

Foreword

Everyone loves to hear good news! “*It’s a boy!*” or “*It’s a girl!*” How about: “*Your medical tests came back perfectly!*” or “*You aced that test!*” Another one that is nice to hear: “*I’m happy to inform you that you have been promoted.*” or “*You’re going to get a nice raise!*”

The gospel story is filled with good news! (In fact, the word *gospel* means “good news.”) The Bible references “good news” in numerous places: *How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news.... (Isaiah 52:7); The angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people....” (Luke 2:10); Jesus traveled from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God.... (Luke 8:1)*

When we hear good news, it is usually a call for celebration! It is a time to lift our hearts and spirits in joy. When I decided to tackle the 4-hand book you are holding, I determined that these needed to be spirited and joyous arrangements if we were going to title it with the words “good news.” So you will find no contemplative or timid arrangements in this collection! It is filled with passion and energy, the kinds of descriptors that feel right to me when talking about good news.

The arrangements cover a variety of seasons in a church year from Thanksgiving to Christmas to Christ the King to All Saints to Easter to Patriotic to (you can fill in the blank here)... It is comprised of classic hymns, traditional melodies, and favorite spirituals. My hope is that this will be a resource you can use in any number of venues and settings. So grab a piano partner and let all the stops out as you celebrate the good news of God’s presence at the piano!

—Lloyd Larson

About the Arranger

Lloyd Larson is a freelance composer/arranger and the Keyboard Editor for Lillenas Publishing Company. His publications include well over 1,500 choral octavos, Christmas and Easter cantatas, numerous keyboard collections, several vocal solo and duet collections, instrumental solo and ensemble publications, orchestrations, and handbell settings. It is his work in the local church, though, that continues to be the catalyst for much of his writing. He is an active participant in his own home church where he directs the adult choir in addition to regularly being involved in worship planning and leadership. Lloyd has a B.A. from Anderson University (Indiana) and an M.C.M. from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. Lloyd and his wife, Marci, live in the Minneapolis, Minnesota area. They have three children and four grandchildren.

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Good News!

with
Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Joyously ♩ = ca. 63 (♩ = $\overset{\sim}{\text{J}}^3$)

Traditional Spiritual
Arr. by Lloyd Larson

Primo 8^{va}

mf

Joyously ♩ = ca. 63 (♩ = $\overset{\sim}{\text{J}}^3$)

Secondo

mf

4 (8^{va})

4

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Do Not
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4
7 (8^{va})

7

3 3 3

10 (8^{va})

10

3 3

(b) (b)

13 (8^{va})

13

f

3 3 3

f

Simple Gifts

American Shaker Melody
Arr. by Lloyd Larson

Primo With strength, steadily ♩ = ca. 56-60

Musical notation for the Primo part of 'Simple Gifts'. It consists of two staves in 3/2 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece concludes with a crescendo (*cresc.*) marking.

Secondo With strength, steadily ♩ = ca. 56-60

Musical notation for the Secondo part of 'Simple Gifts'. It consists of two staves in 3/2 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second staff begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece concludes with a crescendo (*cresc.*) marking.

Musical notation for the 4-measure section of 'Simple Gifts'. It consists of two staves in 3/2 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The second staff begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The piece concludes with a forte (*f*) dynamic.



8

8^{va}

12

(8^{va})

8^{va}

15

(8^{va})

mf

15

mf

Noel Festival

with
Sing We Now of Christmas
African Noel
The First Noel

Triumphantly ♩ = ca. 88

Arr. by Lloyd Larson

8va -

Primo

Secondo Triumphantly ♩ = ca. 88

(8va) -

5

*"Sing We Now of Christmas"

5

8

*Music: Traditional French Carol

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9

9

13

8va

13

17

(8va)

17

Tidings of Joy!

with
Ding Dong! Merrily on High
Carol of the Bells
God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

Arr. by Lloyd Larson

Festively ♩ = ca. 72

Primo 8^{va}-----

Festively ♩ = ca. 72

Secondo

*"Ding Dong! Merrily on High"

(8^{va})-----

*Music: Traditional French Carol

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34

(8va)

9

9

13

13

16

16

Crown Him Lord of All!

JAMES ELLOR and
OLIVER HOLDEN
Arr. by Lloyd Larson

Regally ♩ = ca. 104

Primo

8^{va}

Secondo

Regally ♩ = ca. 104

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(8^{va})

8

poco rit. *a tempo*

(8^{va})

12

(8^{va})

16

The Stars and Stripes Forever

March-like ♩ = ca. 112

JOHN PHILIP SOUSA
Arr. by Lloyd Larson

Primo 8va

The first system of the musical score is for the Primo part. It consists of two staves, both in treble clef. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 2/2. The tempo is marked 'March-like' with a quarter note equal to approximately 112 beats per minute. The first staff begins with a forte (ff) dynamic and a dashed line indicating an octave (8va) shift. The second staff also begins with a forte (ff) dynamic. Both staves end with a forte (f) dynamic. The music features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final measure containing a fermata.

Secondo March-like ♩ = ca. 112

The second system of the musical score is for the Secondo part. It consists of two staves, both in bass clef. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 2/2. The tempo is marked 'March-like' with a quarter note equal to approximately 112 beats per minute. The first staff begins with a forte (ff) dynamic. The second staff also begins with a forte (ff) dynamic. Both staves end with a forte (f) dynamic. The music features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final measure containing a fermata.

5

The third system of the musical score continues the Primo part. It consists of two staves, both in treble clef. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 2/2. The first staff begins with a measure rest, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The second staff also begins with a measure rest, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. Both staves end with a forte (f) dynamic. The music features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final measure containing a fermata.

5

The fourth system of the musical score continues the Secondo part. It consists of two staves, both in bass clef. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 2/2. The first staff begins with a measure rest, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. The second staff also begins with a measure rest, followed by a series of eighth and sixteenth notes. Both staves end with a forte (f) dynamic. The music features a series of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some rests and a final measure containing a fermata.

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9

8va - -

mp

13

(8va) - -

p *f*

17

(8va) - -

mp *f*

1 (to pg. 50, meas. 5)

Saints Bound for Heaven

with
On Jordan's Stormy Banks

J. KING and WILLIAM WALKER
Arr. by Lloyd Larson

Primo With strength, steadily ♩ = ca. 96

Secondo With strength, steadily ♩ = ca. 96

4

4

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Do Not
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62

8

8va

mf

12

(8va)

12

(8va)

16

16