

SSA

December

\$2.25

# December

Music by  
Christopher Alexander

*SSA and Piano*

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

**cantareworks**

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

## About the Work

This gentle and lyrical setting of Harriett Blodgett's poem evokes a whimsical remembrance and thankfulness in the yuletide season. The folk-like melody is supported by the legato arpeggiations of the piano and the blossoming texture of the vocal harmonies that enliven the poetic text. Suitable for school choirs and community choruses of any size, let this song be a reminder of the many gifts the Christmas season continues to give for all of us.

*Oh! holly branch and mistletoe,  
And Christmas chimes where'er we go,  
And stockings pinned up in a row!  
These are thy gifts, December!*

*And if the year has made thee old,  
And silvered all thy locks of gold,  
Thy heart has never been a-cold  
Or known a fading ember.*

— Harriet F. Blodgett

## 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.

# DECEMBER

Words by  
HARRIET F. BLODGETT

SSA and Piano

Music by  
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Adagio espressivo (♩ = 64)

PIANO

*mp legato*

5 SOCRANO I & II

*unis. mp* 8

Oh! hol - ly branch and

9

mis - tle - toe. And Christ - mas chimes where -

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

13

e'er we go. And stock - ings pinned

13

17

up in a row. These are thy gifts,

17

21

SOPRANO I & II

*mf* 24

De - cem - ber! Oh! hol - ly branch and

ALTO

*mf*

21

24

*mf*

25

mis - tle - toe. And Christ - mas chimes where -

This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics 'mis - tle - toe. And Christ - mas chimes where -'. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The music is in a key with two flats and a common time signature.

25

This system shows the piano accompaniment for the first system, consisting of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The music is in a key with two flats and a common time signature.

29

e'er we go. And stock - ings pinned

This system contains the second two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics 'e'er we go. And stock - ings pinned'. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The music is in a key with two flats and a common time signature.

29

This system shows the piano accompaniment for the second system, consisting of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The music is in a key with two flats and a common time signature.

33 *unis.*

up a row! These are thy gifts,

This system contains the third two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics 'up a row! These are thy gifts,'. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The music is in a key with two flats and a common time signature.

33

This system shows the piano accompaniment for the third system, consisting of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The music is in a key with two flats and a common time signature.

37

*un.*

40

De - cem - ber! And if the

37

40

41

year has made thee old,

And sil - vered

41

45

all thy locks of gold,

Thy heart has

45