

Robert Oganovic

WEXFORD CAROL

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

*SATB chorus with organ, treble/semichorus solo
& brief divisi*

2020



SWIRLY MUSIC

www.SwirlyMusic.org

ABOUT THE TUNE

This carol originated in the city of Wexford in the southeastern Republic of Ireland. It was transcribed from a local singer by the noted Irish author, composer, musicologist, and historian W. H. Grattan Flood (1859–1928). It eventually made its way into the *Oxford Book of Carols*. It has a modal (*Mixolydian*) feel, constantly shifting between the parallel major/minor key and the sharpened/flatted 7th. In modern times it has been recorded by artists as diverse as Julie Andrews, Tom Jones, Rosanne Cash, and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. This arrangement for SATB choir and organ is from 1994 and was first performed by the choir of St Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

A performance of the piece is available at <https://soundcloud.com/robert-oganovic/wexford-carol-by-robert-oganovic>.

ABOUT THE ACCOMPANIMENT

An accompaniment arranged for piano (2-hand or 4-hand) is available directly from the composer at bob_oganovic@msn.com.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Robert Oganovic (b. 1953) retired in 2015 after more than 30 years in the software industry. Since then he has devoted more time to his life-long avocational passions – singing, playing bassoon, and composing. In the summer of 2018 as a member of the Minnesota Orchestra's symphonic chorus he was part of the first ever tour of Africa by a major American orchestra.

Robert studied composition at the University of Minnesota under Dominic Argento and Paul Fetler. His pieces have been performed across the United States. The piece *Orientis Partibus* (“*From the East*”) was commissioned and performed in 2016 by the Bethel University Wind Symphony of St Paul, MN. It was published by Grand Mesa Music in summer 2019. See <https://www.grandmesamusic.com/component/sonpub/song/2398?Itemid=1386>.

Wexford Carol

From Oxford Book of Carols

arr. Robert Oganovic

Jauntily ♩ = 72

Org. *mp* *Poco staccato*

Ped.

2 3 4

Sop. *Solo or section* *mp* **6**

Good peo- ple all this Christ- mas time, Con - si- der well and

Org.

Ped.

7 8

Sop.

bear in mind What our good God for us has done, In send - ing his be-

Org.

Ped.

9 10 11 12

Sop. *mf* **14**

lo- ved son. With Ma- ry ho - ly we should pray To God with love this

Org.

Ped.

13 15 16 3

②

17

18

19

20

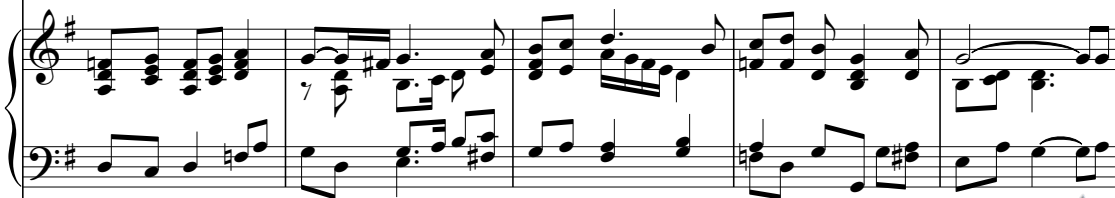
21

Sop.



Christ-mas day; In Beth-le - hem up-on that morn There was a bless-ed Mes-si-ah born.

Org.



Ped.



22

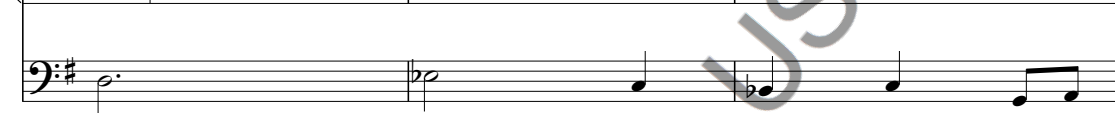
23

24

Org.



Ped.



25

mf

26

27

28

Sop.



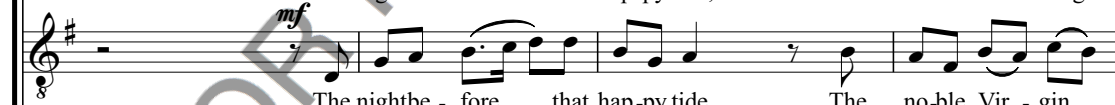
The night be-fore that hap-py tide, The no-ble Vir-gin

Alt.



The night be-fore that hap-py tide, The no-ble Vir-gin

Ten.



The night be-fore that hap-py tide, The no-ble Vir-gin

Bass



The night be-fore that hap-py tide, The no-ble Vir-gin

Org.



