis
Callie Little
Anna Laura Lott
Mercy Lovvorn
Elle Lowery
Maddie Lowery
Ava Luker
Ella Luker #
Lydia Martin
Julieta Maynard
Ellie McDonald
Phoebe McDonald
Emilee McKinnon
Josie McNabb
Kayla McNabb
Liana Mercado
Eva Metcalf
Holly Mikatarian * #
Jessica Mikatarian #
Anna Minor
Elizabeth Minor
Aaron Mooney * #
Andrew Mooney #
Caitlyn Morgan *
Molly Morgan
Annika Mulholland
Arabella Munger
Eden Nelson #
Ruby Nelson
Tanner Nelson
Chandler Nichols
Graeden Nitriansky
Laura Nitriansky
Scarlett Nocera
Jack Norman * #
Naomi Olson
John Organ
Lydia Organ
Vance Organ *
Kaelyn Painter
Kiley Patterson *
Emma Patti
Addie Pearman
John Pearman
Reagan Pearman
Ryan Pearman
Ezekiel Peterson
Esther Pierce
Amariah Pochel
Allalay Powell
Farris Powell
Charlotte Powell #
Helen Powell
Anna Priestley
Elijah Priestley * #
Arden Provost
Jordan Raburn *
Colton Roach * #
Mercedes Shafer
Addisyn Sloma
Caden Sloma
Kellen Smith * #
Nathaniel Smouse * #
Becky Ann Spain
Ella Rose Spain
Thomas Spain
Tobi Spikes *
Caroline Springfield *
Robert Springfield
Grady Stephens
Anna Stroud
Grace Summers
Weston Talalight *
William Talalight
Iveren Tardzer
Juliet Thumann
Justus Thumann *
Stirling Turnbull
Alice Vanderveer
Isabella Vanderveer
Emma Weaver
Haley Wilkerson
Isabella Wilkinson *
Adalynn Willmon
Joshua Wohlwend
Micaiah Wohlwend

* = denotes senior
# = denotes ensemble

PLEASE SILENCE ALL ELECTRONIC DEVICES AND REFRAIN FROM USING FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY.

These concerts are being recorded for future broadcast, and we appreciate your help in keeping the recording free from extraneous noises by avoiding entering or exiting while a piece is being performed. Thank you for your assistance.

ORCHESTRA

VIOLIN I
Catherine Garner
Wayne Hofeldt
Anna Linzey
Rebecca Marino
Patricia Purcar
Kristin Stevens

VIOLIN II
Christie Dennis
Veronica Marino
Ellie Oh
Cindy Smith
Melodie Spencer
Christie Weber

VIOLA
Lucy Goe
DeAndre King
Andrea Ramos
Juliet Willicott

CELLO
Bill Eberle
Gwen Gammon
Gabbie Goe
Sarah Kehn
Miika Weimann

FLUTE/PICCOLO
Debbie Cortez
Catherine Linnihan
Kathy Mashburn
Avery Nunnally
Julie Peace
Kathryn Roose

CLARINET
Ray Garner
Amanda McCartie
Cindy Tapp
Jennifer Whitman

OBOE
Lara Lay

SOPRANO SAX
Ryan Wharton

ALTO SAX
Nash Euto
Sara Lawhorn
Jeana Phillips

CONTRABASS CLARINET
Melissa Smith

HORN
Robbie Buss
James Lawrence

FLÜGLEHORN
Jay Dennis
Karla Metanes
Jason Ray

TRUMPET
Roland Cortez
Matthew McCartie
Steve Pratt
Gary Smith
Alan Suska
Tammie Terry

TROMBONE
Russ Baldwin
Blake Clements
Wendell Cook
Steve Swann

BASS TROMBONE
Michael Pfister

TUBA
Stephen Stroud

HARP
Ron Marino

DRUMS
Zach Weaver

PERCUSSION
Terry Cornett
Jacob Presnall

GUITAR
Marty Calvert Sr.
Cody Holland
Mark Willard

BASS GUITAR
Ed Porter

PIANO
Robbie Cabra

KEYBOARDS
Tim Bandy
Ethan Cole

PRODUCTION TEAM

DIRECTOR
Matthew Sloma

ORCHESTRA
Timothy Bandy

PROGRAM DIRECTOR
Kristen Zurmuehlen

DRAMA DIRECTOR
Jess Henley

ACCOMPANIST
Robbie Cabra

PHOTOGRAPHY
Sarah Grace Cabra

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR/ LIGHTING
Justin Crisp

HOUSE AUDIO ENGINEER
Connor Duckett

VIDEO DIRECTOR
Sean Kimbell

VIDEO SWITCHER
Daryl Martin

CAMERA OPERATORS
Jeffery Bunn
Randy Nielson
Mark Talton
Johnny Thibodeaux

PTZ OPERATOR
Peter Frederickson

STAGE MANAGER
Logan Ferguson

MEDIA ENGINEER
Audrey Creel

PROGRAM DESIGN
Kristie Preston

CHRISTMAS DESIGN
Melissa Schuster

STUDENT CHOIR SPONSORS

Caleb Brock
Jason Brock
Amy Cabra
Robbie Cabra
Ryan Cabra
Sarah Grace Cabra
Joyce Calvert
Ethan Cole
Lane Daughtry
Eli Davis
Siobhan Davis
Rachel Deshler
Elijah Dewald
Jennifer Dewald
Rachael Gipson
Sam Handley
Jess Henley
Michelle Horne
Raymond Horne
Ron Huskey
Alison Huskey
Iva Lowe
Summer Lowery
Wes Minor
Luke Minor
David Nelson
Mendy Pierce
Matthew Sloma
Desiree Sloma
Sarah Becky Spain
Melody Stroud
Brian Tachias
Maddie Tachias
Billy Varnon
Amy Varnon
Kevin Zurmuehlen
Kristen Zurmuehlen