

SAB



A *Noel*  
Celebration

Sounds and Stories *of* Christmas

Created by Lloyd Larson

Music by Lloyd Larson, Marty Parks, and Jay Rouse

Orchestration by Ed Hogan

Narration by Kylee Larson



A Lorenz Company • [www.lorenz.com](http://www.lorenz.com)

Editor: Lloyd Larson

Music Engraving: Jeanette Dotson

Cover Design: Patti Jeffers

© 2015 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation.  
All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A. Reproduction of this publication without permission of  
the publisher is a criminal offense subject to prosecution.

## Foreword

Christmas is a season of joyous sounds. Familiar strains of timeless melodies fill the air in our places of worship, our homes and concert halls, and in the places we shop. It is also a season of stories as we recall meaningful traditions, memorable experiences, and joyous family moments. Most importantly, Christmas is the season to revisit and celebrate Christ's story: the prophecies which pointed to His coming, His birth, and His life. It is the incarnation story which is front and center: God coming to earth to live among us.

There are also other stories within the bigger story: the stories of Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds, aged Simeon, and the Wise Men. Each of these people played significant roles in the context of the larger story of Christ's birth. *A Noel Celebration*, in part, tells their stories as we see them reflect on their own place in the unfolding narrative of God's miraculous plan.

But Christmas is also about our story. It is a time to recall the impact of Christ's arrival into your world, my life. It is an opportunity for us to rejoice in the news that God has shattered our own night of darkness with good news: "*Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.*" It is an opportunity to celebrate anew with music, scripture, meaningful traditions, and the story of "*...the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among us....*"

Not all sounds and stories are created equal. The sounds and stories of Christmas endure because they are centered around the life-changing, yet changeless message of God's love. And that is something to celebrate! As you join others in the presentation of this cantata, may you rejoice in the good news of God's great Gift as you sing carols – both old and new – and as you recite the stories of Christmas. *O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!*

—Lloyd Larson

## Production Notes

*A Noel Celebration* is flexibly conceived so that the monologues may be presented by actors in costume with memorized scripts. It can be equally effective with a single narrator or multiple narrators in "street clothes" reading the optional introduction that precedes each narrative followed by the character monologue itself.

In the final monologue designated for *Pastor, Choir Member, or Lay Person*, a scripted narration has been provided which works adequately as is. However, this is a place where a pastor could offer a brief meditation or a choir member or lay person may wish to share their own story about the meaning of Christmas. Being creative here within the context of each church's own worship style will enhance the meaning of the cantata.

Some of the cover-art images and graphics from this work are available as free downloads. We hope that you can use them to assist in the making of your bulletins, posters, flyers, website and email announcements, and in any other way that's within your organization and in conjunction with performances of this work.

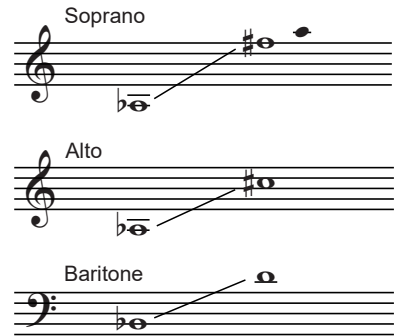
To access these files, please visit [www.lorenz.com/downloads](http://www.lorenz.com/downloads) and navigate to the desired folder. PC users should right click and choose "Save Target As..." and Macintosh users should click and hold the link, then choose "Save Target As..." We have provided standard file formats that should be usable in most page layout or word processing software.

*Due to the vast number of differences in computer system setups, we are unable to provide technical support for downloadable images/graphics by either phone or email.*

## Contents

Sing Noel!.....	4
Monologue: Zechariah.....	16
Prepare the Way .....	17
Monologue: Mary.....	26
Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming .....	27
Monologue: Joseph.....	36
Manger Carol .....	37
Monologue: Shepherd.....	44
Noel Festival.....	45
Monologue: Simeon.....	56
Noel! Christ the Lord Is Born.....	57
Monologue: Wise Man.....	66
What Child Is This? .....	67
Monologue: Pastor, Choir Member, or Lay Person.....	77
A Noel Celebration (Finale).....	78
Reproducible Congregational page.....	88

