

Wassail!

CAROLS OF COMFORT AND JOY

1. What sweeter music can we bring?

Words: from *A Christmas Carol* by Robert Herrick (1591–1674)

Music: *The Wexford Carol* (Irish traditional)
arr. Alexander L'Estrange

Free and contemplative ♩ = c. 56

1 Solo or small group* 2 Add 1 or more singers at each new numbered phrase 3

Unison Children

What sweet-er__ mu - sic can we bring Than__ a ca - rol, for__ to sing The

5 *più f* **Slower**

birth of__ this our heav'n-ly King? A - wake the voice!_ A - wake the string!

2. The Sussex carol

Words: English trad.
(after Bishop Luke Wadding, d. 1686)

Music: Trad. (collected by Ralph Vaughan Williams
from Mrs Verrall, of Monk's Gate, Sussex, in 1904)
arr. Alexander L'Estrange

Jolly rollick ♩ = c. 100

9

Piano

13

16

* Feel free to make the most of your venue: perhaps the first soloist could be offstage or in a balcony.
Experiment also with lighting effects – e.g. start in darkness and add lights as the voices join in...

61

ri - sing of the sun And the run - ning of the deer, The play - ing of the

66

mer - ry or - gan, Sweet sing - ing all in the choir.

"GLOUCESTERSHIRE" V.4 (canon)

70

mf
The hol - ly bears a pric - kle, As sharp as a - ny thorn, And
mf
the hol - ly bears a pric - kle, As sharp as a - ny
p

75

CHORUS 4

Ma - ry bore sweet Je - sus Christ, On Christ - mas day in the morn. Oh the
thorn, And Ma - ry bore sweet Je - sus Christ, On Christ - mas day in the

8. The Wexford carol

Words: Anon., from Shawcross's *Garland of the Old Castleton Christmas Carols* (Derbyshire, 1904); also known as *The Enniscorthy Christmas Carol* (County Wexford Museum, Ireland)

Music: Irish traditional
arr. Alexander L'Estrange

Reflective and gentle ♩ = c. 56

Piano

mp espress.

8

più mf

mp

14

p

19

VERSES 1 & 3

mf

1. Good peo - ple_ all this Christ-mas time Con - si - der well_ and
Beth - le - hem did shep-herds keep Their flocks of lambs_ and

23

bear in mind What our good_ God for us has done in send-ing his_ be -
feed-ing sheep; To whom God's_ an - gels did ap-pear, Which put the shep - herds

Red.

The musical score is written for piano in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of several systems of music. The first system (measures 1-7) is marked 'Piano' and 'mp espress.'. The second system (measures 8-13) is marked 'più mf' and 'mp'. The third system (measures 14-18) is marked 'p'. The fourth system (measures 19-22) is marked 'mf' and contains the lyrics for Verses 1 and 3. The fifth system (measures 23-26) continues the lyrics. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.