

Composer's Note

Carols from a variety of traditions (English, Chant, Moravian, German Chorale, Canadian French, Early American, Polish, French, Appalachian, and Swedish) are brought together in *Kneeling in Bethlehem: A Festival of Readings and Carols for Advent and Christmas*, as a means for God's people to revisit the story and message of Advent and Christmas anew.

The carol/hymn settings of this publication may be used in their entirety as *Kneeling in Bethlehem* or as individual anthems or festive hymn settings for congregation and/or choir(s) during the seasons of Advent and Christmas.

The carol/hymn settings may be sung by congregation, choirs (mixed, treble, and children's) and soloists, and performed with full orchestration (strings, winds, percussion, handbells, piano, and organ), smaller instrumental ensembles and organ, or organ alone.

The carol/hymn settings are preceded by readings by American writer-speaker-liturgist Ann Weems, and are most effective when read by a diverse group of readers from a variety of places within the worship space.

It is hoped that these carol and hymn settings and readings will encourage all of us to "go to Bethlehem and find our kneeling places" time and time again.

– Michael Burkhardt

Performance Notes

Performance Suggestions for Readers and Readings

1. Find a diverse group of readers to share the readings. Try to include people of various ages, occupations, backgrounds, cultures, etc.
2. Rehearse the readings in the worship space prior to the event.
3. Find and/or create new reading places in addition to the traditional places of lectern, reading desk, and pulpit (i.e., the balcony, the four corners of the nave, at the baptismal font, etc.).
4. Have readers wait for a brief period of time, following the hymn preceding their reading, before approaching their assigned reading place.
5. Some readings may be more effective if read by more than one individual (see suggestions in script).

Performance Options Involving Singers

Kneeling in Bethlehem may be performed by:

1. Congregation (Unison and SATB), Mixed Choir, Soloist, and Two-Part Children's Choir
2. Congregation (Unison and SATB), Mixed Choir, and Soloist

Overview of Choral Arrangements

- 1. Angels, from the Realms of Glory**
Congregation: Unison Voices
Choir(s): Stanza 2 – Two-part Mixed Voices (SA and TB)
Stanza 4 – Unison ATB Melody and S Descant
- 2. Creator of the Stars of Night**
Congregation: Unison Voices
Choir(s): Stanza 1 – Unison TB
Stanza 2 – Unison SA

3. **Morgenstern/Morning Star**
Choir(s): Soloist and SATB Voices OR
 Unison Children's Voices and SATB Voices
4. **All My Heart Again Rejoices**
Congregation: SATB Voices
Choir: Stanza 1 – Unison Mixed Voices
 Stanza 2 – SATB Voices
5. **'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime**
Congregation: Unison Voices
Choir(s): Stanza 1 – Unison Voices
 Stanza 2 – Opt. Two-part Mixed Voices (SA and TB)
6. **Me Thinks I See a Heavenly Host**
Choir: SATB divisi Voices
7. **Shepherds' Carol**
Choir(s): Two-part Equal Treble Voices – Children's Choir OR
 Two-part Equal Treble Voices – Adult Choir OR
 Two-part Equal Treble Voices – Children's and Adult Choirs
8. **Angels We Have Heard on High**
Congregation: Unison and SATB Voices
Choir(s): Stanza 3 – Unison ATB Melody and S Descant
9. **Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head**
Choir(s) Soloist OR
 Children's Choir OR
 Children's Choir and Soloist
11. **Gentle Mary Laid Her Child**
Congregation: Unison Voices
Choir(s): Stanza 1 – Unison ATB Melody and S Descant
 Stanza 2 – SSA Voices and TTB Voices
12. **Prepare the Royal Highway**
Congregation: Unison Voices
Choir(s): Stanza 1 – Opt. SATB Voices
 Stanza 2 – SA Voices (Children's Choir AND/OR Adult Choir)
 Stanza 4 – Unison ATB Melody and S Descant

Performance Options Involving Instruments

Kneeling in Bethlehem may be performed with the following full orchestral ensemble and organ:

