

Candlelight Christmas

A Christmas Program
for Unison or 2-Part Voices

Carolers



Written & Arranged
by Ruth Elaine Schram & Scott Schram

Reproducible Pages Included

WHAT DO I NEED?

▼ I WANT TO REVIEW THIS PROGRAM...

Preview Pack:

Includes one preview booklet (vocal lines and script) plus a Listening CD recording (full performance only-with voices).

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Script plus full piano/vocal version of songs, programming and staging suggestions, plus REPRODUCIBLE Singer's Pages (vocal lines and script).

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Performance Time—Approximately 20 Minutes

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FOREWORD

Candlelight Christmas Garden is a celebration of the coming of Jesus, who is God's Light. His birth signals a rebirth for all people, the fulfillment of the promise of salvation and eternal life. As His glory shines, warming the cold, dark earth, flowers herald His coming with a burst of seasonal splendor.

“Let heaven and nature sing!”

Seasonal customs from around the world and Christmas plants inspire us in our celebration. Santa Lucia enters first, wearing an evergreen crown and carrying candles in the Swedish tradition. Next, we light seasonal candles, encircled by holly in the ancient Roman tradition, as we recall the words of the prophet Isaiah.

Christmas roses bloom throughout Europe as the angel Gabriel appears to Mary, announcing God's good news. In Mexico, the poinsettia's leaves turn from green to red as a special gift to the Christ Child. And, in the United States, children place white and gold Chrismons upon the Christmas tree, reflecting the purity and majesty of God's Son.

“Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light!”

As our story unfolds, the choir and congregation/audience joyfully sing medleys of traditional hymns and carols, many with specially-crafted new lyrics. **Candlelight Christmas Garden** concludes with a beautiful candlelighting ceremony as God's people join with the heavenly angels, softly singing a lullaby to the Babe who is the Lord of Light and Life.

Performance Suggestions

Arranged for unison or 2-part singers of all ages, this program may be presented in its entirety, lasting approximately 20 minutes, or as individual suites throughout the season. It is ideal for incorporation into regular worship or Sunday school presentations, with costumes and simple staging. However, it may also be presented as a concert or chapel program with minimal or no staging or costumes. Directors may employ a single choir or different groups of singers representing various classes or age groups. We encourage directors to freely adapt this program, including adding vocal or instrumental solos, additional characters or dialog, and Christmas customs that are particular to their locales. **Reproducible Singers' Pages** are included beginning on page 29.

Staging Suggestions

Create four areas with traditional greenery throughout. At center stage, set a small table with a wreath or circle of holly holding four unlit candles (optional, place an unlit white Christ candle in the center). In a second area, display an array of red poinsettias and hang above them a star that can be lit internally or externally. In a third area, arrange pink Christmas roses and, nearby, an angel (Gabriel) that can be illuminated at the appropriate time. Finally, decorate a Christmas tree with white twinkle lights and Chrismons (preferred), and/or white and gold balls. Please see page 40 for a list of resources in the making of Chrismons.

OVERTURE & LUCIA CHORUS

(As the *Overture* begins, the choir processes in and gradually takes its position. During the *Lucia Chorus*, Lucia/s enter. They are wearing white robes with red sashes, and their heads are adorned with crowns of greenery. The crowns may include four battery-powered candles, NOT real candles! OR, if preferred, the Lucia/s may carry a single candle, either real or battery-powered. Whenever real candles are used, we recommend that fire extinguishers be immediately available!)

OVERTURE

Arranged by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)
 and **SCOTT SCHRAM** (ASCAP)

*O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL
 Majestic (♩ = ca. 92-96)

ACCOMP. *mf*

4

poco rit. *a tempo*

8

9

mp

12

SPEAKER #1: As Christmas approaches in the cold north of Sweden, the winter sun
 (or Narrator)

is low in the sky. Days pass in total darkness, and the people yearn for light and warmth.

* Traditional plainsong.

*WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

SPEAKER #2: Many years ago there was a famine throughout the land. According to legend, a faithful young girl,
(or Narrator)

Musical score for 'WHAT CHILD IS THIS?'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The piece starts at measure 16, marked with a circled '16'. At measure 17, the time signature changes to 3/4. The music features a mix of chords and single notes, with some rests in the bass line.

**Lucia, brought food and drink, God's hope and salvation, to the poor and hungry people.

Musical score for the text: "Lucia, brought food and drink, God's hope and salvation, to the poor and hungry people." It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The piece starts at measure 20. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with accompaniment in the bass staff.

†SANTA LUCIA

1st time: SPEAKER #3 (or Narrator — No Singing): Our program tonight (today) is a celebration of God's Light. Join us as we
2nd time: UNISON VOICES (as Lucia's enter)

Musical score for 'SANTA LUCIA'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The piece starts at measure 25, marked with a circled '25' and a dynamic marking of *mf*. The lyrics are: "San - ta Lu - ci - a, San - ta Lu - ci - a,". The melody is in the treble staff, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass staff.

* Traditional English melody.

