

KERESIMESI ODUN DE O

for 2-part voices, a cappella
with percussion*

Yoruba Text

Nigerian Christmas Song
Arranged by **ANDY BECK**

Rhythmically (♩. = ca. 69)

SHAKER

SMALL DRUM

LOW DRUM

3

P. I *mf*

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. _____ Ke - re - si - me - si o -

P. II *mf*

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. _____ Ke - re - si - me - si o -

6

dun de o, _____ o - dun i - jo, o - dun a - yo.

dun de o, o, o - dun i - jo, o - dun a -

Background information and Yoruba pronunciation/translation is on page 8.

* Also available for S.A.B. (51436), S.S.A. (51437), and T.T.B. (51438). Visit alfred.com for digital scores and audio.
Download free percussion parts at alfred.com/choralparts.

9

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

yo. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

12

Optional: measures 12–13, 16–17, 20–21, and 24–25 may be solos

A bi Je - su Kris - ti si - nu a - ye. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

16

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

O wa s'a-ye fun t'e-mi ti - re. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

20

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

A bi Je - su Kris - ti si - nu a - ye. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

24

O wa s'a-ye fun t'e-mi ti - re. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____

28

f Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____ Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o, ____

f Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ____ Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o, ____

32

o - dun i - jo, o - dun a - yo. Ke - re - si - me - si o -

o, o - dun i - jo, o - dun a - yo.

35

dun de o. O - mo Ma - ri - a,

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. O,

p

38

o ku fun wa. O - mo Jo - se - fu, o ku fun wa.

o ku fun wa. O, o ku fun wa.

cresc.

cresc.

mf

41 *mf*

O wa la - ti ba wa la l'o-wo e - şe. Ke-re - si - me - si o - dun de o. —

mf

O wa la - ti ba wa la l'o-wo e - şe. Ke-re - si - me - si o - dun de o. —

45 *opt. DESCANT (2nd time only)* *f*

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. —

f

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. — Ke - re - si - me - si o -

f

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. — Ke - re - si - me - si o -

48

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o, ___ o - dun a -

dun de o, ___ o - dun i - jo, o - dun a - yo.

dun de o, ___ o, o - dun i - jo, o - dun a -

51

yo. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ___ (rejoin section)

Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ___ 2nd time—*decresc.*

yo. Ke - re - si - me - si o - dun de o. ___ 2nd time—*decresc.*

2nd time—*decresc.*

2nd time—*decresc.*

This joyous Christmas song comes from the Yoruba-speaking regions of Nigeria. The Yoruba are one of the major ethnic groups in Nigeria, and their music often features rich harmonies and lively rhythms. The lyrics of “Keresimesi Odun De O” reflect the festive spirit of the Christmas season and the song is typically performed in a bright rhythmic style, characteristic of traditional Yoruba music.

Keresimesi odun de o	<i>keh-reh-see-meh-see oh-doon deh oh</i>	(Christmas is here)
odun ijo, odun ayo	<i>oh-doon ee-joh, oh-doon eye-oh</i>	(church year, joyous year)
A bi Jesu Kristi sinu aye	<i>ah bee jeh-zoo kree-stee see-noo eye-eh</i>	(Jesus Christ was born to the world)
O wa s'aye fun t'em dire	<i>oh wah sah-yeh foon teh-mee tee-reh</i>	(he came to life for my soul)
Omo Maria, o ku fun wa	<i>oh-moh mah-ree-ah, oh koo foon wah</i>	(son of Mary, he died for us)
Omo Josefu, o ku fun wa	<i>oh-moh joh-seh-foo, oh koo foon wah</i>	(son of Joseph, he died for us)
O wa lati ba wa la I'owo ese	<i>oh wah lah-tee bah wa lah yoh-woh eh-sheh</i>	(he came to save us from sin)