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# Christ Is Born

*A Christmas Cantata*

for mixed voices with solos

by

JOSEPH W. CLOKEY



C. C. BIRCHARD & COMPANY

BOSTON

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A Christmas Cantata  
for Mixed Voices, with Solos

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For the text of this cantata, ancient hymns have been used. The translations, from various sources, have been freely adapted by the composer. The melodies are not based on folk tunes but are original throughout.

C. C. BIRCHARD & CO.

BOSTON

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**Instrumental Parts: Violin; Viola (or Clarinet); 'Cello; Rental price \$2.50 per month. The entire accompaniment may be performed effectively by these three instruments alone.**

Time of performance, about 25 minutes.

Chorus Parts available.

# No 1. The Prophecy

(Chorus)

1

SOPRANO  
ALTO

TENOR  
BASS

PIANO

Solemnly

1. Com-fort, com-fort ye, my  
2. Now the her-ald's voice is  
3. Make ye straight what long was

peo - ple,  
cry - ing  
crook - ed.

Speak ye peace, thus — saith our God.  
In the des - ert — far and near,  
Make the rough - er — plac - es plain;

Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness, Mourn-ing 'neath their —  
Bid-ding all men to re - pent - ance, Since the king - dom —  
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble As be - fits — His —

sor - row's load.                      Speak ye to — Je — ru - sa - lem.  
 now is here.                      O, that warn - ing — cry o - bey!  
 ho - ly reign;                      For the glo - ry — of the Lord

Speak of peace that waits for them;                      Tell her that her sins I  
 Now pre - pare for God a way!                      Let the val - leys rise to  
 O'er the earth is shed a - broad,                      And all flesh shall see the

cov - er,                      And her war - fare now is o - ver.  
 meet Him,                      And the hills bow down to greet Him.  
 to - ken                      That his word is nev - er bro - ken.

(Each stanza, about 65 seconds.)

# No 2. The Annunciation

(Tenor Solo)

Well sustained and even

TENOR

1. Ga - bri - el to  
2. Thus the Maid of

PIANO

Ma - ry went, A might - y mes - sage bore he; Deep in awe the  
Da - vid's blood Spoke out in an - swer low - ly; "I am but the

maid-en bent To hear the first "Hail Ma - ry." He spoke as soft as sum-mer  
slave of God Om - ni - po - tent and Ho - ly. To thee, O high am - bas - sa -



air: "Hail, first a-mong the pure and fair! To Ma - ry mild — shalt  
dor, On whomsuch se-crets He doth pour, I do con-sent,— Right

come a Child All — glo - rious: Sal - va - tion is through Him: — By  
well con-tent, To — hold me For - ev - er by His word. — O

thee He comes vic - to - rious, O Queen of — Ser - a - phim."  
Ga - bri - el, be - hold me, The Hand-maid of — the Lord."

(Each stanza, about 65 seconds.)



# No. 3. Advent

(Chorus)

**SOPRANO ALTO** *Joyfully*

1. Hark! a her-ald voice is call - ing;  
2. Heed ye well the sol - emn warn - ing,

**TENOR BASS**

**PIANO** *Joyfully*

“Christ is nigh” it seems to say;  
Let the earth-bound sod a - rise;

“Cast a-way the dreams of dark - ness,  
Christ, her Son, all gloom dis - pel - ling,

O ye chil - dren of — the day.” Hark! O, hark!  
Shines up - on the morn - ing skies. Hark! O, hark!

(Each stanza, about 30 seconds.)

# N<sup>o</sup>4. Duet: Christmas Eve

(Soprano and Alto)

With a steady swing

SOPRANO  
ALTO

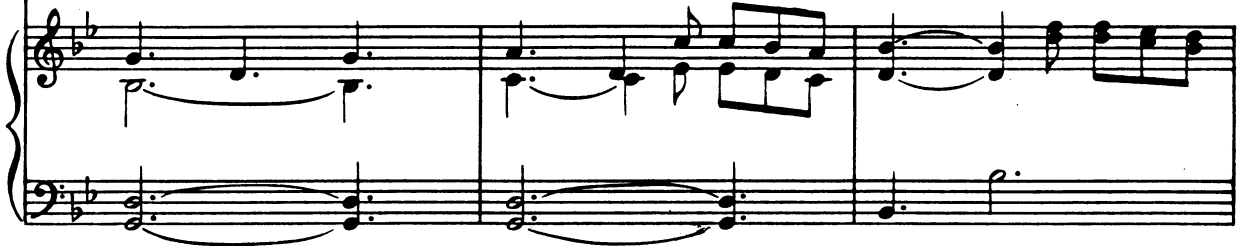


1. O come to us, Redeem-er of the earth,— And  
2. The word of God in hu - man flesh ar-rayed,— The  
3. Thy cradle here shall glit-ter ev-er bright— And

PIANO



man - i - fest thy glo - rious ho - ly birth. — Let ev - 'ry age — a -  
Sa - viour promised long to man, dis - played. — From God a - bove — to  
earth - ly dark - ness breathe a new - er light, — Where end - less faith — shall



dor - ing fall — And wor - ship Ma - ry's Son, the Lord of all.  
earth He speeds — To min - is - ter to all — our hu - man needs.  
shine se - rene, — And gloom - y twi - light nev - er - more be seen.