** loo-CHEE-ah

† SAHN-tah loo-CHEE-ah; traditional Italian melody; new words by Ruth Elaine Schram and Scott Schram.

begin in the Swedish tradition with the “Saint of Light,” or “Santa Lucia,” who brought God’s Light to a people in

29

Bring us the can-dle-light, bright-en our dark-est night! San - ta Lu -

34

darkness.

1. | 2. *rall.*

ci - a, San - ta Lu - ci - a!

1. | 2. *rall.*

I. EVERGREENS & CANDLELIGHT

SPEAKER #1: (*lighting Candle #1*) Remember the words of the prophet Isaiah:
(*or Narrator*) “The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light.” (*Isaiah 9:2*)

SPEAKER #2: (*lighting Candle #2*) Prophets long ago foretold a great king who would be born of God, bringing the light of salvation to all people. Our ancestors looked forward to the coming of the Messiah with great excitement. During this holy season, we remember their waiting, and we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord on Christmas Day.

SPEAKER #3: (*lighting Candle #3*) The wreath, a circle of evergreens, reminds us of the eternal love of God that surrounds us. An ancient Roman tradition, our wreath is made of holly, whose pointed leaves and red berries symbolize Christ’s crown of thorns and drops of blood at His crucifixion.

SPEAKER #4: (*lighting Candle #4*) Candles reflect the holy light that Jesus brings to a people in darkness. We light a candle for each week in this season of preparation and waiting. Rejoice! Emmanuel will come to you, oh Israel!

ALL: (*lighting the Christ Candle*) Welcome, Lord Jesus!

1. CANDLELIGHT

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel/Deck the Hall/
Il Est Né (He Is Born)

Arranged by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)
and SCOTT SCHRAM (ASCAP)

*O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

Majestic (♩ = ca. 92-96)

ACCOMP. *mf*

4 UNISON VOICES *mf* ⑤

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u -

8 *rall.*

el shall come to thee, oh Is - ra -

rall.

* Traditional plainsong.

11 In two (♩ = ca. 80)

el. _____

In two (♩ = ca. 80)

***DECK THE HALL**

(PART I) + opt. congregation/audience

15 *mf*

Deck the hall with can - dle - light, — al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

(PART II)

19 *mf*

Cel - e - brate this ho - ly night, — al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

(BOTH)

23 *mf*

Wreaths of green and can - dles bright, — al - le, al - le - lu - ia!

* Traditional Welsh carol; words by Ruth Elaine Schram and Scott Schram.

(end congregation/audience)

27

Sym - bols of the birth of Christ, - al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

***IL EST NÉ (He Is Born)**

31 *poco rall.* (PART I) **33** *f a tempo*

poco rall. **33** *f a tempo*

Il est né, le di - vin En - fant,
He is born, the di - vine Christ Child,

35 (PART II) *(f)*

(f)

jou - ez haut - bois rè - son - nez mu - set - tes! Il est né, le di -
play the o - boe and bag - pipe mer - ri - ly! He is born, the di -

38

vin En - fant, chan - tons — tous son a - vè - ne - ment!
vine Christ Child, sing we — all of the Sav - ior mild!

* Traditional French carol; pronunciation guide may be found on page 28.

41 (PART I)

mf

Through long a - ges — of the past proph - ets have fore - told His com - ing;

(PART II)

45 (*mf*)

rall.

through long a - ges — of the past, now the time has — come at last!

(BOTH)

a tempo

49 (*mf*)

Il est né, le di - vin En - fant.
He is born, the di - vine Christ Child.

53 *f*

Sing we — all of the Sav - ior mild.

II. MARY, THE CHRISTMAS ROSE

(As Mary kneels in humility and reverence, the angel Gabriel is illuminated.)

SPEAKER #1:
(or Narrator)

An angel came to a young woman named Mary, announcing the good news that God had chosen her to carry His son into the world. The angel said: "Do not be afraid, for you have found favor with God. You will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and His kingdom will never end." (Luke 1: 26-33)

SPEAKER #2:
(or Narrator)

According to legend, as the light of God shone on her, Mary blushed, and, outside her window, a white rose turned pink, reflecting the color of her cheeks. This flower is now known throughout Europe as the Christmas Rose.

2. THE CHRISTMAS ROSE

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming/
The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy/
What Child Is This?

Arranged by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)
and **SCOTT SCHRAM** (ASCAP)

Gently, with increasing excitement (♩ = 84-88) UNISON VOICES *mp*

Lo,

ACCOMP. *mp*

*LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING

⑤

how a rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem has sprung, of Jes - se's lin - eage

* Traditional German carol.

10 (13)

com - ing as those of old have sung. It came, a flow - er bright, a -

15 *poco rall.*

mid the cold of win - ter, when half-spent was the night.

poco rall.

