

Carol of the Birds

SATB

Traditional French, alt.

Earlene Rentz
Based on a 16th century
French carol

Moderately ♩ = ca. 66

8va

Piano introduction in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The music is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). It features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass and a more active melody in the treble. A dashed line above the treble staff indicates an octave transposition for the soprano part.

4

SA *mp*

When - ce comes the rush of wings a - far,

TB

Vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 4-6. The vocal parts (Soprano and Alto) enter with the lyrics "When - ce comes the rush of wings a - far,". The piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note pattern. The bass line is marked *TB* (Tenor Bass).

7

fol - low - ing straight the No - el - star? Birds from the woods in

Vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 7-9. The vocal parts continue with the lyrics "fol - low - ing straight the No - el - star? Birds from the woods in". The piano accompaniment features a dynamic change to *p* (piano) in measure 7. The bass line includes a chromatic descending line.

10

won - drous flight Beth - le - hem seek this ho - ly

13

night. Sing al - le - lu - ia, Tell us, ye birds, why

16

sing al - le - lu - ia, sing al - le - lu - ia, — sing al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -
come ye here, in - to this sta - ble dark and drear?

19

ia, al - le - lu - ia. "And all our sweet - est

"Has - ting we seek the new - born King, and all our sweet - est

22

mu - sic bring." Sing al - le - lu - ia, mu - sic bring."

mu - sic bring."

mf

mf

25

sing al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. A

sing al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. A

p cresc. *rit.* *f* *mp*

p cresc. *rit.* *f*

28

Christ-mas gift of love and joy to all the world was giv'n, and

p

Al - le, al - le - lu - ia,

mp

30

hope with - in the hu - man heart was liv - ing once a - gain. As

al - le, al - le - lu - ia,

32

joy and peace rang through the sky, his moth-er sang a lu - la - by, —

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

rit.

rit.

34 *a tempo* *cresc.*

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, glo - ri -

al - le,

a tempo *cresc.*

37 *p* *mf*

a. ——— An - gels were sing - ing all through the night, ———

p *mf*

8va ———

40 *p* *rit.* *mf* *mp a tempo*

come — see this gift — of love — and — light. Treas - ure of heav'n with

p *rit.* *mf* *mp a tempo*