

The Christmas Story

1. The Awaited One

SATB

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,
12th c. Latin Hymn Text,
Translated by **John M. Neale**, 1851

Written and Arranged by
Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi
Incorporating VENI EMMANUEL,
Adapted by **Thomas Helmore**, 1854

Narrator 1: (*begin at m. 14*) But you, Bethlehem...though you are small...out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times. He will stand and shepherd His flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the LORD His God.

Narrator 2: And they will live securely, for then His greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And He will be their peace.

Both: Rejoice in the coming of the Lord. (*Micah 5:2, 4-5a, NIV*)

① With great expression ♩ = ca. 66

mp molto espress.

mp rall. *p rit.*

mp a tempo

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② **Faster** ♩ = ca. 72

Start narration

13

p

16

mp

19

p.

End narration

22

cresc. poco a poco

25

③

f


2. Rejoice and Be Merry

SATB

Written and Arranged by
Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi
Traditional English Carol

④ With a joyful lilt, in two ♩ = ca. 66

38 *mf*

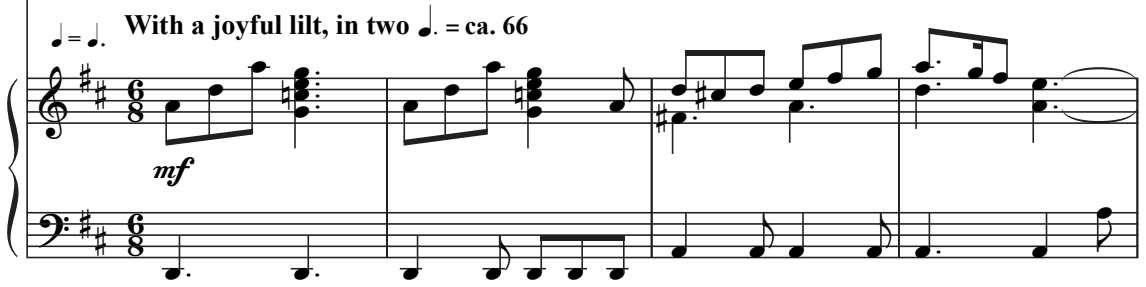


el!

mf

Detailed description: This system shows the vocal parts for measures 38-41. The Soprano part (top staff) begins with a whole note chord (F#4, A4, C5) and then has a whole rest. The Bass part (bottom staff) begins with a whole note chord (F#2, A2, C3) and then has a whole rest. The dynamic is *mf*. The tempo/mood instruction is "With a joyful lilt, in two ♩ = ca. 66".

mf



Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 38-41. The right hand (treble clef) plays a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes, starting on F#4. The left hand (bass clef) plays a simple bass line with quarter notes, starting on F#2. The dynamic is *mf*.

42



Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 42-44. The right hand continues the melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes, moving down to E4. The left hand continues the bass line with quarter notes, moving down to E2. The dynamic is *mf*.

45



Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 45-47. The right hand continues the melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes, moving down to D4. The left hand continues the bass line with quarter notes, moving down to D2. The dynamic is *mf*.

5

48

f

51 Unison Women *mf* *bouyant and joyful*

Re - joice and be mer - ry in songs and in mirth; O

mf

54

praise our Re-deem-er, all mor - tals on earth! For this is the birth-day of

57

Je - sus our King, Who brought us sal - va - tion, His prais - es we'll sing! —

mf

60

6

Musical score for measures 60-62. The upper staff contains a vocal line with a long note in measure 60 and rests in measures 61 and 62. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both the right and left hands.

63

TB

mf

Musical score for measures 63-65. The TB vocal line begins in measure 63 with the lyrics "A heav-en - ly vi - sion ap -". The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

66

SA

mf

Musical score for measures 66-68. The SA vocal line begins in measure 66 with the lyrics "peared in the sky; vast num - bers of an - gels the shep - herds did spy, pro - mel.". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines.

69

claim-ing the birth-day of Je - sus our King, Who brought us sal - va - tion, His

(7)

72

prais - es we'll sing!

cresc.

75

mel. f *legato*

Re - joice, re -

f

f *legato*

78 re - joice!

joyce, re - joice, re - joice! Re -

81 come!

joyce, our Em - man - u - el has come, He has

come!

84 re -

come! Re - joice, re - joice, re -

3. O Holy Night

15

SATB

Words by
Cappeau de Roquemaure, 19th Century
Trans. **John S. Dwight**, 1855

Arranged by
Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi
Music by **Adolphe C. Adam**, 1847

Narrator 2: Christmas is the story of a Promise. For hundreds of years, God had been making promises to His people. He had promised

a Prince, a Shepherd,
a Healer, a Conqueror,

Narrator 1: a Prophet and a Priest,
a Lion and a Lamb.

