

Press Release

December 2011

**CHELSEA COMMUNITY CHURCH HOSTS 37TH
ANNUAL CANDLELIGHT CAROL SERVICE**

“30 Rock” Actor William Fowle to Read “A Visit from St. Nicholas” Award-winning Organist Stephen Tharp to Accompany Service

CHELSEA COMMUNITY CHURCH (nondenominational), at St. Peter’s Church, 346 West 20th Street, will present a broad range of choral music styles at its 37th Candlelight Carol Service on **Sunday, December 18, at 6PM.** The historic chant “**Hodie Christus natus est**”; **George Frederic Handel’s** stirring “**And the glory of the Lord**” from his beloved oratorio, *Messiah*; “**To the whole world,**” a Ukrainian carol arranged by Choir Director **Larry J. Long**; **Johannes Brahms’s** “**The white dove**”; a motet by the Renaissance composer **Jean Mouton**, “**Noe, noe psallite**”; “**Angels we have heard on high**” in an exciting arrangement by **Stephen Paulus**; and **Felix Mendelssohn’s** “**There shall a star from Jacob come forth.**” The event is free; an offering will be accepted.

The service, comprising lessons and choral and congregational singing, will also include a reading of Clement Clarke Moore’s famous poem, “A Visit from St. Nicholas” by Actor **William “Will” Fowle**, featured on TV in “Law & Order,” “Saturday Night Live,” and “The Colbert Report” and a regular on “30 Rock.” St. Peter’s Church stands on land that was part of Moore’s estate.

Internationally acclaimed organist **Stephen Tharp** will be the accompanist for the service. He has been named the 2011 International Performer of the Year by the NYC Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, one of the most prestigious awards by a musicians guild in the U.S. He is also Artist in Residence at Grace Church (Episcopal) in Manhattan. Hailed as “the organist for the connoisseur” by *Organ Magazine* in Germany, he has completed 36 solo intercontinental tours and over 1,300 concerts worldwide.

Violinist **Linda Fennimore**, who is blessed with the ability to play anything from fusion to chamber music to top 40, will perform. Her lyrical jazz playing has drawn rave reviews from *The New York Times*, *Variety*, *New York Daily News* and a host of other publications. In addition to performing in local New York area clubs, Ms. Fennimore is often the featured artist with the well-known Nelson Riddle Orchestra as well as her own one-woman show, “Love Life.”

Chelsea Community Church, founded in 1975, welcomes people of all faiths and uncertain faith. Its regular services are held every Sunday at 12 Noon at St. Peter’s and offer a wide variety of guest speakers from many religious backgrounds. For more information, call 212-886-5463 or visit www.chelseachurch.org.