

The Wexford Carol

Christmas carol for SSA Choir
and small orchestra

Traditional Irish
arr. Mark Armstrong

SAMPLE ONLY

THIS MUSIC HAS
NOT BEEN
PURCHASED



The Wexford Carol

The Wexford Carol is one of Ireland's best loved traditional Christmas carols telling the story of the birth of Jesus in the stable in Bethlehem and the visit of the shepherds and wise men bearing gifts for the Messiah.

Originally written in Irish, the carol originated in the town of Enniscorthy in the county of Wexford in Ireland. It dates from the 12th century making it one of the oldest extant Christmas carols in the European tradition.

The Wexford Carol has been recorded by artists as diverse as Julie Andrews, Loreena McKennit, the King's Singers, Anúna, the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Yo-Yo Ma and Bryn Terfel

Mark Armstrong has created a beautiful and highly accessible arrangement for SATB choir accompanied either by piano/organ or small orchestra.

Good people all, this Christmas time,
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done
In sending his beloved son
With Mary holy we should pray,
To God with love this Christmas Day
In Bethlehem upon that morn,
There was a blessed Messiah born

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep
To whom God's angel did appear
Which put the shepherds in great fear
Arise and go, the angels said
To Bethlehem, be not afraid
For there you'll find, this happy morn
A princely babe, sweet Jesus, born

With thankful heart and joyful mind
The shepherds went the babe to find
And as God's angel had foretold
They did our Saviour Christ behold
Within a manger he was laid
And by his side a virgin maid
Attending on the Lord of Life
Who came on earth to end all strife

The Wexford Carol

Irish traditional Christmas carol

Traditional Irish
arr. Mark Armstrong

The musical score is arranged for a variety of instruments. The top three staves are for Flute, Oboe, and Clarinet, all in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat. The Harp part begins with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, marked *mp*. The Piano part is currently blank. The Violin 1 and Violin 2 parts are also blank. The Viola part is blank. The Cello part features a melodic line marked *solo* and *mf*. The Double Bass (CB) part is blank. The SSA (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) part is blank. A large, diagonal watermark reading "THIS MUSIC HAS NOT BEEN PURCHASED" is overlaid across the center of the page.

Fl.

Ob.

Clar.

Hp.

Pno.

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla.

Cello

CB

SSA

mp

Good peo-ple all this Christ-mas time, con - si der well and bear ___ in mind what

mp

Good peo-ple all this Christ-mas time, con - si der well and bear ___ in mind what

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11

Fl.

Ob.

Clar.

Hp.

Pno.

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla.

Cello

CB

SSA

our Lord God for us has done in sen-ding his be - lo - ved Son. With Ma - ry ho - ly

our Lord God for us has done in sen-ding his be - lo - ved Son. Ah _____

p

pp

pp

p

THIS MUSIC HAS NOT BEEN PURCHASED

16

Fl.

16

Ob.

16

Clar.

16

Hp.

16

Pno.

16

Vln 1

16

Vln 2

16

Vla.

16

Cello

16

CB

16

SSA

we should pray to — God with love this Christ-mas day, In Beth-le - hem u - pon that morn there

p *mp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *mp*

In Beth-le - hem u - pon that morn there

THIS MUSIC HAS NOT BEEN PURCHASED

21
Fl.
Ob.
Clar.
Hp.
Pno.
Vln 1
Vln 2
Vla.
Cello
CB
SSA

mp
mp
mp
solo *mp*
pizz. *arco*
mf
mf

was a bles-sed Mes - si - ah born. Near Beth - le - hem did shep-herds keep their
was a bles-sed Mes - si - ah born. Near Beth - le - hem did shep-herds keep their

A detailed musical score for page 7, measures 21 to 24. The score is arranged in systems for various instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Clar.), Harp (Hp.), Piano (Pno.), Violin 1 (Vln 1), Violin 2 (Vln 2), Viola (Vla.), Cello (Cello), Contrabass (CB), and SSA (Soprano and Alto). The SSA part includes lyrics. The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat major or E-flat minor) and 4/4 time. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *p* (piano), *solo*, *pizz.* (pizzicato), and *arco*. There is a triplet of eighth notes in the Cello part at measure 23. A large, semi-transparent watermark 'THIS MUSIC HAS NOT BEEN PURCHASED' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

26

Fl.