1. Three 1st Violins, Three 2nd Violins, Two Violas, and Cello
2. One Flute, One Oboe, One or Two Horns
3. Handbells
4. Percussion (Drum and Finger Cymbals)
5. Piano

Kneeling in Bethlehem may be effectively performed with the following smaller instrumental ensembles and organ:

1. String Quartet (Violins 1-2, Viola, Cello) +
one or more wind instruments
handbells
percussion
2. String Trio (Violins 1-2 and Cello) +
one or more wind instruments
handbells
percussion

Kneeling in Bethlehem may be effectively performed with organ alone or organ and the following:

1. A Solo Wind Instrument
2. A Combination of Wind Instruments
3. Handbells
4. Percussion

Overview of Orchestration

1. **Angels, from the Realms of Glory**
Full Strings, Flute, Oboe, Horn(s), Handbells, Organ
2. **Creator of the Stars of Night**
Handbells, Organ
3. ***Morgenstern*/Morning Star**
String Quartet, Organ
4. **All My Heart Again Rejoices**
String Trio OR String Quartet, Organ
5. **'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime**
Drum, Finger Cymbals, Organ
6. **Me Thinks I See A Heavenly Host**
None
7. **Shepherds' Carol**
Piano OR Organ
8. **Angels We Have Heard on High**
Full Strings, Flute, Oboe, Horn I and II (omit Horn II if only one horn available), Handbells, Organ
9. **Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head**
None
10. **Voluntary: Gentle Mary Laid Her Child**
String Trio, Organ
11. **Gentle Mary Laid Her Child**
Organ
12. **Prepare the Royal Highway**
Full Strings, Flute, Oboe, Horn(s), Handbells, Organ

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To assist in rehearsals, the corresponding page number for the Choral Score is centered at the top of the first page of each movement, abbreviated as CS: 6, CS: 7, CS: 25-26, etc.

The conductor uses this edition when additional instruments are used. If additional instruments are not used, the conductor may use the Accompanist's/Conductor's Edition (MSM-70-012C).

The accompanist always plays from the Accompanist's/Conductor's Edition (MSM-70-012C).

1. Angels, from the Realms of Glory

SATB, Congregation, Flute, Oboe, French Horn, Handbells, String Quartet, and Organ

Handbells

3 Octaves
Handbells Used: 18



James Montgomery
Salisbury Hymn Book
African-American Spiritual

Michael Burkhardt

Introduction: Organ

Organ

Text: Sts. 1-3, James Montgomery, 1771-1854, *alt.*, and written in 1816, rev. 1825 with three minor word changes (PD);
St. 4, *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857 (PD).

Tune: *REGENT SQUARE*, Henry T. Smart, 1813-79 (PD).

Text and Tune at St. 2: "All Night, All Day", African-American Spiritual (PD).

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2. Creator of the Stars of Night

Unison Voices, Congregation, Handbells, and Organ

4 Octaves
Handbells Used: 11



Latin Hymn

Tr. Hymnal 1940, *alt.*

Michael Burkhardt

Stanza 1: Unison Choir Men and Handbells

Handbells

LV

mp

Unison Men

mp

1. Cre -

3

a - tor of the stars of night, Your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light, O

5

Christ, Re - deem - er of us all, We pray you hear us when we call.

Text: 9th century Latin hymn; tr. *Hymnal 1940, alt.*; copyright © 1940 Church Pension Fund, admin. Church Publishing Inc.

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Tune: *CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM*, Plainsong mode IV (PD).

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3. Morgenstern 3. Morning Star

Solo Voice, SATB, String Quartet, and Organ

Johann Scheffler
Tr., Michael Burkhardt

Michael Burkhardt

Andante moderato

The score is for a 4/4 piece in a key with three flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). It features several parts: Solo, Soprano/Alto, Tenor/Bass, Organ, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and an Alternate Organ part. The Organ part includes dynamics like *p* and *Ped.*. The Violin I part starts with *mp* and includes a triplet. The Alternate Organ part includes *Sw. p* and *Ped. p*. The tempo is marked **Andante moderato**.

*Use Alternate Organ part when Strings are not available.