(Each stanza, about 25 seconds.)

# Nº5. The Shepherds

(Bass Solo and Chorus)

**SOPRANO ALTO** *Vigorously* *Chorus*

1. A Boy is born in Beth-le-hem,  
2. He li-eth in a man-ger stall, Al-  
3. The ox and ass a-dore Him there,

**TENOR BASS** *Solo*

**PIANO** *Vigorously*

- - - le-lu-i-a! Great joy then in Je-  
Al-le-lu-i-a! The Prince of peace and  
While shep-herds come and

*Solo*

(Chor.) Al-le-lu-i-a!

*Chorus*

ru-sa-lem.  
Lord of all. Al-le-lu-i-a, Al-  
kneel in prayer. Al-le-lu-i-a,

(Chorus) Al-le-lu-i-a,

*Unison*

- - - le - lu - i - a! Come let us - a -  
Al - le - lu - i - a!

*(Unison)*

Al - - - le - lu - i - a! Come let

dore Him! Wor - ship Je - sus Christ, our Lord! — Hum - bly

us a - dore Him! Wor - ship Je - sus Christ, our Lord! —

bow be - fore Him!

Hum - bly bow — be - fore Him!

(Each stanza, about 35 seconds.)

# No. 6. Christmas Day

(Trio; Women's Voices)

Brightly

SOPRANO I  
SOPRANO II

ALTO

PIANO

1. From east to west, from shore\_ to  
2. For this how won-drous-ly\_ God  
3. And while the an - gels\_ in\_ the

shore, Let ev - 'ry\_ heart a - wake and\_ sing - The ho - ly Child, whom  
wrought! A maid - en, - shy, in low - ly\_ place, Be - came in ways be -  
sky Sang praise a - bove the si - lent\_ field, To shep - herds poor, as -

Ma - ry\_ bore, Is Christ, the\_ Lord, is Christ the\_ King.  
yond\_ all\_ thought The chos - en\_ one of God's own\_ grace.  
they\_ drew\_ nigh, The Shep - herd\_ King was there re - vealed.

(Each stanza, about 30 seconds.)

# No. 7. The Mother

(Soprano Solo)

Gracefully

SOPRANO

1. Hail Ma-ry! Star of Morn-ing! Thou  
2. Hail Ma-ry! Sweet and ten-der! Thy

PIANO

her-ald of the Sun! The day a - dorn - ing, Re-veal'd the Ho - ly — One:  
Son is God on high! The Fa-ther's splen-dour, As Scrip-tures tes - ti - fy.

E'er time be-gan, e'en then God chose thee for his Moth-er. Thou pride of  
Fair Maid, thou gav-est birth To Je-sus Christ, thy Ma - ker, That hath no

*ritard.*  
Chris-tian men! Hail, Ma - ry, Star of mornh! Hail, Ma - ry! Hail!  
peer on earth! Hail, Ma - ry, Star of morn! Hail, Ma - ry! Hail!

*ritard.*

(Each stanza, about 50 seconds.)

# No. 8. Trio: The Holy Child

(Alto, Tenor, Bass)

Very sustained

ALTO

1. Je - sus, the ver - y thought is sweet! In  
 2. Je - sus, thou sweet-ness pure and blest, Truth's  
 3. O Je - sus! King of won-drous might! O

TENOR  
BASS

Very sustained

PIANO

that dear name all heart - joys meet; Still sweet-er than the  
 foun - tain, Light of souls dis - trest, Sur - pas - sing all that  
 Vic - tor glo - rious from the fight! Sweet-ness that may not

hon - ey far The glimp - ses of his won - drous pres - ence are.  
 heart re - quires, Ex - ceed - ing all that mor - tal soul de - sires!  
 be ex - pressed, And al - to - geth - er ver - y lov - li - est.

won - drous pres - ence are.  
 mor - tal soul de - sires!  
 ver - y lov - li - est.