***THE VIRGIN MARY HAD A BABY BOY**

20 (PART I) *mf* (PART II)

(21) *Faster* (♩ = ca. 120) (*mf*)

The Vir - gin Ma - ry had a ba - by boy. — The

Faster (♩ = ca. 120)

23 (BOTH) (*mf*)

Vir - gin Ma - ry had a ba - by boy. — The Vir - gin Ma - ry had a

* Traditional spiritual.

26 *sub. p*

ba - by boy, — and they said that his name was Je -

sub. p

29 *mf* *sub. p* *mf* *rall.*

sus! Je - sus!

mf *sub. p* *mf* *rall.*

***WHAT CHILD IS THIS?**

Slower (♩ = ca. 100)

33 *f* MELODY (+ opt. congregation/audience)

f This, this — is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

f OPTIONAL This, this — is Christ — the King, whom shep - herds

Slower (♩ = ca. 100)

* Traditional English melody; words by William C. Dix (1837-1898).

38 (41)

guard — and an - gels sing! Haste, haste — to

guard — and an - gels sing! Haste, haste — to

43 *rall.*

bring Him laud, the — babe, — the son — of Ma -

bring — Him laud, the — babe, — the son — of Ma -

rall.

(end congregation/audience)

48 *mf* (49) *Slower* (♩ = ca. 84-88) *molto rit. cresc.*

ry. Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing; this is Christ, the King!

mf *cresc.*

ry. Lo, how a rose; — this is Christ, the King!

Slower (♩ = ca. 84-88) *cresc. molto rit.*

III. THE RED POINSETTIA: HUMBLE GIFT FOR TINY KING

(As narration begins, a girl and/or boy dressed in traditional Mexican clothing add a red poinsettia to the array. As they do so, illuminate the star.)

SPEAKER #3: For centuries, the Mexican people have decorated their churches at Christmas time with nativity scenes, recalling the birth of Jesus in a tiny manger stall in Bethlehem. For these celebrations, each person brings a small gift to honor the Christ Child.
(or Narrator)

SPEAKER #4: According to Mexican legend, long ago there was a little girl who was so poor that she had nothing to give. She went into her garden and carefully potted some green plants to share with Jesus. As she walked to church, a thousand stars lit her path, and the leaves of her humble gift gradually turned bright red. When she arrived, everyone was amazed at the beauty of her gift, which reminded them of the Christmas star! We call this plant the *Poinsettia, but in Mexico it is known as “The Flower of the Holy Night.”
(or Narrator)

3. THE RED POINSETTIA

The Red Poinsettia/Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

Arranged by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)
and SCOTT SCHRAM (ASCAP)

Happily (♩ = ca. 126)

ACCOMP. *mf*

****THE RED POINSETTIA**

1st time: SOLO (or a few voices)
2nd time: ALL VOICES

mf ⑤

4

The red poin - set - tia, the red poin - set - tia, like a Christ-mas star so
set - tia, the red poin - set - tia, hum - ble gift for ti - ny

* We recommend the pronunciation poyn-SEHT-uh, which corresponds to the rhythm of the song. However, poyn-SEHT-ee-uh is also correct.

** Traditional Mexican folksong (*La Cucaracha*); words by Ruth Elaine Schram and Scott Schram.

8

bright; the red poin - set - tia, the red poin - set - tia, Flow - er of the Ho - ly
 King; the red poin - set - tia, the red poin - set - tia, hear the an - gels car - ol -

12 1. ALL VOICES 2.

Night! The red poin - ing.

***HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING**

16 *mf* OPTIONAL (2nd time only)

Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! _ Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!

mf MELODY (+ opt. congregation/audience)

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing: _ "Glo - ry to the new-born King!
 Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! _ Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!

* Melody by Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); words by Charles Wesley (1707-1788).

20

Light and life to all He brings, - ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, - God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
Light and life to all He brings, - ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

24

Mild He lays His glo - ry by, - born that we no more may die,

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise; - join the tri - umph of the skies; -
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, - born that we no more may die, -

28

born to raise us from the earth, - born to - give us

with an - gel - ic host pro - claim: - "Christ is - born in
born to raise us from the earth, - born to - give us

31 32

sec - ond birth. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing: "Glo - ry — to the

Beth - le - hem!" Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing: "Glo - ry — to the
 sec - ond birth. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing: "Glo - ry — to the

35 1. 2.

new - born King!" new - born

new - born King!" new - born

39 *f* *cresc.* *ff*

King!" Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing! _____

f *cresc.* *ff*

King!" Hark! the her-ald an-gels sing! _____

f *cresc.* *ff*

8vb -----

IV. O CHRISTMAS TREE

SPEAKER #1:
(or Narrator)

One Christmas Eve in Germany, many years ago, a young preacher gazed at the night sky, pondering the wonder of God's great gift to the world. Suddenly he had an idea! Hurrying home, he entered his yard and cut down an evergreen tree. Taking it inside, he instructed his children to place lit candles on its outermost branches. As they gazed upon the shining tree, they exclaimed, "The tree is aglow with the light of God's salvation!" In this way, Martin Luther began a tradition that extends to this day.

