

Performance suggestions for *Christmas Carols and Codas:*

Certainly, one of the most joyous aspects of Christmas is the singing of carols. Many fine things have been done in the way of arranging carols for choirs, but not as much has been done to encourage and stimulate audience participation. The purpose of *Christmas Carols and Codas* is to dress up Christmas programs in truly festive regalia, with as many people as possible participating.

Rather than singing all stanzas of a carol in exactly the same way, the following variations can be used:

1st stanza: Choir and audience sing with keyboard accompaniment.

2nd stanza: Choir and audience sing with keyboard and descant by handbell choir. All of the carols in *Christmas Carols and Codas, Set I*, are also found in *Hymn Descants for Handbells, Set I*, arranged by Douglas E. Wagner (Beckenhorst Press, HB9).

3rd stanza: Choir and audience sing in parts with *no* accompaniment, followed by:

Entrance of trumpets and keyboard with interlude and modulation.

4th stanza: Everyone sings with varied accompaniment by keyboard and trumpets until the Coda, where choir, trumpets and keyboard provide a climactic conclusion.

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Trumpet parts for all six carols (CC1-A) are available from the publisher. Choral scores and trumpet parts for each carol are also available separately. Stock numbers for the individual carols are given in parentheses in the Table of Contents. For the trumpet part, add the suffix "-A."

Joy to the World!

Psalm 98
Adapted by Isaac Watts

ANTIOCH
Arr. from G. F. Handel by Lowell Mason
Setting by JOHN NESS BECK

f

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re - ceive her King;
 2. Joy to the earth; the Sav - ior reigns; Let men their songs em - ploy;
 3. No more let sins and sor - rows grow, Nor thorns in - fest the ground,

Let ev - ery heart pre - pare Him room, And
 While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, Re -
 He comes to make His bless - ings flow Far

heaven and na - ture sing, And heaven and na - ture sing, And
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re -
 as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far

And heaven and na - ture sing! And heaven and na - ture

heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing. (keyboard)
 re - peat, far as the sound - ing joy. found.
 as, the curse is

Choir and Congregation •

Trumpets *

27 28 29 30 31

32 33 34 35 36

a tempo

4. He rules the world with truth and

slowing *a tempo*

slowing *a tempo*

37 38 39 40 41

CC1-5

CODA

Choir only

love. And won - ders, and won - ders, and wqn - ders, and

CODA

CODA

58 59 60 61

won - ders, and won - ders of His love.

62 63 64 65 66 67

The First Noel

English Carol

THE FIRST NOEL
English Melody
Setting by JOHN NESS BECK

Piano introduction in G major, 3/4 time. The music consists of a series of chords and single notes in the right hand, and a steady bass line in the left hand. The introduction is 6 measures long.

1. The first no - el the an - gel did say Was to cer - tain poor
 2. They look - ed up and saw a star Shin - ing in the
 3. And by the light of that same star, Three wise men
 4. This star drew nigh to the north - west, O - ver Beth - le -
 5. Then en - tered in those wise men three, Full rev - erent -

Vocal line with five numbered entries. Piano accompaniment continues from the introduction.

shep - herds in fields as they lay - In fields where they lay keep - ing their
 east, be - yond them far; And to seek for a king it gave great
 came from coun - try far; To seek for a king it was their in -
 beth - le - hem it took its rest; And there it did both stop and
 ly up - on their knee, And of - fered there, in His pres -

Vocal line with lyrics. Piano accompaniment continues.

sheep, On a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
 light, And so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
 tent, And to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, no -
 stay, Right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 ence, Their gold and myrrh and frank - in - cense.

Vocal line with lyrics. Piano accompaniment continues.

el! No - el, no - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

Vocal line with lyrics. Piano accompaniment continues. A box above measures 27-29 contains the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4.

5

el!

3 Trumpets (*concert pitch*) *a3*

f

31 32 33 34 35

Choir and congregation

Trumpets

rall.

rall.

36 37 38 39 40

SATB *unis. a tempo*

6.* Then — let — us — all with — one — ac — cord Sing —

a3

a tempo

a tempo

41 42 43 44 45

CC1-13 * This sixth stanza is not included in all hymnals. It may be reprinted (text only) in programs without request for permission.

el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

61 62 63 64 65

No - el, no - el! No - el!

66 67 68 69 70 71

Angels We Have Heard on High

French Carol
 Setting by JOHN NESS BECK
 (ASCAP)

1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?

And the moun - tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.
 Say what may the ti - dings be, Which in - spire your heav - en - ly song?

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - ri - a

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o. o. (keyboard)

3 Trumpets (*concert pitch*)*

f

28 29 30 31

Choir and congregation *unis.* More stately

3. Come to Beth - le -

Trumpets

rit.

32 33 34 35

hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing; Come a - dore, on

36 37 38 39

Congregation

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

S.
A.
Choir - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

T.
B.

Trumpets

52 53 54 55

Glo - ri - a! in ex - cel - sis De - o!

56 57 58 59 60

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

MEDELSSOHN

Felix Mendelssohn

Setting by JOHN NESS BECK
(ASCAP)

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King;
2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord:

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild; God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,

With th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus our Em - man - u - el.

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King."

new - born King.

3 Trumpets (*concert pitch*)*

f

Choir and congregation *unis.*

3. Hail the heaven - born Prince of Peace! — Hail the Sun of

Trumpets

rit. *a tempo*

rit. *a tempo*

Right - eous - ness! Light and life to all He brings, — Risen with heal - ing

Congregation



"Glo - ry to the new - born King."

S.



"Glo - ry to the new - born King."



Choir "Glo - ry to the new - born King. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing,"

T. *unis.*



"Glo - ry to the new - born King. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing,"

Trumpets



48 49 50 51



"Glo - ry to the new - born King!"



52 53 54 55