No\_ word is sung more sweet\_ than this, No name is heard more  
 No\_ tongue of mor- tal can\_ ex - press, No let- ters write its  
 Je - sus, re- main with us\_ to - day! Now, in our hearts, Thy

full\_ of bliss: No thought brings sweet- er com- fort nigh, Than  
 bles - sed - ness. He who hath but thee in his heart, Knows  
 grace\_ dis - play: Now that the shades of night are fled, On

Je - sus, Son of God\_ most high.  
 love of Thee and what\_ Thou art.  
 Thee our spir- its may\_ be fed.

*Fine*

(Each stanza, about 70 seconds.)

# Nº9. The Star

(Chorus)

**SOPRANO**  
**ALTO**

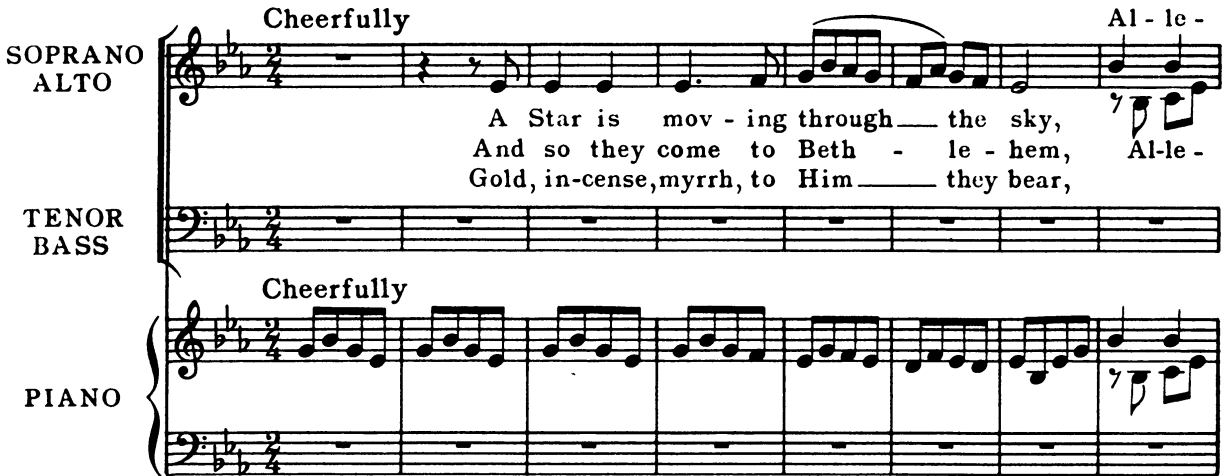
**TENOR**  
**BASS**

**PIANO**

*Cheerfully*

Al - le -

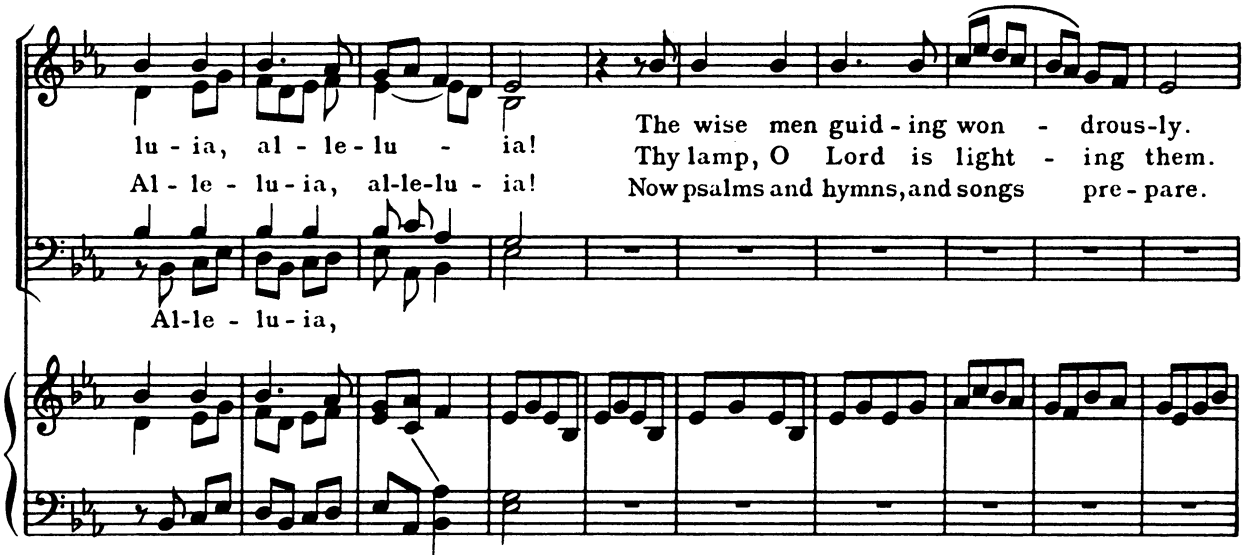
A Star is mov - ing through — the sky,  
And so they come to Beth - le - hem, Al - le -  
Gold, in - cense, myrrh, to Him — they bear,



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

The wise men guid - ing won - drous - ly.  
Thy lamp, O Lord is light - ing them.  
Now psalms and hymns, and songs pre - pare.

