



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **The Bach Society of Saint Louis' Christmas Candlelight Concert Brings Holiday Magic to All Ages**

*The Bach Society of Saint Louis will present its annual  
Christmas Concert at the 560 Music Center in University City*

**ST. LOUIS, (October 29, 2024) - The Bach Society of Saint Louis (BSSL)** continues its 84th season with the ***Christmas Candlelight Concert*** on **Wednesday, December 18, 2024**, and **Thursday, December 19, 2024**, at the **560 Music Center**. This cherished St. Louis tradition has been bringing joy to St. Louis families since 1951 and was recognized as one of the "Top 20 Live Christmas Events in North America" by BBC Music Magazine. The concert enchants audiences of all ages with heartwarming music, holiday spirit and the opportunity to sing carols together.

“Every year, our Christmas Candlelight Concert is a special highlight of our season. It’s a time for our community to come together, share the joy of music and create lasting memories with loved ones,” said Executive Director Melissa Payton. “The intimate setting, festive music and the Candlelight Processional make this concert a truly special experience that captures the spirit of Christmas.”

The Bach Society Chorus and Orchestra will fill the air with joy and festive spirit as they perform timeless classics like *O Come, All Ye Faithful* and Vivaldi’s *Gloria in excelsis Deo*. Under the direction of Music Director and Conductor A. Dennis Sparger, this concert features guest soloists soprano Josefien Stoppelenburg and mezzo-soprano Kate Tombaugh. Stoppelenburg is back for her encore Christmas Candlelight Concert performance and Tombaugh makes her debut with The Bach Society of Saint Louis in this concert.

“What I love most about planning for each year’s Christmas Candlelight Concert is searching for the perfect balance between the familiar and the fresh. I go through stacks of music looking for the best of each! This year the “fresh” addition is Vivaldi’s *Gloria*; it captures the Italian sparkle and energy found in *The Four Seasons*, but it also reflects the song of the angels, Glory to God in

the highest. It's a wonderful opportunity to feature our incredible soloists Josefien Stoppelenburg and Kate Tombaugh," said Conductor and Music Director A. Dennis Sparger.

Guests will also experience an awe-inspiring Candlelight Processional. Sparger shared, "As you have come to expect, our traditional candlelight procession is followed by an exquisite a cappella piece that will warm your heart, *My Lord Has Come*, by Will Todd."

Join The Bach Society of Saint Louis for one of two opportunities to be part of the magic on Wednesday, December 18, 2024, 7:30 PM or Thursday, December 19, 2024, 7:30 PM at the 560 Music Center in University City.

Tickets (\$25-\$75) are available for purchase through The Bach Society of Saint Louis website, [bachsociety.org/christmas](https://bachsociety.org/christmas). To purchase tickets via phone, call the Washington University Box Office: 314-935-6543.

This concert is presented by Benjamin F. Edwards & Co. with support from CBIZ and Guest Soloist Sponsors Welsch Heating & Cooling and Rev. Richard & Gaylene LaBore.

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**CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

***Christmas Candlelight Concert***

**The Bach Society of Saint Louis Chorus and Orchestra**

560 Music Center, 560 Trinity Ave, St. Louis, MO 63130

Wednesday, December 18, 2024, 7:30 PM & Thursday, December 19, 2024, 7:30 PM

**ABOUT THE BACH SOCIETY OF SAINT LOUIS.**

**The Bach Society of Saint Louis (BSSL)** was founded in 1941 and is now in its 84th season as St. Louis' oldest continuous choral society. BSSL is dedicated to performing [choral works](#) by Johann Sebastian Bach and other classical and contemporary composers. Under the direction of [Dr. A. Dennis Sparger](#), BSSL delivers a varied and exciting season to an ever more diverse public. Each season, BSSL provides free concert tickets, education concerts, and masterclasses to area high school and college students. BSSL has a robust education program that offers free events and support to local teachers and students including the Young Artist Scholarship Program, Bach & Jazz, Finding Your Voice Program and more. Learn more at [bachsociety.org](http://bachsociety.org).

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