SPEAKER #2:
(or Narrator)

One of the newest traditions of our faith, dating from the mid-twentieth century in the United States, is the Chrismons tree. The word "Chrismon" combines the words "Christ" and "monogram." Each Chrismons decoration is white, reflecting the purity of Jesus, and is decorated with gold emblems symbolic of His majesty. As we light this tree, we sing with great joy to welcome Jesus, who is the Light of the World. (*Illumine the tree.*)

4. CHRISTMAS TREE CAROL

Joy to the World!/O Christmas Tree

Arranged by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)
and SCOTT SCHRAM (ASCAP)

Joyfully (♩ = ca. 108-112)

ACCOMP. *mf*

5 UNISON VOICES (+ opt. congregation/audience) ⁷ *JOY TO THE WORLD!
mf

Joy to the world! The Lord has come; Let

The musical score consists of two systems. The first system is for piano accompaniment (ACCOMP.) in 4/4 time, marked *mf* and 'Joyfully' with a tempo of ca. 108-112. It features a treble and bass clef with chords and a simple bass line. The second system is for unison voices (5 UNISON VOICES) and optional congregation/audience, starting at measure 5. It is marked *mf* and includes the lyrics: 'Joy to the world! The Lord has come; Let'. The melody is simple and suitable for a group setting.

* Melody by Lowell Mason (1792-1872); based on George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); words by Isaac Watts (1674-1748), based on Psalm 98.

9
 earth re-ceive her King! Let ev - 'ry heart pre -

12 (13)
 pare Him room, and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture sing, and -

15 (end congregation/audience)
 heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing!

***O CHRISTMAS TREE**

Slower (♩ = ca. 88-92)

19 *rall.* OPTIONAL *mp* (21) Christ - mas tree, _____
 MELODY
 O Christ - mas tree, O Christ - mas tree, how

Slower (♩ = ca. 88-92)

* Traditional German carol (*O Tannenbaum*); words by Ruth Elaine Schram and Scott Schram.

23 Christ - mas tree, _____
 love - ly are your branch - es. O Christ - mas tree, O Christ - mas tree, how

27 love-ly are your branch - es. Your twin-ling lights re - mind us of that star-ry night, God's

29

32 Christ-mas tree, _____
 gift of love. O Christ-mas tree, O Christ-mas tree, how love-ly are your branch-es. O

37 Christ-mas tree, O Christ-mas tree, let heav'n and na - ture sing!

mf rit. accel. poco a poco

mf rit. accel. poco a poco

(+ opt. congregation/audience)

Tempo I (♩ = ca. 108-112)

41

42

Joy to the world! The Sav - ior reigns; Let

Tempo I (♩ = ca. 108-112)

44

us our songs em - ploy! While fields - and - floods, — rocks,

47

48

hills, - and - plains — re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing joy, re -

50

(end congregation/audience)

grad. cresc.

peat, — re - peat — the (mel.) sound - ing joy! Re - peat, — re - peat — the

grad. cresc.

53 OPTIONAL

54

MELODY

sound - ing joy! Re - peat, re - peat the

sound - ing joy! Re - peat, re - peat the

56

poco rall.

f a tempo

sound - ing, the sound - ing joy! Joy to the

sound - ing, the sound - ing joy to the world!

poco rall. *f a tempo*

59

ff

ff

ff

world! Joy to the world! The Lord has come!

Joy to the world! The Lord has come!

V. SILENT NIGHT, CANDLELIGHT

SPEAKER #3:
(or Narrator)

We are surrounded by these beautiful symbols of Christmas light and life. Yet, these are only dim reflections of the beauty of the first simple Christmas, when Jesus came, bringing the light of God's salvation to all the world.

SPEAKER #4:
(or Narrator)

We invite you to sing with us as we pass the light of Christ. Take His light. Pass it to your neighbor. Let His light touch your hearts and fill you with His heavenly peace.

(If possible, dim all room lights and pass candlelight throughout the room.)

5. CANDLELIGHT LULLABY

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear/
O Little Town of Bethlehem/
Silent Night, Holy Night!

Arranged by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)
and SCOTT SCHRAM (ASCAP)

