



## **Peace Memorial Concerts**

*presents*

### **The Astralis Chamber Ensemble**

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

3 p.m.

Angela Massey, flute and Rachel Lee O'Brien, harp

*– program to be selected from the following –*

**Fantasia on Greensleeves**

Ralph Vaughan Williams, arr. Jennifer Grady

**Nocturne on *Cantique de Noel***

Daniel Dorff

**Dream Season**

Yolanda Kondonassis

**Suite en Duo pour Flûte and Harpe**

Jean Cras

Préambule – Modéré – Assez lent – Danse à onze temps

**The First Noel**

Traditional Carol, arr. Kurt Bestor

**Intermezzo**

Hendrik Andriessen

**Sonata for Flute and Harp**

Nino Rota

Allegro molto moderato – Andante sostenuto – Allegro festoso

PEACE MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 110 S. FORT HARRISON AVE., CLEARWATER FL 33756

800-479-8846 [peacememorialpresbyterian.org](http://peacememorialpresbyterian.org)

**The Astralis Chamber Ensemble** is an innovative and dynamic ensemble performing with much acclaim across the globe. Through creative programming and presentations on the works performed, Astralis aims to make classical music more accessible and for audiences to make a lasting connection to the music. These award - winning musicians represent decades of experience across many of the world 's major venues and notable concert series. Another focus of the ensemble is to support the development of the arts through new compositions ad reach communities of all backgrounds through music.

**Angela Massey's** debut album has been described as "beautiful and enchanting, the performances on this CD are magical!" by Jeanne Baxtresser, former principal flute of the New York Philharmonic. As a soloist, she has been a featured guest artist with the Tryon Concert Association, Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City, National Flute Association Convention, and invited to perform a Vivaldi Piccolo Concerto with the Southwest Florida Symphony. Outside of the United States, she has performed in England, France, Germany, Italy, Romania, and Switzerland. In regard to chamber music, she serves as Artistic Director and founder of the Astralis Chamber Ensemble arranging and performing over sixty recitals each year. She holds flute positions with the Southwest Florida Symphony, Venice Symphony, and performs regularly with the Sarasota Orchestra. She was awarded prizes in the Alexander and Buono Competition, Frank Bowen Competition, Myrna Brown Competition, and certificate in the Gheorghe Dima International Competition in Romania. Her instructors have been Alberto Almarza, Jeanne Baxtresser, Martha Kitterman, Jack Wellbaum, and Brooks de Wetter-Smith. She received degrees in flute performance from Carnegie Mellon University, Cincinnati College - Conservatory of Music, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

One of North America's premiere emerging harpists, **Rachel Lee O'Brien** (néé Hall) is in high demand nationwide. The 2019 Gold Medal winner of the Houston Symphony Orchestra's Ima Hogg Competition, O'Brien has appeared as soloist with the Houston Symphony, members of The Philadelphia Orchestra, the West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, the National Repertory Orchestra, and the Cleveland Institute of Music Symphony. Praised for her "fluid technique... and expressive musicality," (The Chestnut Hill), O'Brien is a winner of Astral Artists' 2017 National Auditions and is a core member of the Astralis Chamber Ensemble. O'Brien is an inspiring leader for young musicians, having authored the book, "Purpose in Practice: 26 Rules for the Practicing Musician," along with a corresponding practice journal. She also maintains a private studio comprised of students both local and worldwide, and serves a significant following on Instagram, with more than 40,000 followers. O'Brien received Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music under Yolanda Kondonassis. When not performing, Rachel Lee O'Brien may be found with her husband, Jeremy, and their son in Roanoke, Virginia, a small valley nestled in the heart of Appalachia.



## Peace Memorial Concerts *presents*



**Lessons and Carols**  
The Third Sunday of Advent  
December 17 - 10:30 a.m.

*Music for choir, soloists,  
congregation,  
strings, and organ*

**Christmas Eve at Peace**  
The Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 24

*Children's Tableau  
10:30 a.m.  
A Festival Service of Light  
7 p.m.*

*Sacrament of Holy Communion  
Music for choir, soloist, congregation,  
and viola*

**This Joyous  
Christmastide**

Peggy Beville, organist  
Tuesday, January 2  
Noon

