

## Foreword

The descants in this collection have been written to accompany congregational hymn singing. They are composed for use with hymn settings found in standard hymnals and are intended to enhance the music and text of those hymns. The descants may be played to good effect by a variety of solo instruments, and as such, are presented in both concert and B-flat pitches. In addition to their use as embellishments to congregational singing, the descants may find other applications in the hands of the creative performer. Possible uses include:

- Descant with *a cappella* or unison voices
- Descant with organ or piano hymn accompaniment
- Descant with instrumental ensemble
- Descant with bell choir

All descants have been composed using a variety of standard hymnals as reference sources in order to ensure harmonic consistency. Although this collection contains 85 tunes, the index references 304 titles, since many tunes have been traditionally set to more than one text. The research in developing these descants has included the identification of as many texts as possible for each tune, thereby expanding the usefulness of the volume.

When a given hymn commonly appears in more than one key in various sources, the complete hymn and descant are also given in the alternate keys to facilitate performance.

It is the goal of this collection to provide the player with a unique and interesting way to uplift the hymn singing during the worship service.

—Charles Evans

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## Adeste Fideles

John Francis Wade

Melody

Descant

B♭ Instrument

The first system of music consists of three staves. The top staff is labeled 'Melody' and contains a single melodic line in G major, 4/4 time. The middle staff is labeled 'Descant' and features a more rhythmic accompaniment with eighth and sixteenth notes. The bottom staff is labeled 'B♭ Instrument' and provides a transposed version of the descant for instruments with a B-flat key signature. The system spans five measures.

The second system continues the musical notation with three staves. It maintains the same structure as the first system, with a melody line, a descant, and a B-flat instrument part. The fifth measure of this system concludes with a double bar line.

The third system continues the musical notation with three staves. It maintains the same structure as the first system, with a melody line, a descant, and a B-flat instrument part. The fifth measure of this system concludes with a double bar line.

The fourth system continues the musical notation with three staves. It maintains the same structure as the first system, with a melody line, a descant, and a B-flat instrument part. The fifth measure of this system concludes with a double bar line.

## Creation

Franz Joseph Haydn

Hymn in A $\flat$ 

Melody

Descant

B $\flat$  Instrument

# Ebenezer

Thomas John Williams

Melody

Descant

B $\flat$  Instrument

The first system of music consists of three staves. The top staff is labeled 'Melody' and contains a treble clef, a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and a 2/4 time signature. It features a series of eighth and quarter notes with a triplet of eighth notes. The middle staff is labeled 'Descant' and contains a treble clef, the same key signature and time signature, with a series of eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes. The bottom staff is labeled 'B $\flat$  Instrument' and contains a treble clef, the same key signature and time signature, with a series of eighth and quarter notes, including a triplet of eighth notes.

The second system of music consists of three staves. The top staff continues the melody with a triplet of eighth notes. The middle staff continues the descant with a triplet of eighth notes. The bottom staff continues the B-flat instrument part with a triplet of eighth notes.

The third system of music consists of three staves. The top staff continues the melody with a triplet of eighth notes. The middle staff continues the descant with a triplet of eighth notes. The bottom staff continues the B-flat instrument part with a triplet of eighth notes.

The fourth system of music consists of three staves. The top staff continues the melody with a triplet of eighth notes. The middle staff continues the descant with a triplet of eighth notes. The bottom staff continues the B-flat instrument part with a triplet of eighth notes.

# Hyfrydol

Rowland Hugh Prichard

Melody

Descant

B $\flat$  Instrument

The first system of music for 'Hyfrydol' consists of three staves. The top staff is labeled 'Melody' and is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 3/4 time signature. It contains four measures of music, starting with a quarter rest followed by quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and A4. The second staff is labeled 'Descant' and is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat. It contains four measures of music, starting with a quarter rest followed by quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and A4. The third staff is labeled 'B $\flat$  Instrument' and is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 3/4 time signature. It contains four measures of music, starting with a quarter rest followed by quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and A4. The music is written in a simple, folk-like style with a mix of quarter and eighth notes.

