

FULL SCORE

First Plus String Orchestra

Grade 1.5



CARL FISCHER

PERFORMANCE

SERIES

'Tis the Season

(Incorporating "Deck the Halls" and "Good King Wenceslas")

Traditional

Arranged by

Doris Gazda

FAS63

INSTRUMENTATION

Full Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Violin III (Viola T.C.)	2
Viola	5
Cello	5
Bass	5
Piano	1

Program Notes

Carols were first sung in Europe thousands of years ago, but these were not Christmas Carols. They were pagan songs played at the Winter Solstice celebrations while people danced around stone circles. The Winter Solstice is the shortest day of the year, usually taking place around the 22nd December. The word Carol actually means dance or a song of praise and joy. Carols used to be written and sung during all four seasons, but only the tradition of singing them at Christmas has really survived.

Tis the Season is a combination of two well-known carols, "Deck the Halls" and "Good King Wenceslas."

The tune for "Deck the Halls" is that of an old Welsh air, first found in a musical manuscript by Welsh harpist John Parry Ddall (1710–1782). The tune actually dates back to the sixteenth century and belongs to a winter carol, "Nos Galan." The composition is still popular as a dance tune in Wales and has become a traditional Yuletide and Christmas time carol. The "fa-la-la" refrains were probably originally played on the harp and the remaining lyrics are American in origin dating from the nineteenth century.

A legend based on the life of Saint Wenceslaus I, Duke of Bohemia (907-935 CE), tells that he went through the countryside to give alms to poor peasants on the Feast of Saint Stephen (December 26). During the journey Wenceslaus's page kept his freezing feet warm by means of jumping into the Duke's footprints in the snow that miraculously had heat emanating from them. In 1853 English hymn writer John Mason Neale wrote the "Wenceslas" lyrics based upon this legend. He then set the words to a tune based on a 13th century carol from a Finnish song collection. Following is the first verse of the carol. To get the entire story in the carol's words, look for all six verses in a book of carols.

Good King Wenceslas looked out, on the Feast of Stephen,
When the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even;
Brightly shone the moon that night, tho' the frost was cruel,
When a poor man came in sight, gath'ring winter fuel.

About the Arranger

Doris Gazda is a graduate of the Eastman School of Music and Penn State University. She enjoyed many years as a string specialist in the Montgomery County, Maryland public schools, where she founded and conducted the Frederick County Youth Orchestra, and conducted the Potomac Valley Youth and Frederick Community Orchestras. Most recently, Ms. Gazda was on the faculty at Arizona State University. She has served nationally as Secretary for the American String Teachers Association, President of the National School Orchestra Association and Member-at-Large for the ASTA with NSOA.

A proponent of new music for student musicians, Ms. Gazda composes for strings and string orchestra. She is the author of *High Tech for Strings* (Carl Fischer), a set of technical studies for middle and high school orchestras, and co-author of the beginning method *Spotlight on Strings* (Neil A. Kjos). Nationally known for her leadership and expertise in string instruction, Ms. Gazda presents workshops and conducts conference and regional student orchestras. She is a frequent presenter at state and national meetings for MENC (Music Educators National Conference), ASTA (American String Teachers Association) with NSOA (National School Orchestra Association), MTNA (Music Teachers National Association), regional school systems, and string workshops.

'Tis the Season

(Incorporating *Deck the Halls* and *Good King Wenceslas*)

Traditional

Arranged by Doris Gazda

Allegro ♩ = 132

Violin I *f*

Violin II *f*

Viola *f*

Cello *f*

Bass *f*

Piano *f*

1 2 3 4 5 6

Violin I *mf*

Violin II *mf*

Viola *mf*

Cello *mf*

Bass *mf*

Piano *mf*

7 8 9 10 11 12

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First system of musical notation (measures 13-18). The score includes staves for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Cello, Bass, and Piano (Pno.). Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *f* (forte).

Measures 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18.

Second system of musical notation (measures 19-24). The score includes staves for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Cello, Bass, and Piano (Pno.). Dynamics include *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte).

Measures 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24.

25

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Pno.

mp

mf

f

25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Pno.

f

mf

32 33 34 35 36 37 38

41

Score for Violins I & II, Viola, Cello, Bass, and Piano. Measures 39 to 44.

Violins I & II, Viola, Cello, and Bass enter at measure 41 with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The Piano continues with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

Measures 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44

41

Score for Violins I & II, Viola, Cello, Bass, and Piano. Measures 45 to 50.

Violins I & II, Viola, Cello, and Bass enter at measure 49 with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The Piano continues with a piano (*p*) dynamic.

Measures 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50

Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Piano

51 52 53 54 55 56

Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Piano

57 58 59 60 61 62

67

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

Pno.

63 64 65 66 67

67

rit.

68 69 70 71 72 73

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 FAS63F — \$6.00 Full Score
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ISBN 0-8258-8387-3

UPC

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