



On Christmas Night
World Premiere – Composed and
Conducted by Bob Chilcott

University Christian Church is excited to announce that celebrated British choral composer Bob Chilcott will conduct the world premiere of *On Christmas Night*, commissioned by and written for UCC, in performances at 3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on December 12, 2010, in UCC's sanctuary. The work is a sequence of music and readings for the festive season which combines new arrangements of well-known and well-loved carols with some newly-composed Christmas carols. The commission is thanks to a generous bequest from the Estate of Roy Cates, and the work will be in memory of Dr. Lawrence W. Bash, Senior Minister at UCC from 1949 to 1959.

Mr. Chilcott was a chorister and choral scholar at King's College, Cambridge, and was a member of the vocal group The King's Singers for twelve years. He has worked as a composer since 1997, writing a variety of choral music. Over 100 of his pieces have been published by Oxford University Press. He is a Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Singers, and he has conducted a number of other choirs, including the World Youth Choir, the RIAS Kammerchor, the Orphei Drangar from Sweden, Jauna Musika from Lithuania, the Taipei Chamber Singers, and the Tower New

Zealand Youth Choir. He has worked in 23 countries on six continents and at festivals all over the world.

We are looking forward to having Mr. Chilcott as our guest in Austin for the final rehearsals and to celebrate the commission with us in several social events. In addition, we will have wonderful opportunities to visit with this engaging and renowned composer. Public question and answer sessions with Mr. Chilcott are scheduled 45 minutes prior to both performances, and receptions will also follow both in UCC's fellowship hall.

Tickets for the performances will be available after September 1. They will be free but will be required for admission, and may be obtained by calling the church office at 512.477.6104 or emailing admin@ucc-austin.org. Childcare will be provided for both performances.

The Christmas 2010 season will be a thrilling and historic one for UCC. We will be welcoming one of the most gifted and prolific choral composers of the day to UCC to conduct a work he has written especially for us, and we hope you will mark your calendars and join us on December 12 for this very special musical occasion!

Photo by Vicky Alhadeff