

Sing We Now of
Christmas
arranged by Kyle Pederson

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Arranger Notes

I have always loved this traditional French carol melody (Noel Nouvelet). Most arrangements of this carol are up tempo and quite energetic. In my own arrangement, I seek to create a different aural experience for the listener (and singer). The melody sneaks in gradually, supported by a hypnotic pattern in the piano. The tempo, harmonies, and dissonances throughout the piece are designed to create a sense of yearning...and of anticipation. Our “hearts of expectation” look ahead to the good news that peace, hope, and love are born among us.

It is important to control the vibrato, singing as “purely” as possible so that the tone isn’t heavy and can shimmer throughout.

Liberties with tempo may be taken; a sense of ebb and flow is desired.

~Kyle Pederson

Sing We Now of Christmas

Traditional text
Adapted by Kyle Pederson

For SSAA Choir and Piano,
with optional oboe (or C-instrument)*

NOËL NOUVELET
French carol
Arranged by KYLE PEDERSON

Ethereal, shimmering $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 80$

Piano *p*

8va

1 2 3 4 simile

Sopranos *p*

Mm (or oo)

Altos *p*

loco

5 6 7 8

9 10 11 12

p

Mm

p

Mm

*Available separately: Score and part for Oboe (BP2341A)

Musical score for measures 13-15. The score is written for four staves: two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and two piano staves (Right and Left). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'p' (piano). The lyrics are: 'Sing we now of Christ - mas, No - el here.' The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

Musical score for measures 16-18. The score is written for four staves: two vocal staves (Soprano and Alto) and two piano staves (Right and Left). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'p' (piano). The lyrics are: 'Sing we now of Christ - mas, No - el sing we here.' The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand.

SI *p*
Sing we now of Christ - mas, No - el here.

SII *p*
Sing we now of Christ - mas, No - el here.

AI *p*
Sing we now of Christ - mas, No - el sing we here.

AII *p*
Sing we now of Christ - mas, No - el sing we here.

mp

Hearts in ex-pec-ta - tion, ____ (nn)

mp

Hearts in ex-pec-ta - tion, ____ (nn)

p

Nn

p

Nn

19

3

20

21

p

No - el draw-ing near.

Sing we No - el, No -

p

No - el draw-ing near.

No - el

p

No - el,

p

No - el,

22

23

24

el, No - el; sing we now of Christ - mas,

No - el, No - el,

No - el, No - el,

No - el, No - el,

25 26 27

Sing we now No - el.

Sing we now No - el.

Sing we now No - el.

Sing we now No - el.

28 29 30

mp cresc.
Oh,
mp cresc.
Oh,
p
Oh,
p
mp cresc.
Oh,
mp cresc.
p
cresc. poco a poco

31 32 33

rit. *f*
rit. *f*
rit. *f*
rit. *f*
rit. *f*
rit. *f*

34 35

p a tempo

In still-ness lays the world in si-lent rev-er-ie;

p a tempo

In still-ness lays the world in si-lent rev-er-ie;

p a tempo

In still-ness lays the world in si-lent rev-er-ie;

p a tempo

In still-ness lays the world in si-lent rev-er-ie;

f

p a tempo

36 37 38

mp

long-ing for the birth of love and mer-cy. Yearn-ing for hope, good

mp

long-ing for the birth of love and mer-cy. Yearn-ing for hope, good

mp

long-ing for the birth of love and mer-cy. Yearn-ing for hope, good

mp

long-ing for the birth of love and mer-cy. Yearn-ing for hope, good

39 40 41

mf news to fill our souls; *mp* turn-ing to the man - ger that grounds all mys - ter -

mf news to fill our souls; *mp* turn-ing to the man - ger that grounds all mys - ter -

mf news to fill our souls; *p* Oo

mf news to fill our souls; *p* Oo

42 43 44

Più mosso

y.

y.

Più mosso

p

45 46 47

mp
No - el, No - el, No -

mp
No - el, No - el, No -

mp
No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el, No -

mp
No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el, No -

mp
48 3 49 3 50 3

mf
el. No - el, No - el,

mf
el. No - el, No - el,

mf
el. No - el, No - el, No -

mf
el, No - el, No - el, No -

mf
51 3 52 3 53 3 *cresc.*

cresc. molto rit.

No - el, No -

cresc. molto rit.

No - el, No -

cresc. molto rit.

el, No - el, No -

cresc. molto rit.

el, No - el, No -

molto rit.

54 55

a tempo f

el! Ah

f a tempo

An-gels bend-ing low,

f a tempo

An-gels bend-ing low,

f a tempo

An-gels bend-ing low,

a tempo

56 57 58

shep - herds bend their knee,

shep - herds bend their knee,

shep - herds bend their knee,

59 60

This block contains the musical notation for measures 59 and 60. It features four vocal staves (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics 'shep - herds bend their knee,' are written under the vocal staves. The piano part includes a bass line with measures 59 and 60 marked.

Ah

Wise - men from the east,

Wise - men from the east,

Wise - men from the east,

61 62

This block contains the musical notation for measures 61 and 62. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics 'Ah' and 'Wise - men from the east,' are written under the vocal staves. The piano part includes a bass line with measures 61 and 62 marked.

all have come the child to see.

all have come the child to see.

all have come the child to see.

63 64

rit. *mf a tempo*

All of cre - a - tion where

rit. *mf a tempo*

All of cre - a - tion where

rit. *mf a tempo*

All of cre - a - tion where

rit. *mf a tempo*

All of cre - a - tion where

65 66

sub. p

love has come to dwell; Sing we now of Christ - mas, the

sub. p

love has come to dwell; Oo the

sub. p

love has come to dwell; Oo

sub. p

love has come to dwell; Oo

sub. p

67 68 69

mf

good news that we tell, the good news that we tell. Sing No - el!

mf

good news that we tell, the good news that we tell. Sing No - el!

mf

The good news that we tell. Sing No - el!

mf

The good news that we tell. Sing No - el!

mp

70 71 72

mp *p molto rit.* *a tempo*

Sing No - el! Sing no - el!

mp *p molto rit.* *a tempo*

Sing No - el! Sing No - el!

mp *p molto rit.* *a tempo*

Sing No - el! Sing No - el!

mp *p molto rit.* *a tempo*

Sing No - el! Sing No - el!

73 74 75

rit. *rit.* *rit.* *rit.*

8^{va}

p *rit.*

76 77 78 79

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