

405-248

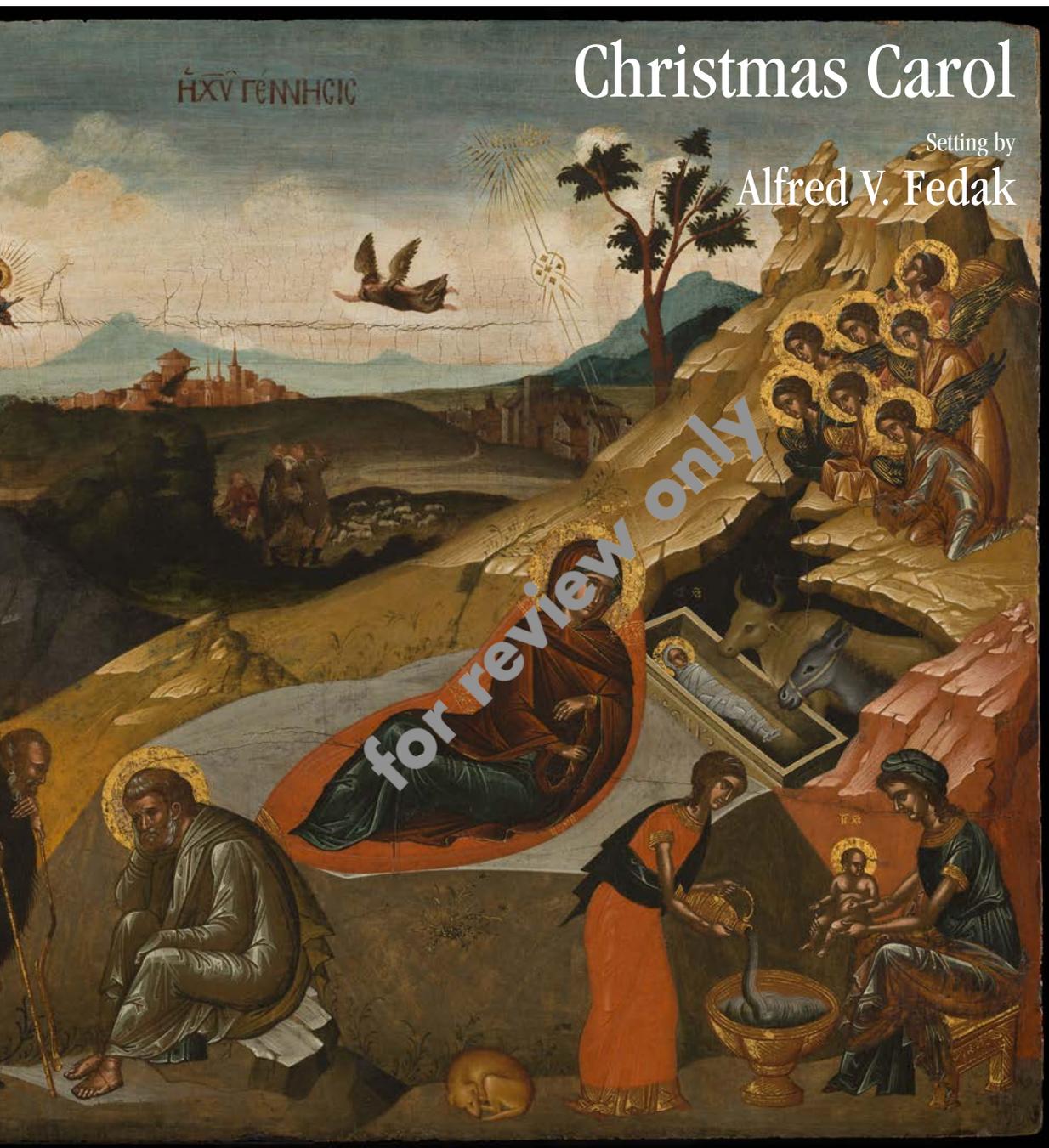
Christmas Carol
SATB, kybd./string quartet

Alfred V. Fedak

Christmas Carol

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The kings they came from out the south,
all dressed in ermine fine;
they bore him gold and chrysoprase,
and gifts of precious wine.