26

Ob.

26

Clar.

26

Hp.

26

Pno.

26

Vln 1

26

Vln 2

26

Vla.

26

Cello

26

CB

26

SSA

flocks of lambs and fee - ding sheep, to whom God's an - gels did ap - pear, which

flocks of lambs and fee - ding sheep, to whom God's an - gels did ap - pear, —

arco

THIS MUSIC HAS NOT BEEN PURCHASED

30

Fl.

30

Ob.

30

Clar.

30

Hp.

30

Pno.

30

Vln 1

30

Vln 2

30

Vla.

30

Cello

30

CB

30

SSA

put the shep - herds in great fear. 'Pre - pare and go' - the an - gels said, 'To Beth le - hem, be

put the shep - herds in great fear. Ah

p

pp

pp

pp

pp

mf

p

arco

THIS MUSIC HAS NOT BEEN PURCHASED

35

Fl.

Ob.

Clar.

Hp.

Pno.

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla.

Cello

CB

SSA

mf

mp

pp

not a - fraid For there you'll find, this hap - py morn, a prince - ly babe sweet Je - sus born.

For there you'll find, this hap - py morn, a prince - ly babe sweet Je - sus born.

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Fl. 40 *b* *3*

Ob. 40

Clar. 40 *#*

Hp. 40 *6*

Pno. 40 *mp* *mf*

Vln 1 40

Vln 2 40

Vla. 40

Cello 40

CB 40

SSA 40 *mf*

With thank ful heart and joy-ful mind, the shep-herds went the

With thank ful heart and joy-ful mind, the shep herds went the

45

Fl.

45

Ob.

45

Clar.

45

Hp.

mp

7

45

Pno.

45

Vln 1

45

Vln 2

45

Vla.

45

Cello

45

CB

45

SSA

babe ___ to find, and as God's an - gel had fore-told they did our Sa - viour

babe ___ to find, and as God's an - gel had fore-told they did our Sa - viour

SAMPLE ONLY

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49

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *p*

Clar. *p*

Hp. *p*

Pno.

Vln 1 *trem.*

Vln 2 *pp trem.*

Vla. *pp trem.*

Cello *pp*

CB

SSA *mp*

Christ be - hold. With - in a man - ger he was laid and by his side the vir - gin maid, at -

Christ be - hold. Ah

7

THIS MUSIC HAS NOT BEEN PURCHASED

54

Fl.

Ob.

Clar.

Hp.

Pno.

Vln 1

Vln 2

Vla.

Cello

CB

SSA

mp

mp

mp

p

p

p

p

p

non trem.

non trem.

non trem.

mp

mp

ten - ding on the Lord of life, who came on earth to end all strife. Good peo-ple all this

Good peo-ple all this

mp

mp

SAMPLE ONLY
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60

Fl.

60

Ob.

60

Clar.

60

Hp.

60

Pno.

60

Vln 1

60

Vln 2

60

Vla.

60

Cello

60

CB

60

SSA

Christ-mas time, con - si der well and bear _ in mind what our Lord God for us has done in

Christ-mas time, con - si der well and bear _ in mind what our Lord God for us has done in

solo

mp

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65

Fl. *mp* 3

Ob. *mp* 3

Clar. *mp* 3

Hp.

Pno.

Vln 1 *pp*

Vln 2 *mp*

Vla. *mp* *tutti*

Cello *p*

CB *p*

SSA
sen-ding his_ be - lo-ved Son. Ah
sen-ding his_ be - lo-ved Son. Ah

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