Text: Johann Scheffler, 1624-77; Tr. Michael Burkhardt, and copyright © 2008 with this publication.
Tune: MORGENSTERN; Tune and harmonization, Francis F. Hagen, 1815-1907, and written in 1836 (PD).
Arrangement: New and copyright © 2008 with this publication.

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4. All My Heart Again Rejoices

SATB, Congregation, Two Violins (opt. String Trio* or Quartet), and Organ

Paul Gerhardt
Tr., Catherine Winkworth

Michael Burkhardt

Introduction: Organ

Pos: Flute 8', 2'

Sw: Trompette 8', Flute 4'

Ped: Flute 8'

Andante

Pos.

Organ

leggiere

3

6

tr

*String Trio is Violin I, Violin II, and Cello.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-76; tr., Catherine Winkworth, 1829-78 (PD).

Tune: FRÖLICH SOLL MEIN HERZE SPRINGEN; Tune and harmonization, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662, and written in 1653 (PD).

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5. 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

Unison Voices, opt. SA and TB, Congregation, Drum, Finger Cymbals, and Organ

Jean de Brebeuf
Tr. J. E. Middleton

Michael Burkhardt

Introduction: Drum, Finger Cymbals, and Organ*

Gt: Flute 8', 2'

Pos: Krummhorn 8', Flute 4'

Sw: Gedackt 8', Nazard 2 2/3'

Ped: Flute 8'

Finger Cymbals

Drum

Organ

Pos.

5

5

Sw.

simile

*When performed without opt. Drum and Finger Cymbals, begin with pick-up to measure 5.

Text: Jean de Brebeuf, 1593-1649; tr., Jesse E. Middleton, 1872-1960, and copyright © 1927 The Frederick Harris Music Company. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

Tune: *UNE JEUNE PUCELLE (HURON CAROL)*, a 16th-century French folk tune (PD).

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6. Methinks I See an Heavenly Host

SSATTBB *a cappella*

William Billings

William Billings
Michael Burkhardt

Stanza 1: Full Choir

(Melody) *f* with marked energy

Soprano I
Tenor I

1. Me - thinks I see an heav'n - ly host of — an - gels on the

mf with marked energy

Soprano II
Tenor II

1. Me - thinks I see an heav'n - ly host of — an - gels — on — the

mf with marked energy

Alto

1. Me - thinks I see an heav'n - ly host of an - gels on the —

mf with marked energy

Bass

1. Me - thinks I see an heav'n - ly host of an - gels on the

Keyboard

(for rehearsal only)

Text and music: William Billings, 1746-1800, and written in 1786, *alt.* (PD).
Music: Edited and arranged by Michael Burkhardt, and copyright © 2008 with this publication.

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7. Shepherds' Carol

Two-Part Equal Treble Voices (Adult and/or Children) and Organ or Piano

Polish Carol

Michael Burkhardt

Cheerfully

The musical score is written for two voices (Voice I and Voice II) and organ or piano. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 2/4 time. The tempo/mood is marked 'Cheerfully' and 'mp' (mezzo-piano). The score begins with four measures of instrumental introduction for the organ/piano, followed by the vocal entries. The lyrics are: '1. Shep - herds, run to Beth - le - hem this ho - ly night,'.

Text: Traditional Polish carol; *tr.*, Michael Burkhardt, and copyright © 2008 with this publication.

Tune: PRZYBIEZELI DO BETLEJEM PASTERZE, a traditional Polish carol (PD).

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8. Angels We Have Heard on High

SATB, Congregation, Handbells, Flute, Oboe, French Horn(s), String Quartet, and Organ,

2 Octaves
Handbells Used: 15



French carol

Michael Burkhardt

Introduction: Organ

I: Flute 4' *mp*

II: Flute 4' *mf*

Ped: Flute 8'

Andante

Text: French carol; tr. *The Crown of Jesus, Part 2*, London, 1862 (PD).

Tune: *GLORIA*, an 18th-century French carol (PD).

