

GREAT MUSIC

at Christ Church Cathedral



2026 - 2027

THE EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL IN DOWNTOWN LEXINGTON

Experience Great Music at Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington's premier historic setting for discovering the power of music to stir the soul and inspire the mind.

Beneath the Cathedral's soaring Gothic architecture, savor unforgettable performances and connect with friends old and new.

Our acclaimed choirs breathe new life into the centuries-old tradition of choral music, while gifted organists draw inspiration from the Cathedral's Holtkamp Organ and a vibrant array of guest artists bring their talents to the stage.



Come to Christ Church Cathedral and experience Great Music with the power to transform our lives.

Carol Wade
Dean & Rector of Christ Church Cathedral

About Christ Church Cathedral

Christ Church Cathedral is a people of prayer and action stirred by compassion and eager to serve the community. We have offerings for every generation. All are welcome.

Cathedrals are by nature multi-dimensional. They are places of spiritual and aesthetic exuberance. At Christ Church Cathedral, worship takes place in varied forms; music, art, and poetry pour forth in resonant beauty, and opportunities for spiritual growth and service shape our purpose.

As a vital citizen, Christ Church Cathedral seeks to offer a meeting place of the spirit where people from all walks of life can meet in search of common ground to serve the common good.



GEORGE FRIDERIC HANDEL'S *Messiah*



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4
7:30PM

Emily Albrink, *Soprano*

Joseph Kingsbury, *Countertenor*

Nathan Schafer, *Tenor*

Craig Price, *Bass*

The Lexington Baroque Ensemble

The Cathedral Choir

Erich Balling, *Conductor*

Kathleen Balling, *Associate Conductor*

Joel Pitchon, *Concert Master*



FOR TICKET RESERVATIONS, VISIT [CCCLEX.ORG/MESSIAH](https://ccclex.org/messiah)



"The Christ Church Cathedral Choir inspired faultless singing and immaculate choral discipline. The musical standards they attained were second to none." — Choir and Organ Magazine



A FESTIVAL OF
Nine Lessons & Carols

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 7:00PM

The Cathedral Choir

We gather this night to tell the greatest story we know
through the beauty of sacred scripture and song.

Organ Preludes begins at 6:30PM.



Christmas AT THE CATHEDRAL

BENJAMIN BRITTEN'S *A Ceremony of Carols*

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22
7:00PM

The Cathedral Girls Choir
Rachel Miller, harp



Christmas Eve

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

2:00pm Children's Christmas Pageant & Eucharist
with the Cathedral Singers

4:30pm Organ & Brass Prelude

5:00pm Christmas Service with the Cathedral Choir

10:30pm Organ & Brass Prelude

11:00pm Midnight Mass with the Cathedral Choir

Childcare is available only at the 5:00pm service.



Visiting Conductor Series

with **RICHARD WEBSTER**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

11:00am Choral Eucharist
with the Cathedral Choir

3:30pm Jazz Concert, University of Kentucky

4:00pm Evensong with the Cathedral Choir
Miyo Aoki, recorder

We welcome renowned musician and conductor Richard Webster to the Cathedral in our *Visiting Conductor Series*. Richard will conduct a weekend of rehearsals and services with the Cathedral Choir including Choral Eucharist and Evensong.

At Evensong, Miyo Aoki, early music specialist and recorder player, will join the choir on an original composition by Richard written for the season of Epiphany.



We are grateful to our Friends of Cathedral Music who through their generosity make this series possible.

Co-sponsored with the Lexington Chapter of the American Guild of Organists



Other notable Visiting Conductors include Gerre Hancock, Jeffrey Smith, Aric Prentice, Malcolm Archer and Sarah Baldock.