Gently (♩ = ca. 112-116)
UNISON VOICES (+ opt. congregation/audience) *mf*

Gently (♩ = ca. 112-116) It

ACCOMP. *mf*

*IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

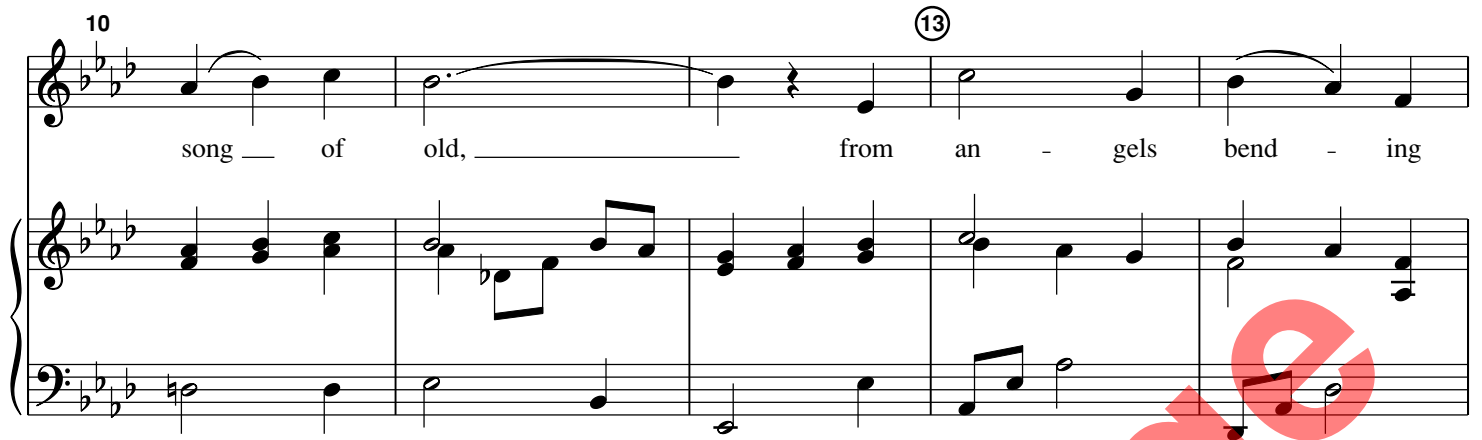
⑤

came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious

* Melody by Richard S. Willis (1819-1900); words by Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876).

10 13

song of old, from an - gels bend - ing



15

near the earth to touch their harps of gold:



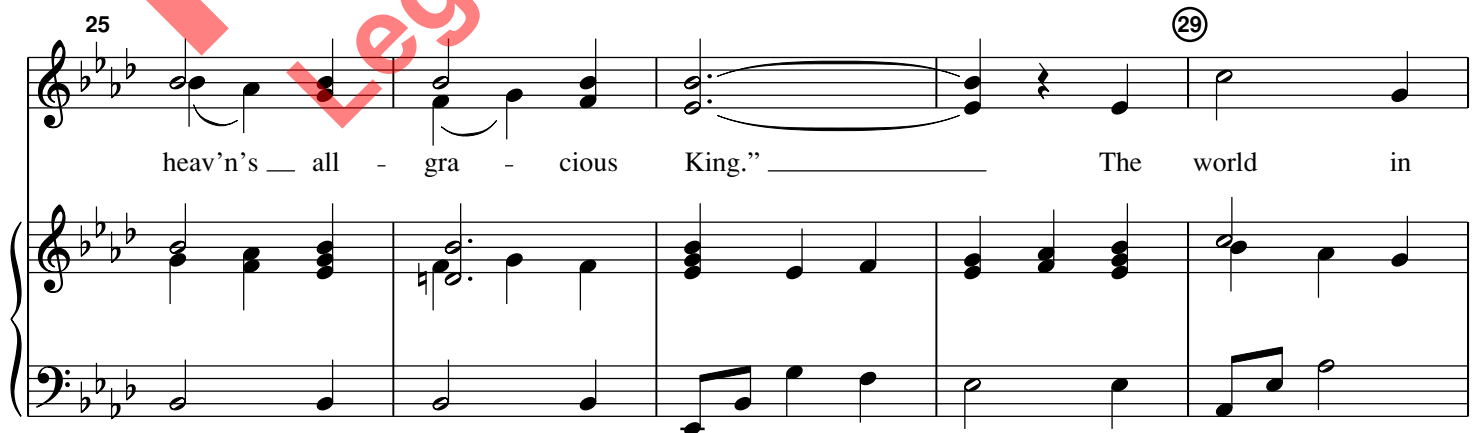
20 *f* 21 OPTIONAL
MELODY

“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from (all,) from



25 29

heav'n's all - gra - cious King.” The world in



30

sol - emn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels

35

sing.

mf *rall.* *mf*

***O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM**

39 Moderately (♩ = ca. 104-108)

lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie; a -

Moderately (♩ = ca. 104-108)

43

bove thy deep and dream - less sleep, the si - lent stars go by. Yet,

* Melody by Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908); words by Phillips Brooks (1835-1893).

(47)

in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light; the

51 *rit. (melody)*

hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.

rit.

***SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT!**

Slower (♩ = ca. 88-92)

(56) *mp*

Si - lent night, ho - ly night!
Si - lent night, ho - ly night!

Slower (♩ = ca. 88-92)

60

All Son of God, all love's is pure bright light.

* Melody by Franz Gruber (1787-1863); words by Joseph Mohr (1792-1848).

64

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly
 Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face with - ly

69

in - fant, so ten - der and mild, sleep in
 dawn of re - deem - ing grace, Je - sus,

73

heav - en - ly peace,
 Lord, at Thy birth,
rit. poco a poco

1.

heav - en - ly, heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly
 Lord, at Thy birth, at Thy birth, Je - sus,

rit. poco a poco

78

a tempo

2.

peace. Lord, at Thy birth.

a tempo

2.

p

* Unison voices continue on melody.

