

The Christmas Story

1. The Awaited One

SAB

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

SAB

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

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

38 *mf*

el!

mf

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

mf

42

45

5

48

f

51 Unison Women *mf* bouyant and joyful

Re - jice 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! —

60

6

63

B

mf

A heav-en - ly vi - sion ap -

66

SA

mf

pro -
mel.

peared in the sky; vast num - bers of an - gels the shep - herds did spy,

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!

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

81

come!

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

come!

84

re -

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

87 joice!

joice, re - joice! Re - joice, our Em -

90

man - u - el has come!

8

93

Re-joice, re - joice! Re - joice and be mer - ry in

3. O Holy Night

15

SAB

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

p

Pedal harmonically

mp

slight rit.

SAB Unison
p a tempo

5

O ho - ly night, the

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
B *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

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

33

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

35

vine! O night when Christ was

This system contains measures 35 and 36. It features a vocal line with lyrics, a bass line, and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

37

born! O night, O ho - ly

This system contains measures 37 and 38. The piano accompaniment in the right hand features eighth-note patterns with fingerings '2' indicated. The vocal line continues with the lyrics.

40

12

night, O night di - vine!

This system contains measures 40 and 41. The piano accompaniment in the right hand features a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The vocal line concludes with the lyrics.

4. On Christmas Night

All Christians Sing

SAB

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 key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. The first system starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking. The second system begins with a measure number of 5. The third system begins with a measure number of 9. The music features a mix of chords, single notes, and melodic lines in both hands.

13 15 SA*End narration**mf*

B

On

mf

16 **Regal and jubilant**

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

Regal and jubilant

mf

19

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

22

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

25

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

28

mer - ci - ful— King's birth.

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

46 17

ty?

f

49

f

When sin de-parts be - fore — Your grace, then

f

52

life and health — come in its place; when sin de-parts be -

55

fore — Your grace, then life and health — come in its place;

sub. mp

5. A Midnight Clear

SAB

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 musical score is for piano accompaniment in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four systems of music, each with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs).

- System 1 (measures 1-5):** Starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Measure 1 has a whole note chord in the bass clef. Measures 2-5 feature a melody in the treble clef with a slur over measures 2-4. Measure 5 has a whole note chord in the bass clef.
- System 2 (measures 6-10):** Measure 6 has a whole note chord in the bass clef. Measures 7-10 feature a melody in the treble clef with a slur over measures 7-10.
- System 3 (measures 11-16):** Measure 11 has a whole note chord in the bass clef and the instruction *slight rit.*. Measure 12 has a whole note chord in the bass clef and the instruction *a tempo*. Measures 13-16 feature a melody in the treble clef with a slur over measures 13-16.
- System 4 (measures 17-21):** Measure 17 has a whole note chord in the bass clef. Measures 18-21 feature a melody in the treble clef with a slur over measures 18-21. Measure 21 has a whole note chord in the bass clef and the instruction *mf*. The system ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

Brisk, baroque feel

22 (20)

26 SAB 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)

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

54

B *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

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a!

mf

B

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

67

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

70 *f* *accented*

in ex - cel - sis De - o, in ex - cel - sis

73

De - o, in ex - cel - sis, in ex - cel - sis

76 24 *legato*

De - o, in ex - cel - sis De - o! For—

6. Rocking Carol

with *Joseph Dearest, Joseph Mine*

SAB 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

rit.

9

End narration

27

p a tempo

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

p *pp*

Je - sus, Je - sus, lit - tle — one, ho - ly — one;

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.

rit.

(♩ = ca. 46)

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. men)

37

Glad - ly, dear - est,

cresc.

mf

39

Mar - y mine, I will rock the

41

Child di - vine while you sing a

43

lull - a - by, a song of love and

45

praise. Our God is with us.

30
rit.

rit.

7. A Spanish Carol Suite

Pastores á Belén and Adorar al Niño

SAB 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)

First system of musical notation for 'What Child Is This?'. It consists of a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo/mood is 'Worshipfully' with a quarter note equal to approximately 100 beats per minute. The first measure is marked with a circled '32'. The music is marked *p legato*.

Second system of musical notation for 'What Child Is This?'. It continues the grand staff from the first system. The music is marked *p legato*.

Third system of musical notation for 'What Child Is This?'. It continues the grand staff. The music is marked *rit.* and ends with a double bar line. The text 'End narration' is written above the staff.

With excitement ♩ = ca. 104

33

Fourth system of musical notation for 'What Child Is This?'. It continues the grand staff. The music is marked *f a tempo*. The first measure is marked with a circled '33'.

21 SA *f* Pastores á Belén

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

B *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

(35)

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

B *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.

60

with a song of ad - o - ra - tion that ech - oes all a - round —
 tra - en muy val - io - sos do - nes. Ma - gos, hoy ven - id;

Oo

63

what a joy - ful sound. Glo - ry in the high - est, glo - ry in the high - est,
 ma - gos hoy lle - gad. A - do - rar al Ni - ño, a - do - rar al Ni - ño,

Oo Ah

8. Wexford Carol

SAB 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 carol 'Away in a Manger'. It is written for piano in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'Sweetly' with a quarter note equal to approximately 72 beats per minute. The score begins at measure 38. The first system consists of two staves: a treble staff with a melody starting on a whole note G4 and a bass staff with a harmonic accompaniment. The second system starts at measure 5 and continues the melody and accompaniment. The third system starts at measure 9 and concludes the piece with a final cadence. The dynamic marking 'p' (piano) is indicated at the beginning. The instruction 'Pedal harmonically' is written below the first system. Measure numbers 5 and 9 are placed at the beginning of their respective systems.

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13 *End narration*

rit.

Flowing and expressive, slower ♩ = ca. 66

17

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

Good

mp

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

poco rit. *a tempo*

47

flocks of lambs— and feed - ing sheep

to whom God's— an - gel

mp

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

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

f

rit.

3

A little slower ♩ = ca. 63

65

41

rit.

S2, A *mel. f*

With *mel. f*

rit.

3

9. Sing We Now of Christmas

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

SAB 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!

B **f**

*Traditional French carol

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

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

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

The

**The First Noel*
a tempo

34

first No - el the an - gel did

*flowing**mf a tempo*

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 -

**O Come, All Ye Faithful*

58 46 *rit.* *mf*

el. O *mf*

61 *A little slower* ♩ = ca. 96

come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri -

A little slower ♩ = ca. 96 *mf*

64

um - phant; O come ye, O come — ye to

*Melody from **John F. Wade's** *Cantus Diversi*, 1751; Words from traditional Latin hymn, attributed to **John F. Wade**, 1751, translated by **Frederick Oakeley**, 1847