

TTBB

The Joy of Giving

\$2.25

The Joy of Giving

Music by
Christopher Alexander

TTBB and opt. Piano

Also available in: SATB, SAB, SSAA, 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)

TTBB and opt. Piano

Music by
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

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

PIANO

5 TENOR I & II *mf*

8 BARITONE & BASS (TENOR II mel.) Some -

9 (*p* 2nd time)

8 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, SSAA, and Unison/Two Part.

The Joy of Giving - TTB

13

8 all the long year through, _____ The

This system contains the vocal and piano staves for measures 13 and 14. The vocal line starts with a whole note chord, followed by a half note, and then a whole note with a long horizontal line underneath. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

13

This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 13 and 14. The right hand plays chords, and the left hand plays a rhythmic eighth-note pattern.

17

8 joy that you give to oth _____ Is the

This system contains the vocal and piano staves for measures 17 and 18. The vocal line has a whole note chord, followed by a half note, and then a whole note with a long horizontal line underneath. The piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note bass line and chords.

17

This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 17 and 18. The right hand plays chords, and the left hand plays a rhythmic eighth-note pattern.

21

8 joy that comes back to you. _____ And the

This system contains the vocal and piano staves for measures 21 and 22. The vocal line has a whole note chord, followed by a half note, and then a whole note with a long horizontal line underneath. The piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note bass line and chords.

21

This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 21 and 22. The right hand plays chords, and the left hand plays a rhythmic eighth-note pattern.