

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

On Christmas night all Christians sing,
To hear the news the angels bring.
News of great joy, news of great mirth,
News of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should men on earth be so sad,
Since our redeemer made us glad,
When from our sin He set us free,
All for to gain our liberty?

When sun departs before Thy grace
Then life and health come in its place.
Angels and men with joy may sing,
All for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night;
“Glory to God, and peace to men
Now and forever more.” Amen.

Text version from
A Christmas Box (1842)

William Averitt (b. 1948)

For biographical information visit:
www.ecspublishing.com/composers

*Commissioned by the Texas Lutheran University Choir, Douglas R. Boyer, Conductor,
for Christmas, 2012*

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

for SATB Chorus and Piano Four-hands

Text version from
A Christmas Box (1842)

Traditional Tune
William Averitt, arr.

Spirited $\text{♩} = 84$

Primo {
 Note clefs:
 p
 mp

Secondo {
 p
 mp

I {
 p
 mf
 f

II {
 p
 mf
 f

9

unis. **p**

S A

T B

I

II

1. On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing, To hear the news the

9 9 9 9

RETIRED

13

S A

T B

I

II

an - gels bring.

unis. **p**

On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing, To

9 9 9 9

RETIRED

16

S A

T B

I

II

News of great joy, — news of great
hear the news the an - gels bring. —

f

p

p

20

S A

mirth, — News of our mer - ci-ful King's

T B

I

f

II

23

S A

T B

I

II

birth.

d.

p.

mp

p

mp

28

S A

T B

I

II

unis. p

2. Then

mf

f

p

f

mf

f

32

S A

T B

unis. **p**

Then

why should men on earth be so sad, Since our Re-deem - er made us glad,

measures 32-33: piano eighth-note chords; Soprano and Alto sing eighth-note chords.

I

II

p

measures 34-35: piano eighth-note chords; Soprano and Alto sing eighth-note chords.

36

S A

T B

why should men on earth be so sad, Since our re - deem - er

I

p

II

p

measures 36-37: piano eighth-note chords; Soprano and Alto sing eighth-note chords.

39

S A

T B

I

II

made us glad, ————— When from our sin He set us

f

p

p

f

42

S A

T B

I

II

free, ————— All for to gain our lib - er-

p

f

45

S A ty? 3. When

T B

I

II f p

50 f [8] sun _ de - parts be - fore Thy grace _ Then life and health come

T B [8]

I [8]

II [8] f [8]

53

S A

T B

I

II

in its place. When sun de-parts be - fore Thy grace Then

p

56

S A

T B

I

II

life and health come in its place

f

p

The musical score consists of five staves. The top three staves represent the vocal parts: Soprano (S), Alto (A), and Tenor/Bass (T/B). The bottom two staves represent the piano. The music is in common time, with a key signature of one sharp. The vocal parts sing in four-part harmony. The piano part provides harmonic support and includes dynamic markings like 'p' (piano) and 'f' (forte). The lyrics describe the replacement of physical well-being after a divine absence. The page is stamped with large, semi-transparent 'REVIEW' text.

60

S A

T B

I

II

An - gels and men _ with joy _ may

f f

64

S A

T B

I

II

sing, All for to see _ the new - born

3/8 3/8 3/8 3/8

67

p ————— *f*

S A

T B

I

II

King.

p ————— *f*

72

d ————— *d*

S A

T B

I

II

4. All

unis.

p

ff

ff

75 We _____ have
S A out of dark - ness we ___ have light, Which made the an - gels
T B

I p

II p

78 light,
S A sing this night; All out of dark - ness
T B

I

II

This page contains musical notation for a four-part choir (SATB) and two solo voices (I, II). The music is in common time, key signature of one sharp, and includes measures 75 through 78. The vocal parts are: Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), Bass (B), and two solo voices (I, II). The notation includes various dynamics (p, mf), rests, and sixteenth-note patterns. The lyrics describe light coming from darkness.

Sing

80 *mf*

S A we have light, Which made the an - gels

T B

I

II

82

S A this night; *f*

A sing this night; "Glo - ry to

T B

I

II

84

S A God, — and peace — to men

T B

I

II ff f

86 ff

S A Now and for ev - er more." A -

T B ff

I ff

II ff v.

88

S A

T B

I

II

91

S A

T B

I

II

ff

Now and for - ev - er more, — A — men.

p

ff

p

sforzando

p

ff

p

sforzando

p

97

S A

T B

I

II

This musical score page contains four staves labeled S A, T B, I, and II. The key signature is one sharp. Measure 97 starts with sustained notes from S A and T B. Staff I has eighth-note patterns. Staff II has sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 98 begins with a dynamic *p*. Measure 99 continues the sixteenth-note patterns. Measure 100 concludes the section.

100

S A

T B

I

II

This musical score page contains four staves labeled S A, T B, I, and II. The key signature changes to 6/8 time. Measure 100 shows sustained notes. Measures 101 and 102 feature sixteenth-note patterns with dynamics *mf*. Measure 103 concludes with a dynamic *mp*.

Musical score page 18, measures 103-104. The score is for two pianos (I and II) in 8/8 time, key of G major. Measure 103 starts with dynamic *f*. Measures 103-104 show various patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes with dynamics *ff* and *sf*. Measure 104 ends with a repeat sign.

September 7, 2012
c. 2:45

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