### SAB Ranges



## Companion Products

65/2069L	SATB Score
65/2080L	SAB Score
65/2070L	SATB Score with Performance CD
99/3546L	Bulk Performance CDs (10 pak)
99/3547L	Stereo Accompaniment CD
99/3548L	Split-track Accompaniment CD
99/3549L	SA/TB Part-dominant Rehearsal CDs (reproducible)

*Orchestration by Ed Hogan for Fl 1-2, Ob (Sop Sax, Cl), Cl 1-2, Bsn (Bs. Cl), Hn 1-2 (Alto Sax, Cl), Tpt 1, Tpt 2-3 (Alto Sax), Tbn 1-2 (Bari T.C., Ten Sax), Tuba, Timp, Perc 1-2, Harp, Pno, Vln 1-2, Vla (Cl), Cello, Dbl Bass, Digital String Reduction*

30/3238L	Full Score
30/3239L	Set of Parts
30/3240L	CD with Printable Parts
30/3241L	Full Score and Parts plus CD with Printable Parts

# Sing Noel!

Words:

Latin Hymn, attr. **John F. Wade**, 1751

Traditional English Carol,

Traditional French Carol

Arranged with New Music

by **Lloyd Larson**

Tunes: ADESTE FIDELES,

John F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751,

SUSSEX CAROL, Traditional English Carol

GLORIA, Traditional French Carol

① **Triumphantly**  $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 96$

The musical score is arranged in three systems. Each system includes a piano accompaniment (piano and bass staves) and two vocal parts: Soprano (SA) and Bass (B). The piano accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes, often with chords. The vocal parts enter at measure 4 with the lyrics "O come, let us a - dore Him!". The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* (forte), *cresc.* (crescendo), and *ff* (fortissimo). The tempo is marked as  $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 96$ . The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4.

© 2015 and this edition © 2016 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation.

All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

Reproduction of this publication without permission of the publisher is a criminal offense subject to prosecution.

10 *rit.* No - el, no - 5  
 Sing no - el, no -  
 Sing no - el, no - el, no -

② With energy, steadily ♩ = ca. 112

13 *mf*  
 el, no-el! — On Christ-mas night — all  
*mf*  
 el, no-el! —  
 With energy, steadily ♩ = ca. 112

16  
 Chris - tians sing — to hear the news — the an - gels bring; on

19

Christ - mas night — all Chris - tians sing — to  
on Christ - mas night — all

21

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

23

news of — great joy, — news of — great

25

mirth, news of our mer - ci - ful King's

28

3

birth.

All out of dark - ness

31

*mf*

For all

we have light, which made the an - gels sing this night; all

34

out of dark - ness we have light, which made the an - gels

out of dark - ness we have light, which made the an - gels

37 *mel.*

sing this night: "Glo - ry to God and peace on

sing this night:

40 *cresc.*

earth, now and for - ev - er - more. A -

*cresc.*

*cresc.*



# Prepare the Way

17

Words by **Lloyd Larson**  
Based on **Isaiah 40:1-5**

Music by **Lloyd Larson**  
Incorporating **PICARDY**  
by Traditional French Melody, 17th c.

7 Slowly, freely  $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 54$

The musical score is written for piano in 3/2 time, featuring a melody in the right hand and accompaniment in the left hand. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The score is divided into five systems, each with a measure number (7, 5, 9, 13, 17) at the beginning. The first system starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The second system begins with a measure number of 5. The third system begins with a measure number of 9. The fourth system begins with a measure number of 13. The fifth system begins with a measure number of 17 and includes performance markings: *cresc. poco a poco* and *rit.* The score concludes with a final chord in the right hand.

© 2015 and this edition © 2016 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation.

All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

Reproduction of this publication without permission of the publisher is a criminal offense subject to prosecution.

THE CCLI LICENSE DOES NOT GRANT PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.

18 8 Quicker, steadily  $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 63$

20 *mp*

23

26 SA *mp*

B

“Pre - pare the way of the

29

Lord.” A voice cries out in the wil - der - ness, *mp*

“Pre -

32

9

pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the

35

*mp*

“Pre - pare the way of the Lord.” A

Lord.” “Pre - pare the way.” A

38

voice cries out in the wil - der - ness, “Pre - pare the way of the

voice cries out in the wil - der - ness, “Pre - pare.” “Pre -

(10)

Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord.”

pare the way. Pre - pare the way of the Lord.”