GABRIEL FAURÉ'S *Requiem*

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 21, 4:00PM

The Cathedral Choir

Erich Balling, *Conductor*

Kathleen Balling, *Associate Conductor*



Luke Dailey,
baritone soloist



Lisa Hall, *organ*

Rachel Miller, *harp*

Clyde Beavers, *cello*

Madison Jones, *violin*

David Davenport, *timpani*

CHORAL CONCERT

FRIDAY, MAY 21
7:30PM

Madrigal Singers

SCAPA: School for the
Creative and Performing Arts

Ryan Marsh, *conductor*



CONCERTS AND EVENSONGS

Choral Evensongs offer a beguiling invitation. Patterned on the ancient service of evening prayer, it marks the setting of the sun and the coming of darkness from which a new day will dawn. The Cathedral Choir lifts our prayers to God through rich and expansive choral settings. We invite you to join our voices with the prayers of countless generations to the glory of God. Evensongs are preceded by 30-minute concerts by local and national artists. All are welcome!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

BRASS CONCERT, 3:30PM

Jason Dovel, *trumpet*

Abby Temple, *trumpet*

Scott Leger, *horn*

Brad Kerns, *trombone*

Brandon Smith, *tuba*

University of Kentucky



EVENSONG, 4:00PM

with the Cathedral Choir



This Concert and Evensong are a preview of the second annual In One A-Chord: Lexington Sacred Music Festival, October 3-11, 2026. [Scan here for more details.](#)



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

ALL SOULS EVENSONG

HARP CONCERT, 3:30PM

Rachel Miller, Vanderbilt University

EVENSONG, 4:00PM

with the Cathedral Choir

All Souls Evensong is a time to remember those we love but see no longer, as we name and pray for those who have died in the last year.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

JAZZ CONCERT, 3:30PM

William Allen, *guitar*

Vincent Buchenberger, *saxophone*

Sam Dailey, *piano*

Adam Inouye, *drums*

University of Kentucky

EVENSONG, 4:00PM

with the Cathedral Choir



SUNDAY, APRIL 18

ORGAN CONCERT, 3:30PM

Mengfei Xu

Second Presbyterian Church, Louisville

EVENSONG, 4:00PM

with the Cathedral Choir

SUNDAY, MAY 16

GUITAR CONCERT, 3:30PM

Daniel Monroy Reyes,

University of Kentucky

EVENSONG, 4:00PM

with the Cathedral Choir



FOR INFORMATION ON JOINING THE CATHEDRAL SINGERS, IMPS OR WOMENS CHOIR

PLEASE CONTACT MUSIC ASSOCIATE, KATHLEEN BALLING VIA EMAIL AT KBALLING@CCCLEX.ORG

OR CALL 859-254-4497, EXT. 1011.



THE CATHEDRAL WOMENS CHOIR

The Cathedral Womens Choir is an ensemble for women ages 18 and older. The choir sings twice a month at the 8:30am liturgy from September to May. The Cathedral Womens Choir rehearses twice a month on Thursdays from 6:30-7:30pm.

THE CATHEDRAL SINGERS

The Cathedral Singers, a volunteer choir, provides an opportunity for parishioners -- adults and teens -- to be a part of a choral ensemble. The Cathedral Singers alternates with the Womens Choir to provide choral music for the 8:30am liturgy during the academic year. Rehearsals are twice a month on Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30pm. The Cathedral Singers are also the primary choir during the months of June, July and August, and will have an opportunity to sing special services such as Christmas Eve Pageant and Easter Vigil.

THE CATHEDRAL ATB CHOIR

Admission to the Alto, Tenor, and Bass Choir is by competitive audition. Auditions are normally held each fall. Audition requirements emphasize vocal ability and sight-singing. Please contact the Canon Musician for more information. Students at Transylvania University and the University of Kentucky are particularly encouraged to apply.



Join the Cathedral Choirs!

AN INVITATION TO SING

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE CATHEDRAL MUSIC PROGRAM!

PLEASE CONTACT CANON MUSICIAN, ERICH BALLING VIA EMAIL AT EBALLING@CCCLEX.ORG
OR CALL 859-254-4497, EXT. 1010 FOR MORE MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION.