He had promised peace. He had promised freedom. He had promised love and life without end.

Narrator 2: Finally, one evening, in the blackness of midnight, His promises all came wrapped together as one magnificent Promise. (*start music*)

The Promise was a Baby.

Narrator 1: The Promise was Emmanuel.

Both: The Promise was God Himself.

9 With sensitivity and warmth ♩. = ca. 69

Pedal harmonically

SATB Unison

5 *p a tempo*

7

stars are bright - ly shin - ing;

9

it is the night of our

11

dear Sav - ior's birth.

13

Long lay the

15

world in sin and er - ror

17

pin - ing till He ap -

19

peared and the soul felt its

21

worth. A
TB *mp* A thrill of hope,

mp lightly and connected

23

thrill of hope, the

the wea - ry world re - joic - es,

25

wea - ry world re - joic - es, for

for yon - der breaks

cresc.

cresc.

8va

27

yon - der breaks a

a new and glo - rious morn!

mf

mf

11

29

new and glo - rious morn! *f* Fall on your

31

knees! the an - gel
O hear the an - gel,
the an - gel

33

voic - es!
the an - gel voic - es! O night di -
voic - es!

4. On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

SATB

Arranged by **Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi**

Tune: SUSSEX CAROL

Traditional English Carol

Narrator 1: Christmas is a story of Joy. It's a story of wonder, of magnificent promises made and kept.

It's a story of faith, of love and light and worship, a story of long journeys and incredible discoveries. *(start music)* It's a story of kings and angels, of shepherds and priests, of young and old. It's a story of beautiful, ordinary people.

But above all, Christmas is a story of Jesus. When we sing at Christmas, we sing about Him. When we celebrate, we celebrate Him.

14 With quiet joy ♩ = ca. 66

The musical score is for piano accompaniment, consisting of three systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass clef staff. The first system starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. The music is in 6/8 time and B-flat major. The second system begins with a measure number '5' and features a melodic line in the treble clef with slurs and ties. The third system begins with a measure number '9' and continues the melodic and harmonic development.

13 15 SA*End narration**mf*

13 15 SA *End narration* *mf*

TB *mf* On

16 **Regal and jubilant**

16 **Regal and jubilant**

Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing to hear the news — the

Regal and jubilant *mf*

19

19

an - gels bring; on Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing to

22

hear the news—the an - gels bring: news of great

This system contains measures 22, 23, and 24. It features a vocal line with lyrics, a bass line, and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. The piano part includes a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

25

joy,— news of— great mirth,— news of our

This system contains measures 25, 26, and 27. It features a vocal line with lyrics, a bass line, and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. The piano part includes a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

28

mer - ci - ful— King's birth.

(16)

This system contains measures 28, 29, and 30. It features a vocal line with lyrics, a bass line, and a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. A circled number '16' is placed above the vocal line in measure 29. The piano part includes a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

31

mp

Then why should men on

34

earth— be sad, since our Re - deem - er made us glad?

mp

Then

37

why should we on earth— be sad, since our Re - deem - er

40 *mp* *cresc.*

when from our sin He set us

made us glad

cresc.

43 *mf*

free, all for to gain our lib - er -

mf

mf

46

(17)

ty?

f

5. A Midnight Clear

SATB

Words by **Edmund Sears**, 1849
 Additional Words by
Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi

Arranged with New Music by
Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi
 Tune: NOEL
 Adapted by **Arthur Sullivan**, 1874

Narrator 1: (*begin at m. 4*) Christmas is a story of Love. For hundreds of years, Love had whispered, “I am coming! I am coming to be with you, to stay with you forever!” (*pause*)

Narrator 2: (*resume at m. 12*) It was Love that was celebrated that night in the skies over Bethlehem with angels, music, and shouts of praise. Love was the shining star high in the sky, sent to draw people from far away to come and worship the Baby.

[19] Warmly, feels in two ♩ = ca. 126

Start narration

The piano accompaniment is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The first system (measures 1-5) begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes the instruction 'Warmly, feels in two ♩ = ca. 126'. The second system (measures 6-10) continues the accompaniment. The third system (measures 11-16) includes the instruction 'slight rit.' followed by 'a tempo'. The fourth system (measures 17-21) concludes with the instruction 'End narration' and a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The music features a mix of chords and moving lines, with some measures containing rests for the vocalists.