*mf*

Ev - ery val - ley shall be lift - ed

*mf*

*mf*

high, ev - ery moun - tain and hill made

50

low;

low, hill, made low; the crook - ed

53

paths shall be made straight, and the

56

11

rough plac - es plain. "Pre -

pare the way of the Lord." A voice cries out in the

wil - der - ness, "Pre - pare the way, ————

"Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre -

— the way of the Lord." ————

pare the way of the Lord." ————

# Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

*with Of the Father's Love Begotten*

Arranged by **Jay Rouse**  
Tunes: ES IST EIN ROS',  
Traditional German Carol, 15th c.,  
DIVINUM MYSTERIUM,  
Plainsong, ca. 13th c.

(14) Delicately  $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 52$

The first system of the piano introduction consists of four measures. The music is in a 3/2 time signature with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is played in the right hand with a delicate touch, marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The left hand provides a steady accompaniment with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

5 SA *p*

The second system begins with the vocal line on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are: "Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom - ing". The piano accompaniment continues with the same delicate texture as in the first system, marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic and the instruction *simile*. The piano part consists of four measures.

9

The third system continues the vocal line on a treble clef staff. The lyrics are: "from ten - der stem hath sprung!". The piano accompaniment continues with the same delicate texture, marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic and the instruction *simile*. The piano part consists of four measures.

© 2015 and this edition © 2016 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation.  
All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

Reproduction of this publication without permission of the publisher is a criminal offense subject to prosecution.  
THE CCLI LICENSE DOES NOT GRANT PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.

13 SA

Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing

17

15

*mp*

as saints of old have sung.

It  
*mp*

21

came, a flow-eret bright, a - mid the cold of

*mp*



25

*poco rit.*

win - ter, when half-spent was the

*poco rit.*

29

*p a tempo*

16

night.

*p*

*p*

33

*mp*

I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it,

*mp*

the Rose I have in mind;

40 *mp*

with Ma-ry we be - hold it, the vir-gin

*mp*

44 [17] *mf*

moth - er kind. To show God's love a -

*mf*

48

right she bore to us a Sav -

52

*poco rit.*

ior, when half - spent was the

*poco rit.*

55

*mp a tempo*

18

night.

*mp*

*mp*

59 *mf*

Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ———

*mf*

Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ———

63

ere the world be - gan ——— to be, ———

— ere the world be - gan to — be, ———

67

He is Al - pha and O - me - ga, ———

O - me - ga, O - me - ga,

# Manger Carol

37

Words by  
**Joseph S. Cook**, 1919, and  
Traditional Polish

Arranged by **Marty Parks**  
Tunes: **TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM**,  
*Piae Cantiones*, 1582,  
W ZLOBIE LEZY,  
Traditional Polish Carol

**(21)** Gently, expressively ♩ = ca. 80

mp

Piano introduction in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The right hand plays chords and the left hand plays a simple bass line. The tempo is marked as ca. 80.

6 SA mp

Gen-tle Ma - ry laid her Child low-ly in a man - ger;

B mp

Vocal line (Soprano/Alto) and piano accompaniment for measures 6-9. The vocal line is in a soprano/alto range, and the piano accompaniment is in the same range as the introduction.

Piano accompaniment for measures 6-9, continuing from the introduction.

10

there He lay, the un - de - filed, to the world a stran - ger:

Vocal line (Soprano/Alto) and piano accompaniment for measures 10-13. The vocal line continues the melody, and the piano accompaniment provides harmonic support.

Piano accompaniment for measures 10-13, continuing from the previous section.

© 2015 and this edition © 2016 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation.

All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

Reproduction of this publication without permission of the publisher is a criminal offense subject to prosecution.

THE CCLI LICENSE DOES NOT GRANT PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.

14 *mf*

such a Babe in such a place, can He be the Sav - ior?\_\_\_\_\_

*mf*

18 *mp*

Ask the saved of ev-'ry race who have found His

*mp*

22 22 *mp* *mf*

Oo - - - - - Gen-tle Ma - ry

fa - vor. \_\_\_\_\_ *mf*

26

laid her Child low-ly in a man - ger; He is still the *mf*

30

un-de-filed, but no more a stran - ger: Son of God, of  
Son of

34

hum-ble birth, beau-ti-ful the sto - ry;  
God,

praise His name in all the earth, hail the King of

glo - ry!