The second system of music continues the three-staff arrangement. The top staff (Melody) has four measures: a quarter rest, quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and a quarter rest. The middle staff (Descant) has four measures: a quarter rest, quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and a quarter rest. The bottom staff (B $\flat$  Instrument) has four measures: a quarter rest, quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and a quarter rest. The music continues with similar rhythmic patterns and melodic lines.

The third system of music continues the three-staff arrangement. The top staff (Melody) has four measures: a quarter rest, quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and a quarter rest. The middle staff (Descant) has four measures: a quarter rest, quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and a quarter rest. The bottom staff (B $\flat$  Instrument) has four measures: a quarter rest, quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and a quarter rest. The music continues with similar rhythmic patterns and melodic lines.

The fourth system of music continues the three-staff arrangement. The top staff (Melody) has four measures: a quarter rest, quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and a quarter rest. The middle staff (Descant) has four measures: a quarter rest, quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and a quarter rest. The bottom staff (B $\flat$  Instrument) has four measures: a quarter rest, quarter notes G4, A4, Bb4, and a quarter rest. The music continues with similar rhythmic patterns and melodic lines.

# Joyful Song

Chester G. Allen

## Hymn in G

Melody

Descant

B $\flat$  Instrument

The first system of music consists of three staves. The top staff, labeled 'Melody', is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It begins with a G4 quarter note, followed by a B4 quarter note, and then a series of eighth notes: C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6. The middle staff, labeled 'Descant', is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It starts with a whole rest, followed by a series of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5. The bottom staff, labeled 'B $\flat$  Instrument', is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature (C). It starts with a whole rest, followed by a series of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5.

The second system of music consists of three staves. The top staff, labeled 'Melody', is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It begins with a G4 quarter note, followed by a B4 quarter note, and then a series of eighth notes: C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6. The middle staff, labeled 'Descant', is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It starts with a whole rest, followed by a series of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5. The bottom staff, labeled 'B $\flat$  Instrument', is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature (C). It starts with a whole rest, followed by a series of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5.

The third system of music consists of three staves. The top staff, labeled 'Melody', is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It begins with a G4 quarter note, followed by a B4 quarter note, and then a series of eighth notes: C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6. The middle staff, labeled 'Descant', is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It starts with a whole rest, followed by a series of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5. The bottom staff, labeled 'B $\flat$  Instrument', is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature (C). It starts with a whole rest, followed by a series of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5.

The fourth system of music consists of three staves. The top staff, labeled 'Melody', is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It begins with a G4 quarter note, followed by a B4 quarter note, and then a series of eighth notes: C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5, A5, B5, C6. The middle staff, labeled 'Descant', is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). It starts with a whole rest, followed by a series of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5. The bottom staff, labeled 'B $\flat$  Instrument', is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature (C). It starts with a whole rest, followed by a series of eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, G5.



# Praise Jehovah

William J. Kirkpatrick

## Hymn in G

The musical score is arranged in four systems, each with three staves. The top staff is labeled 'Melody', the middle 'Descant', and the bottom 'B♭ Instrument'. The key signature is G major (one sharp) and the time signature is 2/2. The score consists of 12 measures. The melody is a simple hymn tune. The descant and B♭ instrument parts provide harmonic support and accompaniment. The B♭ instrument part includes a key signature change to G major (one sharp) and a time signature change to 2/2.

# To God be the Glory

William Howard Doane

Melody

Descant

B $\flat$  Instrument

The first system of music consists of three staves. The top staff is labeled 'Melody' and contains a treble clef, a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. The middle staff is labeled 'Descant' and the bottom staff is labeled 'B $\flat$  Instrument', both containing treble clefs and the same key signature and time signature. The music is written in a four-measure phrase.

The second system of music consists of three staves, continuing the melody, descant, and B-flat instrument parts from the first system. It is written in a four-measure phrase.

The third system of music consists of three staves, continuing the melody, descant, and B-flat instrument parts. It is written in a four-measure phrase.

The fourth system of music consists of three staves, continuing the melody, descant, and B-flat instrument parts. It is written in a four-measure phrase.

# Wir Pflugen

Johann A.P. Schulz

## Hymn in B $\flat$

Melody

Descant

B $\flat$  Instrument