Opening Medley

What Sweeter Music Can We Bring? / Angels We Have Heard on High I Saw Three Ships / Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day



^{*}Words by Robert Herrick, 1591-1674; Music by Mark Hayes

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Promise of Peace

Watchman, Tell Us of the Night Words by **John Bowring**, 1825

Music by **Mark Hayes**



in the 17th century, still call to us today. "What sweeter music can we bring than a carol for to sing the



birth of this our heavenly King?" We answer that call and make room in our hearts to celebrate the birth



Male Narrator:

Just as we eagerly await the coming of spring after a cold and dark winter, the people of Israel yearned for the coming of the



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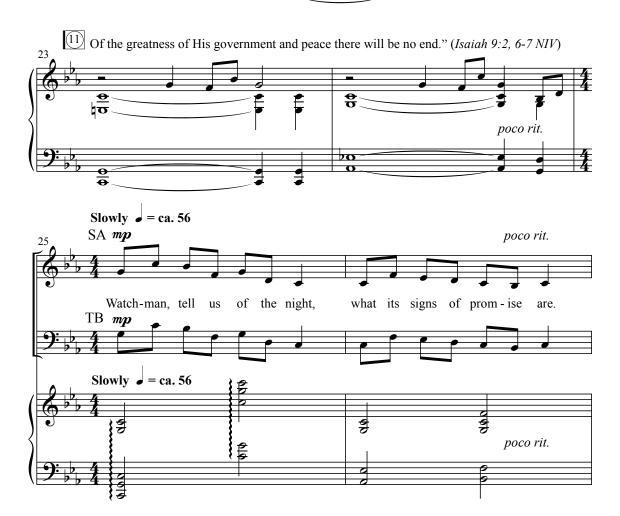
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Messiah, the One whom the prophets foretold. "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.



For unto us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.





Song of Mary

Soprano Solo

Words and Music by **Mark Hayes**

(music starts) **Female Narrator:** In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a



man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said: **Male Narrator:** "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."



Female Narrator: Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her: **Male Narrator:** "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor



with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.



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The Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, and He will reign over Jacob's descendants forever." (*Luke 1:26-33 NIV*) rit. 16) Slightly slower =ca. 63 Soprano Solo mpMy Slightly slower =ca. 63 the Lord, mag - ni - fies soul and my spir - it re - joic-es in God my Sav ior, for

Cradle Medley

Still, Still, Still / Away in a Manger / What Sweeter Music Can We Bring? Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne / Silent Night

SATB with opt. Children's Choir and Congregation/Audience

Written and Arranged by **Mark Hayes**

Male Narrator: Joseph travelled the long road from Nazareth to Bethlehem to be registered in the census with Mary, who was his betrothed. Mary was expecting a child.

(music starts) Female Narrator: While they were there, the time came for the haby to be born

(music starts) Female Narrator: While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.



She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room in the inn. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their



flocks by night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around



them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, Male Narrator: "Do not be afraid. I bring you



^{*}Traditional German carol

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good news that will cause great joy for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you:



You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." (Luke 2:4-12 NIV)



- S1. Children's Choir (opt. solo)
- S2. Children's Choir and Women



65/2049&51L-30 *Words: **Anonymous**; Music by **James R. Murray**, 1841-1905



*Words by Robert Herrick, 1591-1674; Music by Mark Hayes

Song of the Angels

Angels We Have Heard on High Hark! The Herald Angels Sing / The First Nowell

SATB with opt. Congregation/Audience

Arranged by Mark Hayes

Male Narrator: Suddenly a great company of angels appeared to shepherds in a nearby field, praising God and saying, *(music starts)* **Female Narrator:** "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom God's favor rests."



Male Narrator: When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us."



Female Narrator: So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the Baby, Who was lying in the manger.



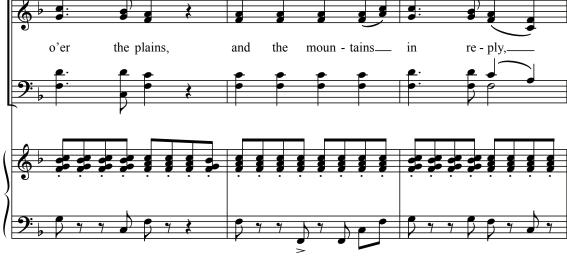
And after they saw Him, the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen. (Luke 2:13-20 NIV)



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^{*}Traditional French carol



O Holy Night

SATB with opt. Solos



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We Three Kings of Orient Are

SATB

Arranged by Mark Hayes Words and Music by John H. Hopkins, Jr., 1857

Female Narrator: After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who was born king of the Jews?" We saw His star when it rose and have come to worship Him." (*Matthew 2:1-2, NIV*) (*music starts*) **Male Narrator:** And the star they had seen went ahead of them to where the child was.



When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. They saw the Child with His mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. (*Matthew 2:9-11, NIV*)



^{*}From *Piae Cantiones*, 1582

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Closing Medley

What Sweeter Music Can We Bring? / Good Christians All, Rejoice Joy to the World / O Come, All Ye Faithful

SATB with opt. Congregation/Audience

Written and Arranged by **Mark Hayes**

(music starts) Female Narrator: The story of God coming to earth as Christ is powerful. From the Old Testament prophecies of Isaiah,

Male Narrator: to Gabriel's visit to an innocent young girl, **Female:** to the miraculous birth of a baby in a manger, **Male:** to the joyful sounds of angels in the night sky,



Female: to the worship by humble shepherds in a stable, **Male:** to the faith of three magi to follow a star, this story is so dramatic that it's almost unbelievable.



Female: Yet we know it is true. Christ has come among us. He is among us right now and our hearts long to worship Him.



Male: We are called to worship Him with our whole lives. And as we do that, Christ is born again in us, forever changing us into His likeness.



*Words by **Robert Herrick**, 1591-1674; Music by **Mark Hayes** 65/2049&51L-77