Brisk, baroque feel

20

22

26 SATB Unison

mf *bouyant*

It— came up - on the—

sub. mp *mf*

29

mid - night clear, that glo - rious song— of old, from—

32

an - gels bend - ing near the earth to— touch— their harps of

35

gold: "Peace on the earth, good - will to men, from

38

heav'n's all gra - cious King!" The world in sol - emn—

41

still - ness lay to— hear— the an - gels sing.

44

21

SA

mp

Still—

47

thro' the clo - ven — skies they come with — peace - ful wings — un -

mp smoother

50

(22)

furled, and — still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er — all — the wea - ry

54

TB *mf*

world; a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring

mf

58

wing, and ev - er o'er its — Ba - bel sounds the —

61 23

bless - ed an - gels sing.

64 SA Glo *mf* - ri - a! Glo
Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a!

TB

67 - ri - a! Glo *cresc.* - ri - a
Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a

cresc.

6. Rocking Carol

with *Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine*

SATB with opt. Soloists

Adapted and Arranged by **Tom Fettke**
Hajej, Nynej, Jezisku, Traditional Czechoslovakian
Josef, Lieber Josef Mein, Traditional German

Narrator 2: Christmas is a story of Faith. It's a story of hardship and sacrifice, of long journeys and years of waiting. Mary, perhaps fourteen years old, endured the terrible shame of being pregnant before she was married. After traveling eighty miles to Bethlehem, no doubt exhausted and frightened, far from family and home, she had her first child in the dirt and darkness of a stable. (*start music*)

Narrator 1: Joseph stayed by her side, though the child was not his own. He willingly shared her shame and her suffering. Mary, Joseph, and many others followed God through long, difficult days. But because they were faithful, they rejoiced in Him and became part of His timeless story.

26 Expressively, in two $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 46$

mp

Pedal harmonically

5

p

rit.

9

End narration

27

p a tempo

13 SA *Rocking Carol* (Fettke/Czech Carol)

p Je - sus, Je - sus, lit - tle one, *pp* ho - ly one;

TB *p* *pp*

16 *p* gift of heav - en, Mar - y's Son. She will gen - tly

p

19 rock You, rock You; she will gen - tly rock You, rock You.

22

Je - sus, Je - sus, do not - fear; those who - love You -

28 **Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine** (Fettke/German Carol)

(♩ = ca. 46)

♩ = ♩ a tempo

25 *rit.*

will be - near.

(♩ = ca. 46)

rit.

a tempo
mp legato

Solo (Mary; opt. unis. women)

28 *mp*

Jo - seph dear - est, Jo - seph mine, help me rock the

31

Child di - vine while I sing a

33

lull - a - by, a song of love and

35

29

praise. Our God is with us.

Solo (Joseph; opt. unis. men)

37

Glad - ly, dear - est,

cresc. *mf*

7. A Spanish Carol Suite

Pastores á Belén and Adorar al Niño

SATB with Soloist

English Words by
Tom Fettke

Arranged by **Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi**
Traditional Spanish Carols

Narrator 1: Christmas is a story of Worship. The scriptures say that the heavens sing of God's glory, and the earth tells of the wonderful things He does. Jesus said that if God's people are silent, the rocks themselves will cry out and praise Him. (*start music*)

Narrator 2: When the shepherds heard that the Promised One had come, neither distance nor darkness could keep them away. They ran through the night to Bethlehem. When they found the Child, they fell down and worshiped Him. How could they do anything else? Then they returned, glorifying and praising God. They couldn't help sharing the amazing news with everyone they met!

Worshipfully ♩ = ca. 100

32 *What Child Is This?* (Traditional English Melody)

With excitement ♩ = ca. 104

33

21 SA *f* Pastores á Belén

A - rise, a - rise,
 *A - lli, a - lli,

TB *f*

25

I bring you good news of great joy.
 a - lli nos es - pe - ra Je - sús.

29

A - rise, a - rise, a -
 A - lli, a - lli, a -

*Spanish Pronunciation Guide appears on page 83.

34

rise, go to Beth - le - hem.
lli nos es - pe - ra Je - sús.

38

Adorar al Niño
mf

Shep - herds in the hills a - bid - ing, rest - ing while their sheep were
mf En la no - che los pas - to - res a sus o - ve - ji - tas

41

graz - ing; sud - den - ly ap - peared an an - gel,
ve - lan; án - ge - les del cie - lo a - la - ban,

44

tell - ing them the joy - ful news that the Sav - ior of the world,
 án - ge - les del cie - lo can - tan. Pas - tor - ci - tos, id,

47

Je - sus Christ, is born. Go and see the Ba - by, go and see the Ba - by,
 pas - tor - ci - tos, ya. A - do - rar al Ni - ño, a - do - rar al Ni - ño,

50

born in Beth - le - hem, born in Beth - le - hem.
 que en Be - lén es - tá, que en Be - lén es - tá.

