TWAS IN THE MOON OF WINTERTIME

TTBB with Piano, Flute, and Optional String Bass



JO-MICHAEL SCHEIBE Choral Series

Committed to Musical & Educational Excellence

Arranged by John Helgen

Text by Jean de Brebeuf [1593-1649]



About the Work

This Native American hymn can be traced to Jean de Brébeuf (1593-1649), a Jesuit priest and missionary who worked among the Canadian Huron people. He was born in France and came to Quebec after being ordained in 1622. Brébeuf wrote the lyrics in the native language of the Huron/Wendat people; the song's original Huron title is "Jesous Ahatonhia" ("Jesus, he is born"). The English translation was made by Jesse Middleton, a journalist who also served for nearly forty years as the choral director at Centennial United Church in Toronto. The tune is a French noël melody which has been popular since the 17th century.

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

'Twas in the moon of wintertime, when all the birds had fled, that God, the Lord of all the earth, sent angel choirs instead.

Before their light the stars grew dim and wand'ring hunters heard the hymn:

Jesus, your king, is born! Jesus is born! Glory be to God on high!

The earliest moon of wintertime is not so round and fair as was the ring of glory around the infant there.

And when the shepherds then drew near the angel voices rang out clear:

O children of the forest free, the angel song is true: the holy child of earth and heaven is born today for you. Come kneel before the radiant boy who brings you beauty, peace, and joy.

About the Composer

John Helgen currently serves as Director of Music at Roseville Lutheran Church (ELCA) in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he plays the piano and organ and conducts several vocal and instrumental ensembles. A native of Minnesota, he attended St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, where he received a B.A. in Music Theory/Composition, studied piano, organ, voice and the euphonium, and was a member of the St. Olaf Band and the St. Olaf Choir. He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota School of Law. He currently resides in Minneapolis where he is active as a piano player, arranger, composer, performer, and producer. A member of ASCAP, ACDA, and ALCM, he is the author of about seventy published choral anthems and arrangements as well as numerous resources for worship published through Walton Music, Neil A. Kjos Music, Augsburg Fortress, MorningStar, Choristers Guild, and CPH.

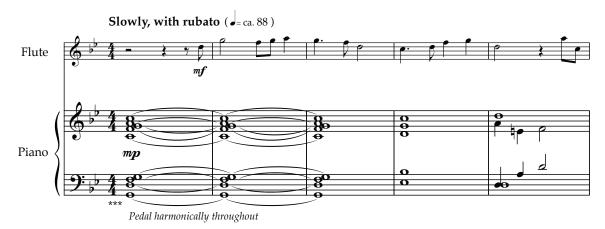
Duration: Approx. 4:45

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

TTBB with Piano, Flute* and optional String Bass**

Text by JEAN de BREBEUF (1593-1649) Translation by JESSE MIDDLETON

French melody: "**Une Jeune Pucelle**" *Arranged by* JOHN HELGEN (b. 1957)

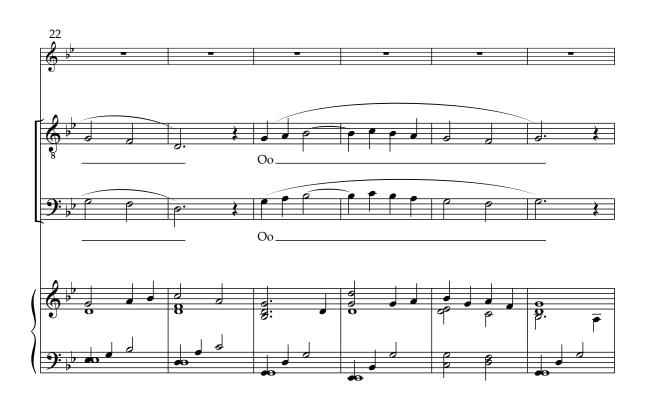




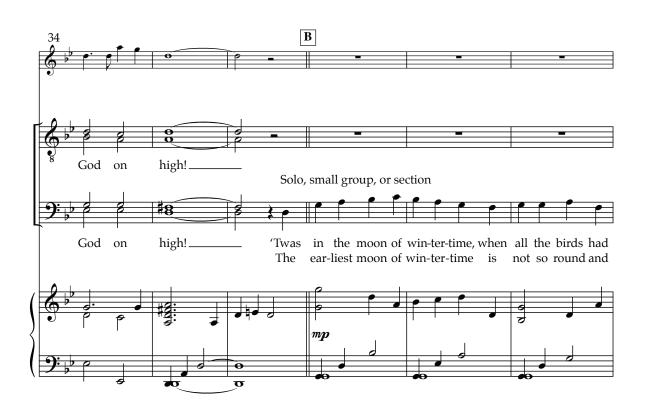


- A separate flute part is found on page 12.
- ** A separate string bass part can be downloaded at: waltonmusic.com
 *** Whole-note chords may be rolled slightly in measures 1-8.