FRENCH PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

(please see pages 8-9 and 31)

Il Est Né (He Is Born)

Il est né, le di - vin En - fant,
 eel eh neh luh¹ dee - VEE naw² - FAW²
 (He is born, the divine Child,)

jou - ez haut - bois rè - son - nez mu - set - tes!
 zhoo³ - EH oh - BWAH reh - zo⁴ - NEH mû⁵ - ZEH - tuh¹
 (play oboes, sound bagpipes!)

Il est né, le di - vin En - fant,
 eel eh neh luh¹ dee - VEE naw² - FAW²
 (He is born, the divine Child,)

chan - tons tous son a - vè - ne - ment!
 shaw² - TOHN² too sohn² aw - veh - nuh¹ - MAW²
 (Let us all sound forth His coming!)

Footnotes to French Pronunciation

In multiple syllable words, the syllables that should be stressed are capitalized.

1. Pronounce the vowel as the “u” in “ugly.”
2. Make the vowel slightly nasal.
3. The “zh” is pronounced like the “s” in “pleasure.”
4. Pronounce the vowel as the “o” in “hobby.”
5. Say the sound “ee” with your mouth in the position to drink through a straw.

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OVERTURE & LUCIA CHORUS

Arranged by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)
 and **SCOTT SCHRAM** (ASCAP)

***O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL**
 Majestic (♩ = ca. 92-96)

VOICES

SPEAKER #1: As Christmas approaches in the cold north of Sweden, the winter sun is low in the sky. Days pass in total darkness, and the people yearn for light and warmth.

⑨

SPEAKER #2: Many years ago there was a famine throughout the land. According to legend, a faithful young girl, Lucia, brought food and drink, God's hope and salvation, to the poor and hungry people.

⑰ ***WHAT CHILD IS THIS?**

****SANTA LUCIA**

1st time: SPEAKER #3 (or Narrator — No Singing): Our program tonight (today) is a celebration of God's Light. Join us as we

2nd time: UNISON VOICES (as Lucials enter)

⑳ *mf*

San - ta - Lu - ci - a, San - ta Lu - ci - a, Bring us the can-dle-light,

begin in the Swedish tradition with the "Saint of Light," or "Santa Lucia," who brought God's Light to a people in darkness.

29

bright-en our dark-est night! San - ta - Lu - ci - a, San-ta Lu - ci - a!

1. | 2. *rall.*

- * O Come, O Come, Emmanuel — traditional plainsong; What Child Is This? — traditional English melody.
- ** Santa Lucia = SAHN-tah loo-CHEE-ah; traditional Italian melody; new words by Ruth Elaine Schram and Scott Schram.

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I. EVERGREENS & CANDLELIGHT

SPEAKER #1: (lighting Candle #1) Remember the words of the prophet Isaiah:
(or Narrator) "The people who walk in darkness have seen a great light." (Isaiah 9:2)

SPEAKER #2: (lighting Candle #2) Prophets long ago foretold a great king who would be born of God, bringing the light of salvation to all people. Our ancestors looked forward to the coming of the Messiah with great excitement. During this holy season, we remember their waiting, and we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Lord on Christmas Day.

SPEAKER #3: (lighting Candle #3) The wreath, a circle of evergreens, reminds us of the eternal love of God that surrounds us. An ancient Roman tradition, our wreath is made of holly, whose pointed leaves and red berries symbolize Christ's crown of thorns and drops of blood at His crucifixion.

SPEAKER #4: (lighting Candle #4) Candles reflect the holy light that Jesus brings to a people in darkness. We light a candle for each week in this season of preparation and waiting. Rejoice! Emmanuel will come to you, oh Israel!

ALL: (lighting the Christ Candle) Welcome, Lord Jesus!

1. CANDLELIGHT

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel/Deck the Hall/
Il Est Né (He Is Born)

Arranged by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)
and SCOTT SCHRAM (ASCAP)

*O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL
Majestic (♩ = ca. 92-96)

3 UNISON VOICES *mf* ⑤

VOICES

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u -

8 *rall.* In two (♩ = ca. 80)

el shall come to thee, oh Is - ra - el.

**DECK THE HALL
(PART I) + opt. congregation/audience


13 2 ⑮ *mf*


Deck the hall with can - dle - light, al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

* Traditional plainsong.
** Traditional Welsh carol; words by Ruth Elaine Schram and Scott Schram.

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(PART II)
 19 *(mf)*

 Cel - e-brate this ho - ly night, — al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

(BOTH)
 23 *(mf)*

 Wreaths of green and can - dles bright, — al - le, al - le - lu - ia!

27 *(end congregation/audience) poco rall.*

 Sym - bols of the birth of Christ, — al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

***IL EST NÉ (He Is Born)**

(PART I)
 33 *f a tempo*

 Il est né, le di - vin En - fant, jou - ez haut-bois rè-son - nez mu - set - tes!
 He is born, the di - vine Christ Child, play the — o - boe and bag - pipe mer - ri - ly!