54 Solo *mf*

An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, her - alds of cre - a - tion's
 Del o - rien - te, u - nos ma - gos si - guen la bril - lan - te es -

SA *mp, but very intense*

La la la la la la la la la la

TB *mp, but very intense*

57

sto - ry, now pro - claim the birth of Je - sus
 trel - la; quie - ren of - re - cer re - gal - os,

la la la la la la la la.

8. Wexford Carol

SATB with opt. Soloist

Arranged by **Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi**

Traditional Irish Carol

Narrator 2: Christmas is the story of a Baby—a tiny, crying, cute little Baby. Instead of diapers, He was wrapped tightly in “swaddling clothes,” strips of cloth to keep His limbs warm and straight. (*start music*)

Instead of a cradle, He was laid in a manger—a feeding trough for animals. He had no other place to sleep. Why would God leave the beauty, the peace, and the happiness of heaven to become a poor, weak, helpless infant? Why would He lay aside the glory of all He was and take upon Himself the simplicity of a child?

He came to be close to us, to touch us, to become like us so that we could become like Him. He came because He loved us.

Sweetly ♩ = ca. 72

38 *Away in a Manger* (William J. Kirkpatrick, 1895)

p

Pedal harmonically

5

9

The musical score is for the piano accompaniment of the carol 'Away in a Manger'. It is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into three systems. The first system starts at measure 38 and includes a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) and the instruction 'Pedal harmonically'. The second system begins at measure 5 and the third at measure 9. The notation includes treble and bass clefs, notes, rests, and chord symbols.

13 *End narration*

rit.

Flowing and expressive, slower ♩ = ca. 66

17

21 Solo (opt. a few voices) [39] *Wexford Carol* *mp*

mp

Good

25

peo - ple— all, this Christ - mas - time, con - sid - er well— and

28

bear in mind what our good— God for us has done in

31

send - ing His— be - lov - ed Son. With Mar - y ho - ly

34

we should pray to— God— with love— this Christ - mas Day. In

37

Beth - le - hem up - on that morn there was a bless - ed Mes -

40

40

si - ah born.

44 SA *poco rit.*

mp a tempo

Near Beth - le - hem did shep - herds keep their

TB

poco rit.

a tempo

47

flocks of lambs— and feed - ing sheep

mp

to whom God's— an - gel

50 *mf*

“Pre - *mf*

did ap - pear, which put the shep - herds in great fear.

53

pare and go,” — the an - gel said, “to — Beth - le - hem; — be

mf

56

not a - fraid, for there you'll — find, this hap - py morn, a

for there you'll — find, this hap - py morn,

rit.

59

prince - ly Babe, — sweet Je - sus, born.”

soaring

rit.

62 A little slower ♩ = ca. 63

A little slower ♩ = ca. 63

f

rit.

65

41

rit.

S2, A mel. *f*

With mel. *f*

rit.

9. Sing We Now of Christmas

with *The First Noel* and *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

SATB with opt. Congregation

Arranged by **Tom Fettke & Thomas Grassi**
Traditional Carols

Narrator 1: Christmas is for everyone! God's great Gift is given to each of us and to all of us.
(start music)

Narrator 2: Jesus is God's gift of life—holy, full, unending life!

Narrator 1: Jesus is God's gift of peace, filling each heart and mind.

Narrator 2: Jesus is God's gift of love—love that enfolds us, lifts us, and transforms our world into the heaven He intended it to be.

Narrator 1: Praise God for His gift of Christmas!

Both: Praise God for Jesus Christ!

43 Warmly ♩ = ca. 100

5

9

12 *End narration*

16 **Jubilantly** ♩ = ca. 100

18 (44)

20 SA ***Sing We Now of Christmas** *f*

Sing we now of Christ - mas, No - el, — sing we here!

TB *f*

*Traditional French carol

Lis - ten to our prais - es to the Babe so dear.

24 S Sing we No - el, the
 Sing we No - el, No - el the King is born, No - el!
 T No - el the
 B

26 Sing we now of Christ - mas, sing we,
 sing we all No - el!

28

sing we all No - el! Sing we all No - el!

31

(45)

rit. +opt. Congregation
mf
The—
mf

rit.

**The First Noel*
a tempo

34

first No - el the an - gel did
flowing
mf a tempo

*Melody from W. Sandy's *Christmas Carols*, 1833; Words traditional English

37

say was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields where they

41

lay; in — fields — where — they lay — keep - ing their

45

sheep on a cold win - ter's night — that was — so

49

deep. No - el, No - el, No -

52

el, No - el,

55

born is the King of Is - ra -