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9. Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head

Unison Voices (Children's Choir *OR* Soloist), opt. Solo, *a cappella*

John Jacob Niles
 Edited by Michael Burkhardt

Appalachian Carol

Refrain: Unison Voices (Children's Choir *OR* Soloist)

Simply

mp > , > ,

5 Je - sus, Je - sus, rest your head, You have got a man - ger bed;

9 All the *e - vil folk on earth Sleep in feath - ers at their birth;

Je - sus, Je - sus, rest your head, You have got a man - ger bed.

Verse: Soloist

mp

13 Have you heard a - bout our Je - sus? Have you heard a - bout his fate?

17 How his moth - er went to that sta - ble On that Christ - mas eve so late?

21 Winds were blow - ing, cows were low - ing, Stars were glow - ing, glow - ing, glow - ing.

Refrain: Unison Voices (Children's Choir *OR* Soloist)

a tempo

mp > , > ,

25 Je - sus, Je - sus, rest your head, You have got a man - ger bed;

29 All the *e - vil folk on earth Sleep in feath - ers at their birth;

33 Je - sus, Je - sus, rest your head, You have got a man - ger bed.

*"peo-ple here" may be substituted for "e-vil folk."

**Children's Choir sings top note; Soloist sings lower note.

Text and tune: Appalachian carol, coll. by John Jacob Niles, Copyright G. Schirmer, Inc., New York, N.Y. Used by permission. All Rights Reserved.

10. Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Two Violins, Cello, and Organ *OR* Organ Solo

Michael Burkhardt

Introduction: Organ

Sw: Oboe 8', Tremulant

Gt: Principal 8' (Tremulant)

Pos: Gedackt 8'

Ped: Lieblich Gedackt 16', 8'

Andante
Pos.

Organ

Violin I
mp

Violin II
mp

Cello
mp

Alternate Organ*

*Use Alternate Organ part when Strings are not available.

Quoting from "Pastorale" from *Concerto Grosso in g/G*, Arcangelo Corelli, 1653-1713 (PD).

Tune: *TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM*, from *Piae Cantiones Ecclesiasticae*, Griefswald, 1582 (PD).

Tune: "Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head", an Appalachian carol, comp. John Jacob Niles, 1892-1980 (PD).

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10. Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Unison Voices, SSATTBB, Congregation, and Organ

Joseph Simpson Cook

Michael Burkhardt

Stanza 1: Unison Voices (Choir and Congregation), Soprano Descant, and Organ

53

Soprano

Alto
Tenor
Bass
Congr.

Organ

(Melody)
mp

1. Gen - tle Mar - y laid her child Low - ly in a man - ger;

mp

Ped.

57

(Descant)
mp

(1.) Je - sus, Je - sus, rest your head, You have got a man - ger bed.
There he lay, the un - de - filed, To the world a strang - er.

Text: Joseph Simpson Cook, 1859-1933 (PD).

Tune: *TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM*, from *Piae Cantiones Ecclesiasticae*, Griefswald, 1582 (PD).

Text and Tune: "Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head", an Appalachian carol, comp. John Jacob Niles, 1892-1980 (PD).

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11. Prepare the Royal Highway

Introduction

Organ

Michael Burkhardt

Introduction: Organ

Gt: Principal 8', 4', 2', Mixture

Pos: Fanfare Trumpet 8'

Sw: Principal 8', 4', Mixture

Ped: Foundations 16', 8', 4'

Maestoso Pos.

marcato Gt.

5

9

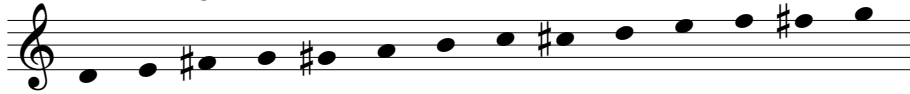
Tune: *BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN*, a 17th century Swedish folk tune (PD).
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11. Prepare the Royal Highway

SATB, Congregation, Handbells, Flute, Oboe, Horn, and String Quartet, and Organ,
with opt. Children's Choir

2 Octaves
Handbells Used: 14



Frans Mikael Franzén

Michael Burkhardt

Stanza 1: SATB (Choir and Congregation), Strings, and Organ

Soprano Alto

1. Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; The King of — kings is

Tenor Bass

Organ

Ped.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

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Tune: *BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN*, a 17th century Swedish folk tune (PD).

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