

Scivias Medieval Ensemble presents

Pilgrims, Martyrs, Saints

A program featuring works from the Codex
Calixtinus and by Hildegard von Bingen



Friday, November 11th at 7:30 p.m.
Linehan Chapel - Nazareth College

Part of the Rochester Early Music Festival
Co-sponsored by the Nazareth College School of Music

Singers

Heather Holmquest, director
 Laura Anderson
 Anna Atwater
 Barbara Consler
 Tansy Deutsch
 Maria Mastro Simone
 Katja Pennypacker
 Amy Steinberg



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Program

Offering Praise

Venite omnes cristicole Vox nostra resonet	Codex Calixtinus, 12th century
O rubor sanguinis Favus distillans	Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179)
Ad superni regis Iacobe servorum	Codex Calixtinus

Life, Faith, Sacrifice

Studium divinitatis Unde quocumque De patria etiam earum	Hildegard von Bingen
Nostra phalanx Ad sepulcrum beati Iacobi	Codex Calixtinus
Aer enim volat Et ideo Deus enim rorem	Hildegard von Bingen

Intercession and Supplication

Agnus dei Benedicamus domino	Codex Calixtinus
O Ecclesia	Hildegard von Bingen
Congaudeant catholici Clemens servulorum	Codex Calixtinus

Pilgrims, Martyrs, Saints: Translations

Venite omnes cristicole: Come all Christian people to adore Christ the eternal king, who distinguished his apostle James most wonderfully.

Vox nostra resonet: Let our voice resound; to James let praises be sung by all creation. Let the clergy with the organ and people with the drum sing of redemption. Let a fitting song be sung to the spirit that comforts us. All to this end let us give songful praise to the lord.

O rubor sanguinis

O bloody red
that flowed from up that height
divinity has touched: a bloom you are
that winter with the serpent's blast
has never marred.

Favus distillans

V. A dripping honeycomb
was the virgin Ursula,
who yearned to embrace the Lamb of God,
the honey and milk beneath her tongue:

R. Because
a garden bearing fruits,
the flowers' blooms,
she gathered round,
a virgins' brood.

V. So in the noblest dawn
rejoice, O daughter of Zion!

R. Because...

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.

R. Because...

Ad superni regis: To the jewel of the supernal king who contains all things, we happily celebrate your feast, James. From the Galilean shore you scorned worldly things. Following Christ, you foretold his kingdom. Without understanding him, you sought to be near Christ, but now you sit in the cohort of twelve on high. You were the first martyr of the apostles in your land. You hold in glory the first seat of the twelve. Lift us, therefore, to the eternal heavens, that our mind may bless the king of kings, the lord.

Iacobe servorum: James, hope and healing of your servants, alleluia, alleluia: Mercifully receive the pious devotions of your servants, alleluia. Glory to the father and to the son and to the holy spirit. James, hope and healing of your servants, alleluia, alleluia.

[Studium divinitatis]

The zeal of divinity
gave with heaven's praise the
kiss of peace
to Ursula the virgin
and her brood among all
peoples.

[Unde quocumque]

So no matter where they went,
as with the joy
of heaven's paradise they were
received,
for their religious life
was their honor.

[De patria etiam earum]

And from their country,
and from other places, too,
men wise and of religion
joined up with them,
to keep them safe with virgin
guard
and serve them in all things.

Nostra phalanx: Let our throng applaud with joy this day, when the athlete of Christ rejoices without measure — glorious James. Refrain: in the court of the angels. He whom Herod beheaded, he was crowned by Christ, and was rewarded in the kingdom of heaven. He whose body was entombed, is visited by multitudes and by his body healing is given in Galicia. And so, celebrating this feast, discanting his songs, we offer with veneration sweet praises to the lord.

Ad sepulcrum: To the tomb of blessed James the sick come and are healed, the blind are given light, the crippled raised up, the demon-possessed are set free, the sorrowful are consoled, and, what is best of all, the prayers of the faithful are heard: There, foreign folk from every part of the world hasten in great numbers, bearing gifts of praise to the lord, alleluia.

Aer enim volat

For the air is fleet
to function with all creatures,
while the firmament sustains it,
the air fed by its energy.

Et ideo

And so,
these girls were by the Supreme
Man
sustained,
to fly their flag
with virgin nature's
Royal Son.

Deus enim rorem

For God rained dew upon them
to grow their widespread fame,
that all the peoples should sup
of its honor
as of food.

Agnus dei: Lamb of God, you who take away the sins of the world, who are kind and gentle, merciful and sweet, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you who take away the sins of the world, bread of angels, eternal life of the saints, have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you who take away the sins of the world, forgive our faults, grant us gifts of goodness, grant us peace.

Benedicamus domino: Let us bless the lord. Let us say thanks be to God.

O Ecclesia

1a. O Church!
Like sapphire are your eyes,
Mt. Bethel are your ears,
your nose a mount of myrrh and frankincense,
your mouth the sound of many waters.

1b. In true faith's vision
did Ursula with God's Son fall in love—
a husband with the world did she abandon,
to gaze instead upon the sun
and call upon the Fairest Youth to say:

2a. "With deep desire have I desired to come to you,
to sit with you at heaven's marriage feast—
I'm racing by a different way to you,
like a sapphire cloud that races 'cross the clearest sky."

3a. When Ursula had made this declaration,
report of it went out through all the people.

3b. And they declared, "The innocence of girlish ignorance
knows not of what it speaks."

4a. And they began in concert to
make fun of her—

until the fiery weight
fell on her shoulders.

4b. For then they recognized
that such contempt for the world is as Mt. Bethel.

5. They also recognized
the sweetest scent of myrrh and frankincense,
for contempt for the world
mounts over all.

6a. But then the devil seized their limbs,
to slay the virgins' noblest bearings with their bodies.

6b. And this with piercing cry heard all the elements
and 'fore God's throne declared:

7a. Ach! The scarlet blood of the innocent Lamb
to pledge his troth is shed.

7b. And all the heavens hear this
and praise the Lamb of God in symphony supreme,
for the ancient serpent's throat
is choked upon these pearls
compiled from the Word of God.

Congaudeant catholici: Let the whole church rejoice, let the heavenly host be glad (Refrain: this day) Let the clergy diligently sing their lovely tunes and songs. This is a praiseworthy day, made glorious by divine light. Conquering the sword of Herod, he received the crown of life. To the heavenly mansions James ascended. Therefore without ceasing let us bless the lord. To the great father of us all let us send forth our thanks with praise.

Clemens servulorum: Have mercy on the cries of your servants, help us, St. James! Flower of apostles, glory of the elect, help us, St. James! Leader of the Galicians and Spaniards, help us, St. James! Voices of every age cry out to you, help us, St. James! In despair you are our comfort, help us, St. James! Healer of the sick, bearer of the weak, help us, St. James! You who break the bonds of the wretched prisoner, help us, St. James! Loosen the chains of our transgressions, help us, St. James! Be the savior of your pilgrims, help us, St. James! Give us fallen ones hope of heaven, help us, St. James! Thus may our every prayer be to God, help us, St. James! Amen.