Al - le - lu - ia,



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,



(Each stanza, about 30 seconds.)

## No. 10. Bethlehem

(Alto Solo)

With quiet devotion

ALTO

Beth - le-hem, of no-blest  
Fair - er than the star of  
Guid - ed by its heav'n-ly

cit - ies, None on earth with thee com - pare;  
morn - ing Was the Star that told His birth;  
beau - ty, See the east - ern kings ap - pear;

Thou a - lone the Lord from heav - en Didst for us in -  
To the lands their God an - nounc - ing, Hid be-neath a  
See them bend, their gifts to of - fer: In-cense rare, and

car - nate bear.  
form of earth. Beth-le-hem! O ————— Beth - le-hem!  
gold and myrrh.

*ritard.*

(Each stanza, about 55 seconds.)

# No. 11. Song of Praise

(Chorus)

Joyfully

SOPRANO  
ALTO

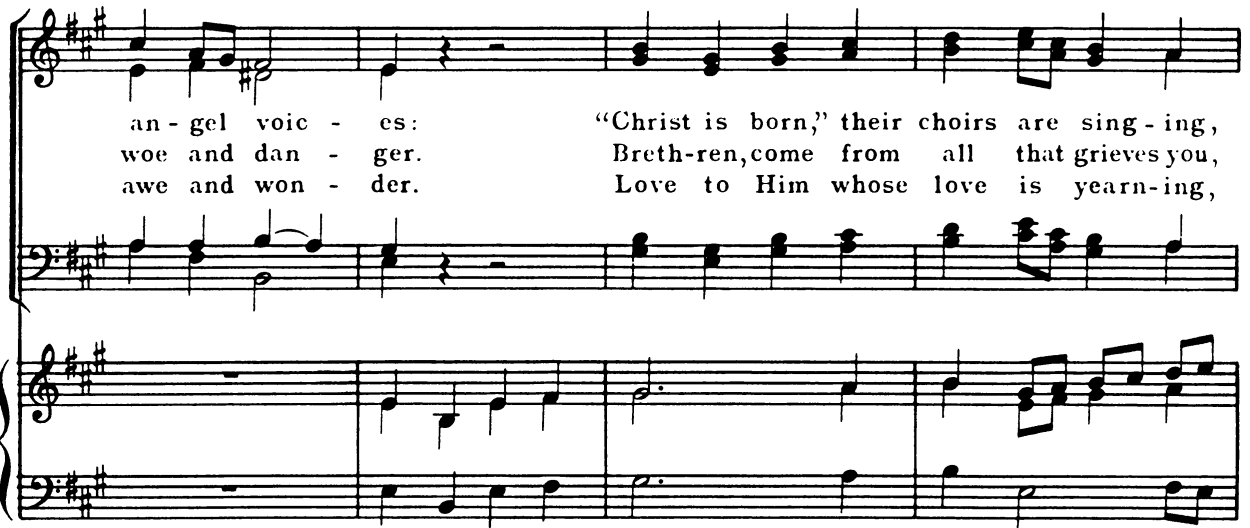
TENOR  
BASS

PIANO

All my heart this night re - joic - es, As we  
 Hark! a voice from low - ly man - ger, As we  
 Hark to an - gel voic - es yon - der, As we

hear, Far and near, Sweet-est an - gel voic - es,  
 hear, Far and near, "Gone is woe and dan - ger,  
 hear, Far and near "Kneel in awe and won - der,

Sweet-est an - gel,  
 "Gone is dan - ger,  
 "Kneel in awe, in



an - gel voic - es:                      "Christ is born," their choirs are sing - ing,  
 woe and dan - ger.                      Breth - ren, come from all that grieves you,  
 awe and won - der.                      Love to Him whose love is yearn - ing,



Till the air      Ev - 'ry - where,      Now with  
 You are freed,      All you need      I will  
 Hail the Star      That from far      Bright with



joy is ring - ing,      Now with joy is ring - ing!  
 sure - ly give you,      I will sure - ly give you."  
 hope is burn - ing,      Bright with hope is burn - ing."

(Each stanza, about 35 seconds.)

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