(PART II)
 37 *(f)*

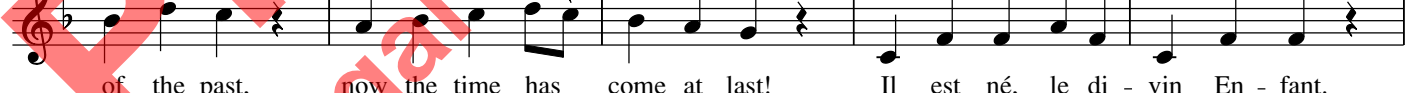
 Il est né, le di - vin En - fant, chan - tons — tous son a - vè - ne - ment!
 He is born, the di - vine Christ Child, sing we — all of the Sav - ior mild!

(PART I)
 41 *mf*

 Through long a - ges — of the past proph-ets have fore - told His com-ing; through long a - ges —

(PART II)
 41 *(mf)*

 of the past, now the time has — come at last! Il est né, le di - vin En - fant.
 He is born, the di - vine Christ Child.

46 *rall.* 49 *(mf)*

 of the past, now the time has — come at last! Il est né, le di - vin En - fant.
 He is born, the di - vine Christ Child.

51 *f*

 Sing we — all of the Sav - ior mild.

* Traditional French carol; pronunciation guide may be found on page 28.

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II. MARY, THE CHRISTMAS ROSE

(As Mary kneels in humility and reverence, the angel Gabriel is illuminated.)

SPEAKER #1:
(or Narrator)

An angel came to a young woman named Mary, announcing the good news that God had chosen her to carry His son into the world. The angel said: "Do not be afraid, for you have found favor with God. You will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and His kingdom will never end." (Luke 1: 26-33)

SPEAKER #2:
(or Narrator)

According to legend, the light of God shone on her, Mary blushed, and, outside her window, a white rose turned pink, reflecting the color of her cheeks. This flower is now known throughout Europe as the Christmas Rose.

2. THE CHRISTMAS ROSE

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming/
The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy/
What Child Is This?

Arranged by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)
and SCOTT SCHRAM (ASCAP)

Gently, with increasing excitement (♩ = 84-88)

UNISON VOICES *LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING
mp ⑤

VOICES

Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten-der stem has sprung, of

Jes-se's lin-eage com-ing as those of old have sung. It came, a flow-er bright, a -

mid the cold of win-ter, when half-spent was the night. The

****THE VIRGIN MARY HAD A BABY BOY**

⑳ *Faster* (♩ = ca. 120) (PART II) *(mf)*

Vir-gin Ma-ry had a ba-by boy. — The Vir-gin Ma-ry had a

(BOTH) *(mf)*

ba-by boy. — The Vir-gin Ma-ry had a ba-by boy, — and they

* Traditional German carol.

** Traditional spiritual.

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27 *sub. p* *mf* *sub. p* *mf* *rall.*

said that his name was Je - sus! Je - sus!

***WHAT CHILD IS THIS?**

Slower (♩ = ca. 100)

33 *f* MELODY (+ opt. congregation/audience)

f This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

f OPTIONAL This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds

38 41

guard and an - gels sing! Haste, haste to

guard and an - gels sing! Haste, haste to

43 *rall.*

bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Ma -

bring Him laud, the babe, the son of Ma -

(end congregation/audience) *mf* 48 49 Slower (♩ = ca. 84-88) *molto rit. cresc.*

ry. Lo, how a rose e'er bloom - ing; this is Christ, the King!

ry. Lo, how a rose; this is Christ, the King!

* Traditional English melody; words by William C. Dix (1837-1898).

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20

Light and life to all He brings, — ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, — God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
Light and life to all He brings, — ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

24

Mild He lays His glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions rise; — join the tri - umph of the skies; —
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, — born that we no more may die, —

28

born to raise us from the earth, born to — give us sec - ond birth.

with an - gel - ic host pro - claim: "Christ is — born in Beth - le - hem!"
born to raise us from the earth, born to — give us sec - ond birth.

32

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing: "Glo - ry — to the

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

38

new - born King!" Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing! *ff*

new - born King!" Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing! *ff*

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IV. O CHRISTMAS TREE

SPEAKER #1:
(or Narrator)

One Christmas Eve in Germany, many years ago, a young preacher gazed at the night sky, pondering the wonder of God's great gift to the world. Suddenly he had an idea! Hurrying home, he entered his yard and cut down an evergreen tree. Taking it inside, he instructed his children to place lit candles on its outermost branches. As they gazed upon the shining tree, they exclaimed, "The tree is aglow with the light of God's salvation!" In this way, Martin Luther began a tradition that extends to this day.