Ped.



29 30 31

Sop. and her guide Were long time seek - ing up and down To

Alt. and her guide Were long time seek - ing up and down To

Ten. and her guide Were long time seek - ing up and down To

Bass and her guide Were long time seek - ing up and down To

Org.

32 33 34

Sop. find a lodg - ing in the town But mark how all things

Alt. find a lodg - ing in the town But mark how all things

Ten. find a lodg - ing in the town But mark how all things

Bass find a lodg - ing in the town But mark how all things

Org.

35

36

37

f

38

④

Sop.

Alt.

Ten.

Bass

Org.

came to pass: From e' -vry door re - pell'd a- las! As long fore-told, their

came to pass: From e' -vry door re - pell'd a- las! As long fore-told, their

came to pass: From e' -vry door re - pell'd a- las! As long fore - told, their

came to pass: From e' - vry door re -pell'd a- las! As long fore -told, their

39

40

41

mf

Sop.

Alt.

Ten.

Bass

Org.

Ped.

re -fuge all Was but a hum - ble ox - en stall.

re -fuge all Was but a hum - ble ox - en stall.

re -fuge all Was but a hum - ble ox - en stall.

re -fuge all Was but a hum - ble ox - en stall.

42

43

44

f

Org.

Ped.

45 **46** 47

mf *Poco piu legato* Near Beth - le - hem did shep - herds keep Their

mf *Poco piu legato* Near Beth - le - hem did shep - herds keep Their

mf *Poco piu legato*

Ten.

Bass

Org.

Ped.

48 49 50 51 52

flock of lambs and feed - ing sheep; To whom God's an - gels did ap - pear, Which put the shep - herds

flock of lambs and feed - ing sheep; To whom God's an - gels did ap - pear, Which put the shep - herds

Ten.

Bass

Org.

Ped.

53 **54** 55 56

f in great fear. 'Pre - pare and go', the an - gels said, 'To Beth - le - hem, be

f in great fear. 'Pre - pare and go', the an - gels said, 'To Beth - le - hem, be

Ten.

Bass

Org.

Ped.

⑥ 57 58 59

Ten. not a - fraid, For there you'll find, this hap - py morn, A

Bass not a - fraid, For there you'll find, this hap - py morn, A

Org.

Ped.

60 61 62 63 64

Ten. prince - ly babe, sweet Je - sus born.' *mp*

Bass prince - ly babe, sweet Je - sus born.' *mp*

Org. *mp*

Ped.

65 66 67 68 69

Sop. *mf* With thank - ful heart and joy - ful mind, The shep - herds went the babe to find, And

Alt. *p* [hum or neutral sound]

Ten. *p* [hum or neutral sound]

Bass *p* [hum or neutral sound]

Org. *p* 66

70 71 72 73 74 *p*

Sop. as God's an - gel had fore told, They did our Sa - viour Christ be-hold. [*hum or neutral sound*]

Alt. With - in a man - ger *mf*

Ten.

Bass

75 76 77 78 79

Sop.

Alt. he was laid, And by his side the vir-gin maid, At-tend-ing on the Lord of life, Who

Ten.

Bass

80 81 82 83 84

Sop.

Alt.

Ten.

Bass

Org.

Ped.

p

came on earth to end all strife.

All/unison

mp

85 86 87 88 89

Boldly, poco meno mosso *f*

All

There were three wise men from a-far Di-rec-ted by a glo-rious star, And

Boldly, poco meno mosso *f*

Org.

Ped.

90 91 92 93

All

on they wan - dered night and day Un - til they came where Je-sus lay. And

simile

Org.

Ped.

S
A
T
B

94 95 96 97

Sop. when they came un - to that place Where our be - loved Mes - si - ah was, They

Alt. when they came un - to that place Where our be - loved Mes - si - ah was, They

Ten. when they came un - to that place Where our be loved Mes - si - ah was, They

Bass when they came un - to that place Where our be - loved Mes - si - ah was, They

Org.

Ped.

98 99 100 101 102

Sop. humbly cast them at his feet, with gifts of gold with gifts of

Alt. humbly cast them at his feet, with gifts of gold with gifts of

Ten. humbly cast them at his feet, with gifts of gold with gifts of

Bass humbly cast them at his feet, with gifts of gold with gifts of

Org. *f* *cresc.*

Ped.

Sop. gold and in - - cense sweet. *fff*

Alt. gold and in - - cense sweet. *fff*

Ten. gold and in - - cense sweet. *fff*

Bass gold and in - - cense sweet. *fff*

Org. *fff*

Ped.