*mf*

In-fant ho - ly, in-fant low - ly, for His bed a cat-tle

ox - en low - ing, lit - tle know - ing Christ the

stall;



48 *building*

babe is Lord of all. Swift are wing - ing an - gels

Swift are wing - ing

51 *f*

sing - ing, no - els ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing: Christ the

an - gels sing - ing, no - els ring - ing, tid - ings bring - ing:

54 *f* *mf*

Babe is Lord of all. Christ the *mf*

Christ the Babe is Lord of all.

# Noel Festival

45

Arranged by  
Lloyd Larson

Words and Music:  
NOËL NOUVELET, Traditional French Carol  
AFRICAN NOEL, Traditional African Folksong  
THE FIRST NOEL, Traditional English Carol

25 Triumphantly  $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 88$

mf

25 Triumphantly  $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 88$

The piano introduction consists of two staves in 2/2 time, key of D major. The melody is in the right hand, starting with a quarter note D4, followed by eighth notes E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5. The bass line is in the left hand, starting with a half note D3, followed by quarter notes E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4.

5 SA *mf*

Sing we now of Christ - mas,

B *mf*

5 SA *mf*

Sing we now of Christ - mas,

B *mf*

The vocal entry for Soprano (SA) and Bass (B) begins at measure 5. The melody is in the right hand, starting with a quarter note D4, followed by eighth notes E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5. The bass line is in the left hand, starting with a half note D3, followed by quarter notes E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4.

The piano accompaniment continues with the same melody and bass line as the introduction, providing harmonic support for the vocalists.

8

No - el, sing we here! Hear our grate - ful

8

No - el, sing we here! Hear our grate - ful

The vocal entry for the second line begins at measure 8. The melody is in the right hand, starting with a quarter note D4, followed by eighth notes E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, D5. The bass line is in the left hand, starting with a half note D3, followed by quarter notes E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4.

The piano accompaniment continues with the same melody and bass line as the introduction, providing harmonic support for the vocalists.

© 2011, this arrangement © 2016 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation.  
All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

Reproduction of this publication without permission of the publisher is a criminal offense subject to prosecution.  
THE CCLI LICENSE DOES NOT GRANT PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.

11

prais - es to the Babe so dear. Sing we No -

15

el, the King is born, No - el! Sing we now of

19

(26)

Christ - mas, sing we now No - el!

23 *mp*

*mel. mp* "Come and

An - gels called to shep - herds, "Leave your\_flocks at rest;

27

jour - ney forth to Beth - l'hem, find the Lamb - kin blest."

jour - ney forth to Beth - l'hem, find the\_Lamb - kin blest."

31 *mel. mf*

*mf* Sing we No - el, the King is born, No - el!

35 *mp* *f*

Sing we now of Christ - mas, sing we now No -

*mp* *f*

39

el!

43 (27)

*mf*

47 *mp*

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

*mp*

51 *mf*

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

*mf*

55 *f*

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

*f*

# Noel! Christ the Lord Is Born

Words and Music by  
Marty Parks

31 Tenderly, expressively ♩ = ca. 80

Piano introduction in B-flat major, 4/4 time. The music is marked *p* (piano). It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The melody is in the treble clef, starting with a half note chord (B-flat, D-flat, F) and moving through several chords. The bass line provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

5 SA *worshipfully mp*

No-el, — no-el! — Christ the Lord is born! —

B *mp*

Vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 5-8. The vocal line is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "No-el, — no-el! — Christ the Lord is born! —". The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass line and chords in the treble line.

9

— No-el, — no-el! — To a world of scorn.

Vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 9-12. The vocal line is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "— No-el, — no-el! — To a world of scorn.". The piano part continues with the same accompaniment style as in the previous system.

© 2015 and this edition © 2016 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation.

All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

Reproduction of this publication without permission of the publisher is a criminal offense subject to prosecution.

THE CCLI LICENSE DOES NOT GRANT PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.

and shame He came for us all, to re -

deem us from the fall. No-el, no-el,-

32  
sing no-el! For-



22

sak - ing heav - ens's glo - ry, in bleak hu - man - i - ty,

*mp*

for

24

ref - u - gees — and pris - 'ners bound for hell,

26

*mp*

Je - sus Mes - si - ah, wrapped in per - fect de - i - ty, came

*poco accel.*

*mf*

her-ald-ing sal - va-tion. Sing no - el! No-el,

*poco accel.*  
*mf*

**Slightly faster** ♩ = ca. 84

no-el! Christ the Lord is born!

