

ICC5019

A Child's Song of Christmas

SATB



A Child's Song of Christmas

Christopher Alexander

SATB and Piano

Executive Artistic Director & Editor Joshua Pedde
Curriculum Manager & Editor Leeann Starkey





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, Hal Leonard, Endeavor Music Publishing, Alfred Music Publishing, ECS Publishing, Extonia Music Publishing, Heritage Music Press, and the Indianapolis Children's Choir Publishing House.

He was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year in 2023 and 2025. 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.

Vocal Ranges in this Composition

S	A
T	B

The Indianapolis Children's Choir (ICC) and Beckenhorst Press are thrilled to announce the launch of the Indianapolis Children's Choir Publishing House (ICCPH), a partnership that began in January 2022. Beckenhorst Press exclusively distributes and sells ICCPH's new repertoire and educational materials for Preschool-12th grade choirs. Under the leadership of Executive Artistic Director & Editor Joshua Pedde and Curriculum Manager & Editor Leann Starkey, ICC's publishing arm releases digital choral music and educational resources for children's and youth choirs of all ages, levels, and voicings. These publications can be viewed and purchased on their dedicated page on the Beckenhorst website, accessible by clicking the "ICC" logo in the top left corner of the site.



About the Work

This lyrical Christmas poem gets an equal treatment with a folk-like melody and simple harmonies that illustrate the humble beginnings of Christ's birth. Available in multiple voicings, this song is appropriate for all ages at school concerts, worship services, and other musical performances.

*My counterpane is soft as silk,
My blankets white as creamy milk.
The hay was soft to Him, I know,
Our little Lord of long ago.*

*Above the roof the pigeons fly
In silver wheels across the sky.
The stable-doves they cooed to them,
Mary and Christ in Bethlehem.*

*Bright shines the sun across the gifts,
And bright upon my Christmas gifts.
They brought Him incense, myrrh, and gold,
Our little Lord who lived of old.*

*O, soft and clear our voices sing
Of Christmas joys and Christmas things.
God's holy angels sang to them,
Mary and Christ in Bethlehem.*

*Our hearts they hold all Christmas dear,
And earth seems sweet and heaven seems near.
O, heaven was in His sight, I know,
That little Child of long ago.*

— Marjorie L. C. Pickthall (1883-1922)

A Child's Song of Christmas

SATB and Piano

also available: SSA and Piano (ICC4049)

Marjorie L. C. Pickthall

Christopher Alexander

Andante espressivo (♩ = c. 78-80)

SA

TB

Andante espressivo (♩ = c. 78-80)

Piano

mp

6

ris.

My coun - ter - pane is soft as silk, My blan - kets white as

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We depend on our customers' honesty to pay our composers and keep producing music.

12

cream - y milk. The hay was soft to Him, I know, Our lit - tle Lord of long a - go.

unis.
mp

A -

17

Ooo

-bove the roofs the pi - geons fly In sil - ver wheels a - cross the sky. The

21

Ooo

Mar - y and Christ in Beth - le - hem.

stable - doves they cooed to them,

25 *mf*

Bright shines the sun a - cross the drifts, And bright up - on my Christ - mas

mf

mf

29

gifts. They brought him in - cense, myrr and gold, Our lit - tle Lord who lived of

33

old Oh, soft and clear our moth - er sings Of

38

Christ - mas joys and Christ - mas things. God's ho - ly an - gels sang to them,

Detailed description: This system contains measures 38 through 41. 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 two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: "Christ - mas joys and Christ - mas things. God's ho - ly an - gels sang to them,". The piano part consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

42

Mar - y and Christ in Beth - le - hem. Our hearts they all Christ - mas dear, And

mp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 42 through 45. It features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a grand staff. The key signature has two flats. The lyrics are: "Mar - y and Christ in Beth - le - hem. Our hearts they all Christ - mas dear, And". A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is placed above the vocal line. The piano part continues with accompaniment.

46

earth seems sweet and heav'n seems near, Oh, heav'n was in His sight, I know, That

mf

Detailed description: This system contains measures 46 through 49. It features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a grand staff. The key signature has two flats. The lyrics are: "earth seems sweet and heav'n seems near, Oh, heav'n was in His sight, I know, That". A dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) is placed above the vocal line. The piano part continues with accompaniment.

50

mp Slightly slower

lit - tle Child of long a - go, _____ that lit - tle Child of long a -

mp Slightly slow

mp

55

rit.

- go. _____

rit.