

SSAA

The Joy of Giving

\$2.25

# The Joy of Giving

Music by  
Christopher Alexander

*SSAA and opt. Piano*

*Also available in: SATB, SAB, TTBB, and Unison/Two-Part*

**cantareworks**

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

## About the Work

This deceptively simple Christmas tune is rich with its nontraditional key signature, homophonic texture, and harmonic suspensions. It can be performed with or without piano accompaniment, making it accessible for singers to perform anywhere. Set like a benediction, this work would be perfect as a concert closer for your entire choir department to sing together at the end of your holiday concert. The text by John Whittier reminds us to be thankful for the Christmas season and share that same sentiment with others “all the year through”.

*Somehow, not only for Christmas,  
But all the long year through,  
The joy that you give to others  
Is the joy that comes back to you.*

*And the more you spend on blessing  
The poor and lonely and sad,  
The more of your heart's possessing  
Returns to make you glad.*

— John Greenleaf Whittier (1807–1892)

## About the Composer



Mr. Christopher Alexander is an award-winning composer and arranger from St. Joseph, Missouri. He received his Bachelor of Science in Vocal Music Education degree from Missouri Western State University in 2009. A self-taught pianist, his compositions and arrangements ranging from instrumental works to vocal solo and choral literature. Mr. Alexander has been commissioned numerous times by singing groups and church choirs within the northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas regions. He is also active in musical theatre productions as a music director and pianist. His works have been published with GIA Music Publications and Hal Leonard.

In 2016, he was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year. In 2022, he was inducted into the New Generation Singers Hall of Fame.

Mr. Alexander currently serves as the pianist and primary arranger for The New Generation Singers, a Christian singing youth group based in St. Joseph, Missouri. He is a member of NAFME, ACDA, MCDA, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

He is available for commissions and conducting events on request.

# THE JOY OF GIVING

## (Benediction)

Words by  
JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER (1807-1892)

SSAA and opt. Piano

Music by  
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

*Lento dolce e espressivo* (♩ = c. 56-58)

PIANO

5

SOPRANO I & II

ALTO I & II

5

*mf*

Some -

9

*(p 2nd time)*

how, not on - ly for Christ - mas, But

9

*(p 2nd time)*

If performing a cappella, start in measure 8.  
Also available in: SATB, SAB, TTBB, and Unison/Two Part.

The Joy of Giving - SSA

13

Musical score for measures 13-16. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "all the long year through, The". The piano part consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

13

Piano accompaniment for measures 13-16, showing the right and left hand parts.

17

Musical score for measures 17-20. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "joy that you give to others. Is the". The piano part consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

17

Piano accompaniment for measures 17-20, showing the right and left hand parts.

21

Musical score for measures 21-24. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "that comes back to you. And the". The piano part consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

21

Piano accompaniment for measures 21-24, showing the right and left hand parts.