**Slightly faster** ♩ = ca. 84

No-el, no-el! To a

37

world of scorn and shame He came for us

40

all, to re - deem us from the fall. No-el,

43

no el, sing no - el!

# What Child Is This?

Words by  
William C. Dix, 1865

Arranged by **Jay Rouse**  
Tune: GREENSLEEVES,  
Traditional English Melody, 16th c.

36 Warmly ♩ = ca. 96  
SA *p*

What

Warmly ♩ = ca. 96  
*p*

3  
Child is this, \_\_\_\_\_ who, laid to rest, on \_\_\_\_\_

5  
Ma - ry's lap \_\_\_\_\_ is sleep - ing? Whom

© 2014, this arrangement © 2016 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation  
All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

Reproduction of this publication without permission of the publisher is a criminal offense subject to prosecution.  
THE CCLI LICENSE DOES NOT GRANT PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.

7

an - gels greet\_\_\_\_\_ with an - thems sweet, while\_

9

(37)

shep - herds watch\_\_\_\_\_ are keep - ing?\_\_\_\_\_

11

SA

B

*mp*

Why lies He in\_\_\_\_\_ such

*mp*

13

mean es - tate where\_ ox and ass\_\_\_\_\_ are

15 *mp*

Chris - tian, fear;\_\_\_\_\_ for  
feed - ing? Good Chris - tian, fear;\_\_\_\_\_ for

17

sin - ners\_ here the\_ si - lent Word\_ is

*cresc.*

plead - ing. O

*cresc.*

*cresc.*

21 *mf*

this, this is Christ the King, whom

*mf*

*mf*

23

shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;

*mf*

25

haste, haste\_\_\_\_\_ to bring Him laud,\_\_\_\_\_ the

27

(39)

Babe,\_\_\_\_\_ the Son\_\_\_\_\_ of Ma - ry,\_\_\_\_\_

Ma - ry, the

29

the Babe, the Son of

the\_\_\_\_\_ Babe,\_\_\_\_\_ the

Babe, the Son\_\_\_\_\_ of Ma - ry, the



# A Noel Celebration (Finale)

Words:  
Latin hymn, attr. **John F. Wade**, 1751  
**Marty Parks**, 2015, and  
**Charles Wesley**, 1840

Arranged with New Music  
by **Lloyd Larson** and **Marty Parks**  
Tunes: ADESTE FIDELES,  
John F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751,  
MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

(42) **Triumphantly** ♩ = ca. 96

SA *f*

B *f*

O come, let us a -

**Triumphantly** ♩ = ca. 96

*f*

4 *cresc.*

dore Him! \_\_\_\_\_ O come, let us a -

*cresc.*

*cresc.*

© 2015 and this edition © 2016 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of The Lorenz Corporation.

All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.

Reproduction of this publication without permission of the publisher is a criminal offense subject to prosecution.

THE CCLI LICENSE DOES NOT GRANT PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.

7 *ff*  
 dore Him!  
*ff*

Sing no - el, no -

**(43) Joyously ♩ = ca. 92**

10 *rit.* No - el, no - el! +Cong.\* *f*  
 Sing no - el, no - el, no - el! No-el,-  
*f*  
 el, no - el, no - el!

**Joyously ♩ = ca. 92**

*rit.*

13 no - el! Christ the Lord is born!

*f*

16

— No-el, — no-el! — To a —

19

world of scorn — and shame He — came for — us

22

all, to re - deem us from — the fall. — No-el, —

25 (44)

no-el, — sing no-el!

28 *poco accel.* **Slightly faster ♩ = ca. 100**

Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing, —

*poco accel.* **Slightly faster ♩ = ca. 100**  
*detached*

31

"Glo-ry to the new-born King; peace on earth, and

mer - cy mild, — God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"

Joy - ful, all ye — na - tions rise, — join the tri - umph —

of the skies; — with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim,

43

“Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!” Hark! the her - ald

46

an - gels sing, “Glo - ry to the new - born

49

King!”