THE CATHEDRAL CHORISTERS

The Cathedral Choristers are girls and boys ages 8 through 18 (girls) or through voice change (boys). The choir rehearses on Wednesday and Thursday 4:30-6:00pm. The Choristers sing Sundays at the 11:00am Eucharist with the ATB Choir, as well as Evensong services and concerts throughout the year. *Our choristers were featured on "Off the Beaten Path" with Sam Dick in June 2025. Scan the QR code to view the video and article.*



THE CATHEDRAL IMPS

The Cathedral Imps is a choir for boys and girls ages 4 through 8. Choristers work on singing skills, basic notation and sight reading, as well as movement, and Christian understanding. This is a preparatory choir for the Cathedral Boys and Cathedral Girls choirs. The Cathedral Imps meet Saturdays 8:30-9:15am or Sundays 12:15-1:00pm from September through May.



GOD'S CHILDREN SING

God's Children Sing is for children from birth to age 3 and their parents. Children and parents gather to enjoy music, play, and fellowship in an atmosphere of faith and fun. God's Children Sing meets Sundays from 10-10:45am during the academic year. Come and join us at any time!

GREAT MUSIC AT THE CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

11:00am Choral Eucharist *with the Cathedral Choir*

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

3:30pm Brass Concert, *University of Kentucky*

4:00pm Evensong *with the Cathedral Choir*

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

11:00am Choral Eucharist *with the Cathedral Choir*

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

3:30pm Rachel Miller, *harp*

4:00pm All Souls Evensong *with the Cathedral Choir*



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4

7:30pm George Frideric Handel's *Messiah*

Emily Albrink, *Soprano*

Joseph Kingsbury, *Countertenor*

Nathan Schafer, *Tenor*

Craig Price, *Bass*

The Lexington Baroque Ensemble

The Cathedral Choir

Erich Balling, *Conductor*

Kathleen Balling, *Associate Conductor*

Joel Pitchon, *Concert Master*

For ticket reservations, visit ccclcx.org/messiah.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

4:00pm Blue Christmas *with Pleasant Company*

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20

6:30pm Organ Prelude

7:00pm A Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols
The Cathedral Choir



TUESDAY, DECEMBER 22

7:00pm A Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britten
The Cathedral Girls Choir
Rachel Miller, *harp*

CHRISTMAS EVE

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

2:00pm Children's Christmas Pageant and Eucharist
with the Cathedral Singers

4:30pm Organ and Brass Prelude

5:00pm Christmas Service *with the Cathedral Choir*

10:30pm Organ and Brass Prelude

11:00pm Midnight Mass *with the Cathedral Choir*



GREAT MUSIC AT THE CATHEDRAL

VISITING CONDUCTOR SERIES

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

11:00am Choral Eucharist *with the Cathedral Choir*

3:30pm Jazz Concert, *University of Kentucky*

4:00pm Evensong

with the Cathedral Choir

Miyo Aoki, *recorder*

Richard Webster, *conductor*



ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

7:00pm Sung Eucharist *with the Cathedral Choir*

PALM SUNDAY

SUNDAY, MARCH 21

4:00pm Gabriel Fauré's *Requiem*

The Cathedral Choir

Erich Balling, *Conductor*

Kathleen Balling, *Associate Conductor*

Lisa Hall, *organ*

Luke Dailey, *baritone soloist*

Rachel Miller, *harp*

Clyde Beavers, *cello*

Madison Jones, *violin*

David Davenport, *timpani*



HOLY WEEK & EASTER SUNDAY

MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 25

7:00pm Celebration of the Last Supper
with the Cathedral Choir

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 26

12:05pm Choral Liturgy *with the Cathedral Choir*

7:00pm Contemplative service
with the Cathedral Choirs

EASTER VIGIL SATURDAY, MARCH 27

8:00pm First Celebration of Easter
with the Cathedral Choirs

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 28

8:30 & 11:00am Sung Eucharist
with the Cathedral Choir and Cathedral Brass

SUNDAY, APRIL 18

3:30pm Mengfei Xu, *organ*

4:00pm Evensong *with the Cathedral Choir*

SUNDAY, MAY 2

11:00am Choral Eucharist *with the Cathedral Choir*

SUNDAY, MAY 16

3:30pm Daniel Monroy Reyes, *guitar*

4:00pm Evensong *with the Cathedral Choir*

FRIDAY, MAY 21

7:30pm SCAPA Madrigal Singers
Ryan Marsh, *conductor*

GREAT MUSIC IN CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL

2026 CHOIR RESIDENCY

"What an unforgettable week at historic Canterbury Cathedral! Our choir had the privilege of singing daily services during our week-long residency. We shared beautiful music and liturgy, forged new friendships, and grew in knowledge, faith, and teamwork. This was truly a life-changing experience. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who supported us and helped make this incredible opportunity possible. We are so grateful."

