

Saturday 12 April 2025, 7:30pm
St Nicholas Church, Harpenden
Messiah, HWV 56 – G. F. Handel

Lorena Paz Nieto – Soprano
Catherine Backhouse – Alto
John Gyeantey – Tenor
Andrew Tipple – Bass

Martyn Noble – Organ Continuo
The Hertfordshire Baroque Soloists – Leader – Diane Terry

Michael Veazey – Conductor

Programme notes included in ticket price.

Tickets: Unreserved £18; Students £9; Under 16 Free
Book online; click [here](#)



Handel's greatest Oratorio

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Messiah



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Book Online: www.hardyngechoir.org
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Messiah is an English-language oratorio composed in 1741 by George Frideric Handel. It was first performed in Dublin on 13 April 1742 and received its London premiere a year later. After an initially modest public reception, the oratorio gained in popularity, eventually becoming one of the best-known and most frequently performed choral works in Western music.

Although the structure of **Messiah** resembles that of opera, it is not in dramatic form; there are no impersonations of characters and no direct speech. The work's first part deals with the birth of Jesus, the second covers the death of Jesus, and the third his resurrection.

Even though the heating had failed, we gave a wonderful performance of Handel's Messiah in St Nicholas Church, Harpenden, to a very good sized audience on 12 April 2025. All four soloists were outstanding, and the Hertfordshire Baroque Soloists, led by Dianne Terry, played brilliantly, as did Martyn Noble, Organ Continuo. The fabulous soloists and orchestra inspired Hardyngge Choir to give a superb performance.

The audience clearly enjoyed the performance, as complimentary comments we received included, "Brilliant" and "I enjoyed it more than Gareth Malone's Messiah".