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#### RELEASE

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# CELEBRATING THE SEASON: CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S SERVICES AT THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE

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(November X, 2018 – New York, NY) The Cathedral of St. John the Divine celebrates the season with festive holiday services and events on Monday, December 24; Tuesday, December 25; Monday, December 31, 2018; and, Tuesday, January 1, 2019 at The Cathedral of St. John the Divine, located at 1047 Amsterdam Avenue (at 112<sup>th</sup> Street), Manhattan.

Come to the Cathedral on Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. for Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols. The Cathedral Choristers are joined by members of the Cathedral Choir in this family-friendly service, featuring readings, Christmas carols by Willcocks, Britten, Machaut, Handl, Caccini, Rutter, and Briggs, and larger-than-life puppets to tell the Christmas story. Director of Music Kent Tritle and Associate Choirmaster Bryan Zaros lead the Choristers.

<u>Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist, Monday, December 24 at 10:30 p.m.</u> Prelude music begins at 10 pm. The Bishop of New York celebrates the Eucharist and preaches. The Cathedral Choirs and Orchestra perform a festive mass setting and anthems, as well as classic Christmas carols. Special guests Paul Winter and Susanna Phillips join to celebrate the Christmas spirit.

#### Prelude:

Selections from *Orgelbüchlein* – J. S. Bach Concerto for Two Trumpets in C Major - Antonio Vivaldi

Service Music:

Coronation Mass – W. A. Mozart God is With Us – John Tavener Cantique de Noël – Adolphe Adam



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## Christmas Day Choral Eucharist, Tuesday, December 25, 10:30 a.m.

The Dean preaches and the Cathedral Choir sings at this Christmas Day service. Music of Victoria and Lauridsen.

### New Year's Eve Concert for Peace, Monday, December 31, 7 p.m.

Founded by Leonard Bernstein in 1984, the annual New Year's Eve Concert for Peace is a signature Cathedral event, gathering old friends and new for more than a quarter of a century. Led by Kent Tritle, Director of Cathedral Music, this year's concert includes William Boyce's *Symphony No. 1 in B-flat*. Soloist Sidney Outlaw joins the choir for Robert Convery's powerful setting of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s *I have a dream*, followed by the New York premiere of Wayne Oquin's *Alleluia*. There is also music by Mozart, J.S. Bach, and special guests throughout the evening. And of course, the Cathedral Choir's own Jamet Pittman leads the audience and invites them to join in with *This little light of mine* as candles are lit to welcome the new year with hope, joy, and affirmation.

### New Year's Eve Watchnight Service, Monday, December 31, 11 p.m.

Join the Cathedral community in ringing in the New Year with this special late-night service.

#### New Year's Day Eucharist, Tuesday, January 1, 2018, 10:30 a.m.

Please note, this Eucharist will be the only service on New Year's Day.

For more information, please visit: <a href="http://www.stjohndivine.org/worship/christmas-newyear-services">http://www.stjohndivine.org/worship/christmas-newyear-services</a>

#### **About The Cathedral**

The Cathedral of St. John the Divine is the Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of New York. It is chartered as a house of prayer for all people and a unifying center of intellectual light and leadership. People from many faiths and communities worship together in services held more than 30 times a week; the soup kitchen serves roughly 25,000 meals annually; social service outreach has an increasingly varied roster of programs; the distinguished Cathedral School prepares young students to be future leaders; Adults and Children in Trust, the renowned preschool, afterschool and summer program, offers diverse educational and nurturing experiences; the outstanding Textile Conservation Lab preserves world treasures; concerts, exhibitions, performances and civic gatherings allow conversation, celebration, reflection and remembrance—such is the joyfully busy life of this beloved and venerated Cathedral.