— Canon Erich Balling



"As a former chorister, the whole trip was so full circle for me, especially processing with Jack, who was about the same age I was when I joined. It was a beautiful testament for me to how so many things change but the Lord is so constant!"

— Maggie Ferguson, college grad





"Each day, the choir offered much more than music. The combination of our choir and that magnificent organ created a sound that seemed so much larger than any musician or instrument. For those of us sitting in the pews, it was incredible to experience how the stone walls of Canterbury Cathedral seemed to resonate -- every note lingered in the stone long after it was sung. It felt as if the building itself was joining in the worship. It was one of those rare moments when you understand why Christians have been making this pilgrimage and creating sacred music for centuries. It was a privilege to get this glimpse into the beauty and glory of God through music."

— Penny Cox and Russ Witt, *Christ Church Cathedral members*



"The intergenerational relationships between the choristers and adult choir members are such a blessing! As a parent of 3 choristers, it is comforting to know that they have such amazing people in their lives. It was a privilege to observe these special bonds during the residency in England. We are so grateful that we had the opportunity to interact with and grow closer to the people that support, encourage, and love our children."

— Allison Weitkamp, *chorister parent*



MUSIC AT THE CATHEDRAL



Music at Christ Church exists to inspire all who visit the Cathedral, enrich the worship, and enhance the cultural life of the community. You are invited and welcome to participate in all aspects of the Cathedral's life.

Christ Church Cathedral has for many decades trained choirs in the English Cathedral tradition. The Cathedral Choir is among just six of its kind in the United States and sets a high standard for liturgical worship in this country.

Unique in its depth and breadth, instruction for the boys and girls follows the Royal School of Church Music curriculum. Children and youth deepen their sense of history, language, and art as well as their ability to interpret sacred texts and music. Through the ongoing efforts of learning and working together, the choristers develop friendships, become part of a community that uplifts their efforts, and learn to be leaders at the heart of vibrant worship.

The Cathedral Choir tours nationally and internationally, performs concerts with orchestra, and is livestreamed at the weekly 11:00am Sunday Eucharist. The Cathedral Choir has multiple recordings and performed on radio broadcasts as well. The Cathedral Choir sang a 10-day choral residency at Canterbury Cathedral, England in July 2026.



Please visit www.ccclex.org/music to learn more about the Cathedral's Music Program.

BECOME A FRIEND OF CATHEDRAL MUSIC

The purpose of Friends of Cathedral Music is to enhance the artistic outreach of the Cathedral's music throughout the greater Lexington community. Your support of Friends of Cathedral Music creates significant impact. Friends of Cathedral Music makes possible unique musical offerings such as Handel's *Messiah*, Faure's *Requiem*, Pre-Evensong concerts, and the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols all presented in the warmth of the Cathedral's sacred and historic space.

Music at Christ Church Cathedral exists because of the generous pledges made to the Cathedral's yearly ministry budget. The additional generosity of Friends of Cathedral Music expands the impact and outreach of great music in Lexington.

We invite you to consider supporting Friends of Cathedral Music. Annual membership in Friends of Cathedral Music is open to all members and friends of Christ Church Cathedral by donation. Friends of Cathedral Music donors are acknowledged in the printed programs of events, receive priority seating and invitations to special donor events.

Please consider sharing the gift of music. Become a Friend of Cathedral Music.



You may use the enclosed envelope to make your gift to continue the ongoing work of the music ministry. You may also give online by scanning the QR code provided, or by visiting cccllex.org/friendsofmusic. Thank you!