SPEAKER #2:
(or Narrator)

One of the newest traditions of our faith, dating from the mid-twentieth century in the United States, is the Chrismons tree. The word "Chrismon" combines the words "Christ" and "monogram." Each Chrismons decoration is white, reflecting the purity of Jesus, and is decorated with gold emblems symbolic of His majesty. As we light this tree, we sing with great joy to welcome Jesus, who is the Light of the World. (*Illumine the tree.*)

4. CHRISTMAS TREE CAROL

Joy to the World!/O Christmas Tree

Arranged by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)
and SCOTT SCHRAM (ASCAP)

***JOY TO THE WORLD!**
UNISON VOICES (+ opt. congregation/audience)
Joyfully (♩ = ca. 108-112) **6** **mf**

VOICES

Joy to the world! The Lord has come; Let
earth re-ceive her King! Let ev-'ry heart pre-pare Him room, and
heav'n and na-ture sing, and heav'n and na-ture sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and

****O CHRISTMAS TREE**
Slower (♩ = ca. 88-92)
na-ture sing! MELODY O Christ-mas tree, O Christ-mas tree,
Christ-mas tree, how love-ly are your branch-es. O Christ-mas tree, O Christ-mas tree, how

16 (end congregation/audience) **3** *rall.* OPTIONAL *mp* **21**
22

* Melody by Lowell Mason (1792-1872); based on George Frideric Handel (1685-1759); words by Isaac Watts (1674-1748), on Psalm 98.

** Traditional German carol (*O Tannenbaum*); words by Ruth Elaine Schram and Scott Schram.

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27 (29)

love-ly are your branch - es. Your twin-king lights re - mind us of that star-ry night, God's

32 Christ-mas tree, _____

gift of love. O Christ-mas tree, O Christ-mas tree, how love-ly are your branch-es. O

37 *mf* *rit.* *accel. poco a poco*

Christ-mas tree, O Christ-mas tree, let heav'n and na - ture sing!

(+ opt. congregation/audience)

41 (42) **Tempo I** (♩ = ca. 108-112)

Joy to the world! The Sav - ior reigns; Let us our songs em -

45 (48)

ploy! While fields and - floods, - rocks, hills, - and - plains - re - peat the sound-ing joy, re -

(end congregation/audience) *grad. cresc.*

49 (mel.)

peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat, - re - peat - the sound - ing joy! Re - peat, - re - peat - the

53 **OPTIONAL** (54) *poco rall.*

sound - ing joy! Re - peat, - re - peat - the sound - ing, the sound-ing

MELODY

sound - ing joy! Re - peat, - re - peat - the sound - ing, the sound-ing

58 *f a tempo* *ff*

joy! Joy to the world! Joy to the world! The Lord has come!

f *ff*

joy to the world! Joy to the world! The Lord has come!

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V. SILENT NIGHT, CANDLELIGHT

SPEAKER #3: We are surrounded by these beautiful symbols of Christmas light and life. Yet, these are only dim reflections of the beauty of the first simple Christmas, when Jesus came, bringing the light of God’s salvation to all the world.
(or Narrator)

SPEAKER #4: We invite you to sing with us as we pass the light of Christ. Take His light. Pass it to your neighbor. Let His light touch your hearts and fill you with His heavenly peace.
(or Narrator)

(If possible, dim all room lights and pass candlelight throughout the room.)

5. CANDLELIGHT LULLABY

**It Came Upon the Midnight Clear/
O Little Town of Bethlehem/
Silent Night, Holy Night!**

Arranged by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)
and **SCOTT SCHRAM** (ASCAP)

Gently (♩ = ca. 112-116)

UNISON VOICES (+ opt. congregation/audience) ***IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR**

3

mf ⑤

It came up - on the

7

mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old, from

13

an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of

19

f ⑳ OPTIONAL

gold: "Peace on the earth, good will to men, from (all,)

25

29

heav'n's all - gra - cious King." The world in sol - emn

31

still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.

* Melody by Richard S. Willis (1819-1900); words by Edmund H. Sears (1810-1876).

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****O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM**

37 *rall.* *mf* (39) Moderately (♩ = ca. 104-108)

O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we _ see thee

42

lie; a - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep, the si - lent _ stars go

46 (47)

by. Yet, in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing

50 *rit.* (*melody*)

Light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to -

†SILENT NIGHT, HOLY NIGHT!

54 (56) *mp* Slower (♩ = ca. 88-92)

night. Si - lent night, ho - ly
Si - lent night, ho - ly

59 (64)

night! All is calm, all is bright 'round yon
night! Son of God, love's pure light. Ra - dian

65

vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and
beams _ from Thy ho - ly face with the dawn of re - deem - ing

71 (72) *rit. poco a poco* *

heav - en - ly peace, _____
Lord, at Thy birth, _____

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly, heav - en - ly peace, sleep _ in
grace, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, at Thy birth, Je - sus,

77 | 1. *a tempo* | 2. *p*

heav - en - ly peace. _____ Lord, at Thy birth. _____

** Melody by Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908); words by Phillips Brooks (1835-1893).

† Melody by Franz Gruber (1787-1863); words by Joseph Mohr (1792-1848).

* Unison voices continue on melody.

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