The shepherds came from out the north,
their coats were brown and old;
they brought him little new-born lambs—
they had not any gold.

The wise men came from out the east,
and they were wrapped in white;
the star that led them all the way
did glorify the night.

The angels came from heaven high,
and they were clad with wings;
and lo, they brought a joyful song
the host of heaven sings.

The kings they knocked upon the door,
the wise men entered in,
the shepherds followed after them
to hear the song begin.

The angels sang through all the night
until the rising sun,
but little Jesus fell asleep
before the song was done.

—Sara Teasdale, 1911

Commissioned in honor of the Rev. Bonne-Marie Yager-Wiggan, the Rev. Dr. Wesley Hill, and the Very Rev. Aidan Smith,
Priests and Dean at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Christmas Carol

SATB and String Quartet/Kybd.

Sara Teasdale, 1911

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Playfully (♩. = 60)

mf

This block contains the piano introduction for the Christmas Carol. It is written for a grand piano in 6/8 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The tempo is marked 'Playfully' with a quarter note equal to 60 beats per minute. The music starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving bass lines.

S.A. *mf*

T.B. *mf*

The

This block shows the vocal staves for Soprano Alto (S.A.) and Tenor Bass (T.B.). Both parts begin with a rest for four measures, then enter with the lyrics 'The' on the fifth measure. The dynamics are marked mezzo-forte (*mf*). The vocal lines are simple, following the melody of the piano accompaniment.

This block shows the piano accompaniment for the first vocal entry. It continues from the introduction and provides harmonic support for the vocalists. The dynamics remain mezzo-forte (*mf*).

9

kings they came from out the south, all dressed in er - mine fine. They

This block shows the vocal staves for Soprano Alto (S.A.) and Tenor Bass (T.B.) with lyrics. The lyrics are: 'kings they came from out the south, all dressed in er - mine fine. They'. The music starts at measure 9. The dynamics are mezzo-forte (*mf*).

This block shows the piano accompaniment for the second vocal entry. It continues from the previous section and provides harmonic support for the vocalists. The dynamics remain mezzo-forte (*mf*).

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4

13

bore him gold and chrys - o - prase, and gifts of pre - cious wine. — The

17

shep - herds came from out the north, their coats were brown and old; — they

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5

21

brought him lit - tle new - born lambs they had not an - y gold.

p *piu f*

25

mp

The

dim. *mp*

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6

29

wise men came from out the east, and they were wrapped — in

mp

The wise men came from out the east, and they were

32

white. — The star that led them all the way did glo - ri - fy the

mp

wrapped — in white. — The star that led the way did glo - ri -

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36 *mf* night. The an - gels came from heav - en high, and they were clad with
fy the night. An - gels came from heav - en high, and they were clad with

40 wings: and lo, they brought a joy - ful song the host of heav - en
wings; and lo, they brought a joy - ful song the host of heav - en

mf

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8

44

sings.

sings.

f

48

52

Boldly *mf*

The kings they knocked up - on the door,

un peu f

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9

56 *mf*

S.A. The wise men en - tered in, ——— the shep - herds fol - lowed

T. ——— The shep - herds fol - lowed

B. ——— The shep - herds fol - lowed

mf

60 *f*

S.A. af - ter them to hear the song — be - gin. ——— The an - gels sang through

T. af - ter them to hear the song — be - gin. ——— The an - gels sang through

B. af - ter them to hear the song — be - gin. ——— The an - gels sang ———

f

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10

64

S.A. *mf*
all the night un - til the ris - ing sun, but lit - tle Je - sus

T.
all the night un - til the ris - ing sun,

B.
un - til the ris - ing sun.

68

S.A. *p*
fell a - sleep be - fore the song was

T.B. *p*
2

mp

73

done.

p

pizz.

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11

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12

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La Nativité
Venetian school, ca. 1480–1500
Petit Palais, musée des Beaux-arts de la Ville de Paris