DONATION LEVELS

Guarantor - \$1000+
Angel - \$500+
Donor - \$250+
Friend - \$150+

CATHEDRAL MUSIC STAFF



CANON ERICH BALLING

Canon Musician
eballing@cccllex.org



KATHLEEN BALLING

Music Associate
kballing@cccllex.org



LISA HALL

Associate Cathedral Organist
lhall@cccllex.org

DIRKSEN ORGAN

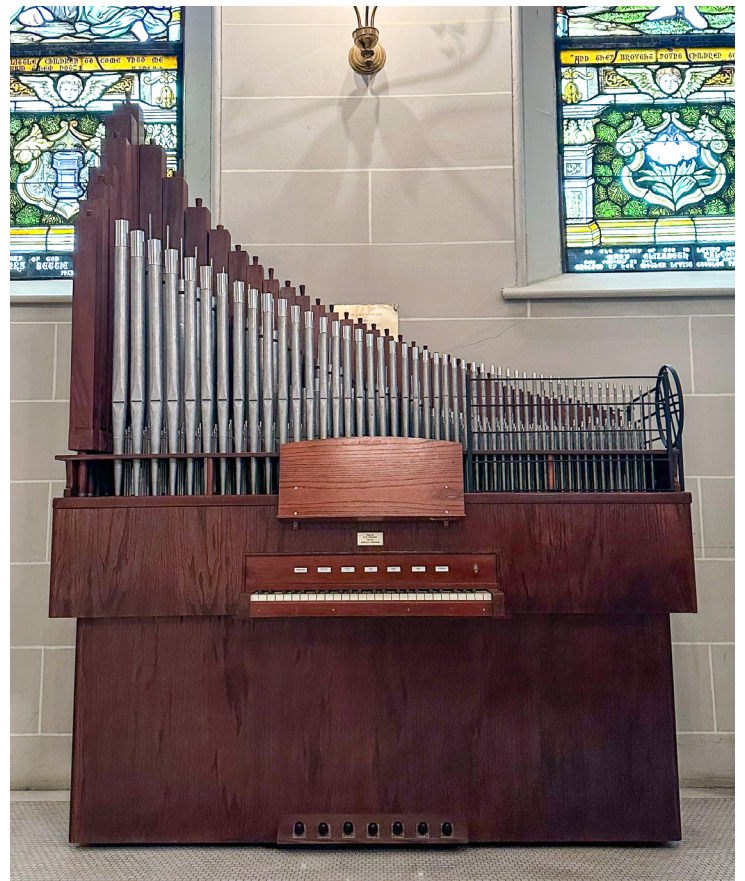
1955, RESTORATION, 2024

The Dirksen portativ organ has been delivered to Christ Church Cathedral following a complete and superb restoration by Buzard Pipe Organ Builders, Champaign, Illinois.

The organ was gifted to the Cathedral by the Dirksen family. Since the early 1950's, it spent its life at Washington National Cathedral. The organ was built by Richard Watson Dirksen, grandfather of Rick and Mark Dirksen and father of Richard Wayne Dirksen, Organist & Choirmaster, and Precentor at Washington National Cathedral. The pipework was made by the Aeolian-Skinner Organ Company.

We are delighted to have the instrument here in Lexington. The Dirksen organ resides next to the three-manual Holtkamp organ, built by Walter Holtkamp Sr. in 1949.

We are thankful for the Dirksen family and our Friends of Cathedral Music, who donated to have this organ restored to its former glory!



HOLTKAMP ORGAN

1949, RENOVATION, 1999

The present Cathedral organ was built by Walter Holtkamp Sr. of Cleveland, Ohio. The organ is an outstanding example of the "American classic" ideal, set forth during a 30-year period beginning in 1930 by G. Donald Harrison of Aeolian Skinner, Boston and Walter Holtkamp.

The organ is designed to play the entire repertoire convincingly, lead congregational hymn singing and accompany the unique sound of the Cathedral choirs.

The organ includes several different and colorful flute stops, generously scaled and clear voiced principals, broad and bold reed tone, and warm strings. The pedal division includes five stops at sixteen-foot pitch.

In 1999, the Holtkamp Organ Company, completely renovated the console, added solid-state combination action, re-leathered the electro-pneumatic chests and added a new Festival Trumpet.

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CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL

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