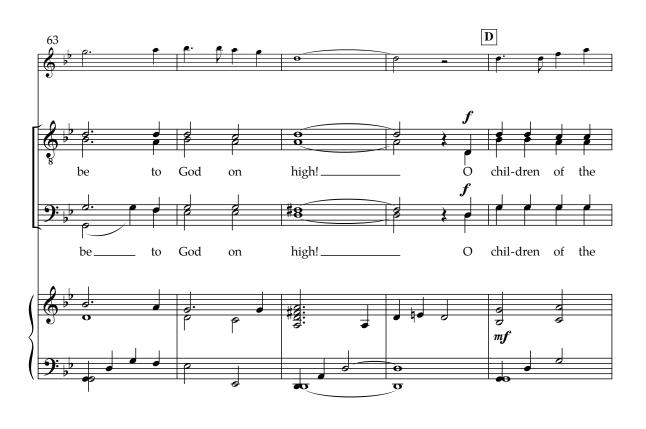


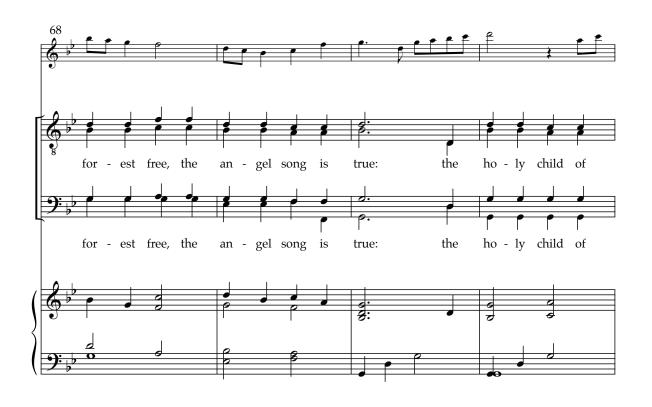




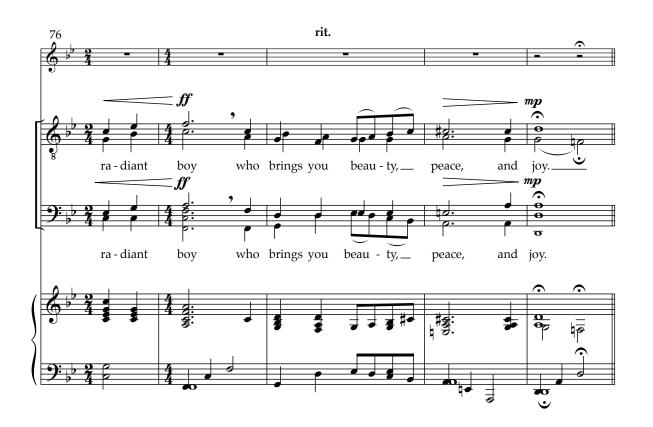


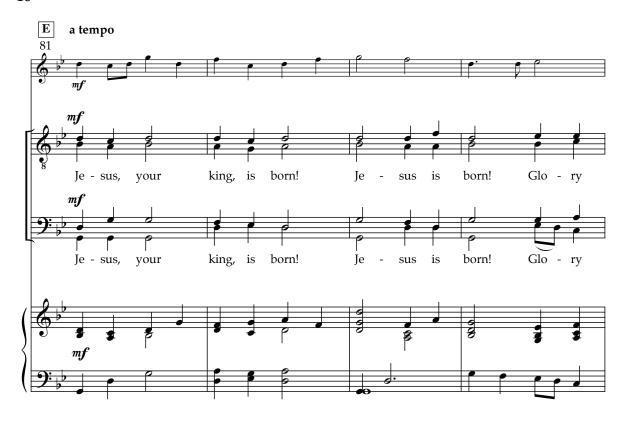




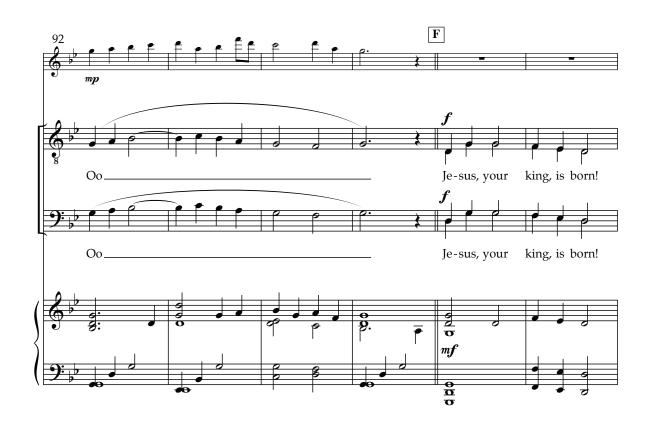


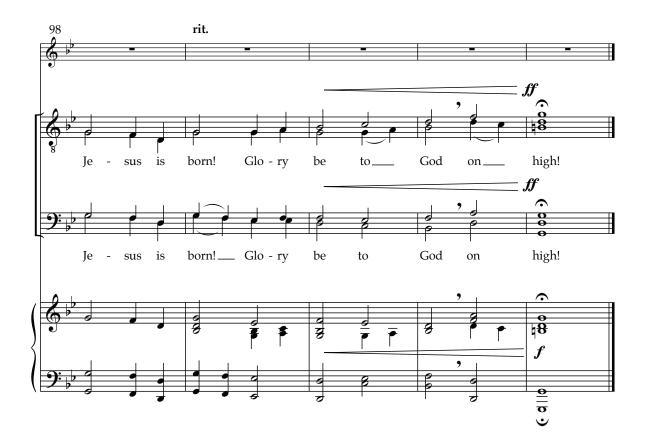












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