

Unison/Two-Part

As Long As There's a Christmas

\$2.50

As Long As There's a Christmas

Music by
Christopher Alexander

Unison/Two-Part and Piano

Also available in SATB, SAB, SSA, and Vocal Solo

cantareworks

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

About the Work

A reminder for us all to celebrate and give thanks for the reason of the Christmas season – the birth of Jesus Christ. With an enchanting pop-like melody and lyrical accompaniment patterns, this comforting message in song will be a highlight at your next performance.

*The first few lights glow brightly,
as you watch the season start.
You know you should be happy,
but don't feel it in your heart.*

*Instead you think about a time
when someone laughed with you,
and the love you shared then filled your soul.
But too soon it was through.*

*So Christmas comes with sadness,
and a yearning deep inside,
a thirst for love and peace and hope
that will not be denied.*

*Late one night you hear a voice,
so soft and without blame,
and then, surprised, you realize,
He's calling you by name.*

*"I know your hurt and loneliness,
the heartache that you bear.
I listen and I cry with you
through every single prayer.*

*I promised in the manger
and fulfilled it from the cross.
I built a home that's filled with love
for all those who are lost.*

*So let Him come and heal your heart
and give you rest within.
For my way is kind and gentle
and will bring you joy again."*

*His words still echo through the year
a vow that He made true
"As long as there's a Christ in us,
I will be in love with you."*

— Jack Zavada

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.

As Long As There's a Christmas - Unison/Two-Part

10 *poco rit.*

yearn-ing deep in-side, A thirst for love and peace and hope that will not be de-

(8^{va})

poco rit.

Detailed description: This system contains the first ten measures of the piece. It features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo marking is 'poco rit.'. The lyrics are 'yearn-ing deep in-side, A thirst for love and peace and hope that will not be de-'. An 8va bracket is shown above the piano accompaniment. The system ends with a repeat sign.

13 *Andante espressivo* (♩ = 72)

PART I *mp*

nied. As long as there's a Christ-mas, I will

PART II *mp*

nied. As long as there's a Christ-mas, I will

13 *Andante espressivo* (♩ = 72)

loco mp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 13 through 16. It features two vocal lines, labeled 'PART I' and 'PART II', on treble clef staves, and a piano accompaniment on a grand staff. The tempo is 'Andante espressivo' with a metronome marking of quarter note = 72. The dynamics are 'mp' (mezzo-piano). The lyrics are 'nied. As long as there's a Christ-mas, I will'. The piano part includes a 'loco' marking and a 'mp' dynamic. The system ends with a repeat sign.

16

give my love to you. His words still e-cho through the years, — a vow that He made true. And

16

give my love to you. His words still e-cho through the years, — a vow that He made true. And

Detailed description: This system contains measures 16 through 19. It features two vocal lines on treble clef staves and a piano accompaniment on a grand staff. The lyrics are 'give my love to you. His words still e-cho through the years, — a vow that He made true. And'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

As Long As There's a Christmas - Unison/Two-Part

19

as we come to-ge-ther to re-mem-ber this ho-ly night, As long as there's a Christ-mas, His

as we come to-ge-ther to re-mem-ber this ho-ly night, As long as there's a Christ-mas, His

19

22

hope shall be light. In -

hope shall be my light. In -

22

25

stead you think a - bout a time — when some - one laughed at you, And the

stead you think a - bout a time — when some - one laughed at you, And the

25

As Long As There's a Christmas - Unison/Two-Part

27

love you shared then filled your soul, — but too soon it was through.

love you shared then filled your soul, — but too soon it was through.

27

(b)

29

Late one night you hear a voice — so soft and with - out blame, And

Late one night you hear a voice — so soft and with - out blame, And

29

(b)

31

then sur- prised — you re - a - lize — He's call - ing you by

then sur- prised — you re - a - lize — He's call - ing you by

31

(b)

33

As Long As There's a Christmas - Unison/Two-Part
With quiet reverence

name.

name.

33

With quiet reverence

p (hymn-like)

37

p

"So let me come and heal your heart and give you rest with -

37

"So let me come and heal your heart and give you rest with -

opt. a cappella through m. 43

40

in For my way is kind and gen - tle and will

in For my way is kind and gen - tle and will

40

As Long As There's a Christmas - Unison/Two-Part

44 Tempo II

mp

bring you joy a - gain." As
bring you joy a - gain." As

44 Tempo II

(play)

long as there's a Christ-mas, I will give my love to you. His words still e-cho through the years, — a
long as there's a Christ-mas, I will give my love to you. His words still e-cho through the years, — a

mp

vow that He made true. And as we come to-ge-ther to re-mem-ber this ho-ly night, As
vow that He made true. And as we come to-ge-ther to re-mem-ber this ho-ly night, As

49