

SATB

O Holy Night

\$2.95

# O Holy Night

Arranged by  
Christopher Alexander

*SATB and Piano*  
*with optional Violin and Cello*

**cantareworks**

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

## About the Work

This is a masterful rendition of the renowned Christmas carol. With the chorus gently opening in unison (and closing in the same way), the audience is then taken on a beautiful lyrical journey. The part-writing in each of the voices give the chorus the opportunity to blend and even make the chords ring with excitement throughout the work. The instruments uses triplets and duplets interchangeably throughout the work as they seamlessly accompany the lyrics to the beloved tune. Your violinist and cellist will have a performance outreach as they play their respective melodic lines. The key change further explores the optimism and hope the Christmas season brings, culminating in a thunderous vibrant moment on the word “glory”, proclaiming the power of His majesty before tapering into the divine night. The audience will be inspired with your choir’s performance of this work.

Violin and cello part scores are included. Commissioned by Ashland United Methodist Church of Saint Joseph, Missouri for their 2022 Christmas Eve services.

*O holy night, the stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth;  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
'Til he appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn;*

*Fall on your knees, Oh hear the angel voices!  
O night divine! O night when Christ was born.  
O night, O holy night, O night divine.*

*Truly He taught us to love one another;  
His law is Love and His gospel is Peace;  
Chains shall be break, for the slave is our brother,  
And in his name all oppression shall cease,  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we;  
Let all within us praise his Holy name!*

*Christ is the Lord, then ever! ever praise we!  
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!  
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!*

— John Sullivan Dwight (1813-1895)

## 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.

# O Holy Night

for SATB Chorus and Piano  
with opt. Violin and Cello

Lyrics by  
JOHN SULLIVAN DWIGHT

Music by ADOLPHE ADAM  
Arranged by CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Largo espressivo (♩ = c. 52-54)

VIOLIN

CELLO

SOPRANO  
ALTO

TENOR  
BASS

Largo espressivo (♩ = c. 52-54)

*p* not overpowering

O ho - ly night,

*p* not overpowering

O ho - ly night,

Piano

Largo espressivo (♩ = c. 52-54)

*leggiere*

3

*Pedal harmonically throughout*

4

4

4

*cantabile*

3

\*Violin and Cello part scores on pages 19-22.

O Holy Night

7

*rit.*

*rit.*

7

*rit.*

*rit.*

7

*rit.*

10

*a tempo*

*a tempo*

10

*a tempo*

*unis.*

O ho - ly night the stars are bright - ly shi - ning. It is the

*a tempo*

10

*a tempo*

13 15

13 15

13 15

night of our dear Sa - vior's birth.

Long lay the world in

13 15

13 15

16

16

an and er - ror pi - ning 'til He ap - peared and the soul felt its

16

O Holy Night

19 20

19 20

A thrill of hope, the wea - ry world re - joi - ces, for  
A thrill of hope, the wea - ry world re - joi - ces, for

19 20

22 24

*mp*

22 24 *mp*

yon - der — breaks a new and glo - rious morn. Fall on your  
yon - der — breaks a new and glo - rious morn. Fall on your

22 24 *mp*

25

Piano accompaniment for measures 25-27. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with quarter notes.

25 S

Soprano vocal line for measures 25-27. The lyrics are: knees. Oh, hear the an - gel voi - ces. O. The melody includes a triplet of eighth notes.

A

Alto vocal line for measures 25-27. The lyrics are: knees. Oh, hear the an - gel voi - ces. O. The melody includes a triplet of eighth notes.

T

Tenor vocal line for measures 25-27. The lyrics are: knees. Oh, hear the an - gel voi - ces. O. The melody includes a triplet of eighth notes.

B

Bass vocal line for measures 25-27. The lyrics are: knees. Oh, hear the an - gel voi - ces. O. The melody includes a triplet of eighth notes.

25

Piano accompaniment for measures 28-30. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with quarter notes and triplets.

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28

Musical notation for the first system, measures 28-30. It consists of a treble and bass staff in a key signature of three flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor). The melody in the treble staff features a triplet of eighth notes in measure 29. The bass staff provides a simple accompaniment.

28

Vocal staves with lyrics for the second system, measures 28-30. The lyrics are: "night di - vine, O night when Christ was". The system includes four vocal parts: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. Each part has a treble or bass staff with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "night di - vine, O night when Christ was". The music includes triplet markings and slurs.

28

Piano accompaniment for the third system, measures 28-30. It consists of a grand staff with treble and bass staves. The right hand features a complex melodic line with triplets and slurs. The left hand provides a rhythmic accompaniment with triplets.