

# Music on Christmas Morning

For Choir & Organ

*Music:* Philip Seaton  
*Lyrics:* Anne Brontë



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# “Music on Christmas Morning”

by Anne Brontë (1820-1849)

Music I love – but never strain  
Could kindle raptures so divine,  
So grief assuage, so conquer pain,  
And rouse this pensive heart of mine –  
As that we hear on Christmas morn  
Upon the wintry breezes born.

Though Darkness still her empire keep,  
And hours must pass, ere morning break;  
From troubled dreams, or slumbers deep,

That music kindly bids us wake:  
It calls us, with an angel’s voice,  
To wake, and worship, and rejoice;

To greet with joy the glorious morn,  
Which angels welcomed long ago,  
When our redeeming Lord was born,  
To bring the light of Heaven below;  
The Powers of Darkness to dispel,  
And rescue Earth from Death and Hell.

While listening to that sacred strain,  
My raptured spirit soars on high;  
I seem to hear those songs again  
Resounding through the open sky,  
That kindled such divine delight,  
In those who watched their flocks by night.

With them – I celebrate His birth –  
Glory to God, in highest Heaven,  
Good will to men, and peace on Earth,  
To us a saviour-king is given;  
Our God is come to claim His own,  
And Satan’s power is overthrown!

A sinless God, for sinful men,  
Descends to suffer and to bleed;  
Hell must renounce its empire then;  
The price is paid, the world is freed.  
And Satan’s self must now confess,  
That Christ has earned a Right to bless:

Now holy Peace may smile from heaven,  
And heavenly Truth from earth shall spring:  
The captive’s galling bonds are riven,  
For our Redeemer is our king;  
And He that gave his blood for men  
Will lead us home to God again.

# Music on Christmas Morning

3

Lyrics: Anne Brontë

Philip Seaton

**Andante ♩ = 80**

SOPRANO      ALTO      TENOR      BASS

1 *mp*

Mu -sic I love but nev-er strain Could kin-dle rap-tures

Mu -sic I love but nev-er strain Could kin-dle rap-tures

Mu -sic I love but nev-er strain Could kin-dle rap-tures

Mu -sic I love but nev-er strain Could kin-dle rap-tures

**Andante ♩ = 80**

Organ

1 *mp*

so di - vine, So grief as-suage, so con - quer\_ pain, And rouse this pen-sive heart of mine

so di - vine, So grief as-suage, so con-quer pain, And rouse this pen-sive heart of mine

so di - vine, So grief as-suage, so con-quer pain, And rouse this pen-sive heart of mine

so di - vine, So grief as-suage, so con-quer pain, And rouse this pen-sive heart of mine

Org.

2

11

S. As that we hear on Christ - mas morn, Up - on the\_ win - try breez- es born.

A. As that we hear on Christ-mas morn, Ah

T. As that we hear on Christ-mas morn, Ah

B. As that we hear on Christ-mas morn, Ah Though Dark - ness still her

2

Org.

16

S.

A.

T. And hours must pass, ere morn - ing\_ break; From trou-bled dreams, or slum-bers\_ deep, That

B. em-pire keep, And hours must pass, ere morn - ing\_ break; From trou-bled dreams, or slum-bers\_ deep, That

Org.

21

S. *mf*

A. *mp*

T. 8 mu-sic kind-ly bids us wake: It calls us, with an an - gel's voice, To wake, and wor- ship, and re-

B. mu-sic kind-ly bids us wake: It calls us, with an an - gel's voice, To wake, and wor- ship, and re-

Org.

26

S. *f*

A. *ff*

T. 8 joice; To greet with joy the glo - ri - ous morn, Which an - gels wel - comed

B. *ff*

Org. *ff*

**3**

30

S. long a - go, When our re - deem - ing Lord was born, To

A. long a - go, When our re - deem - ing Lord was born, To

T. 8 long a - go, When our re - deem - ing Lord was born, To

B. long a - go, When our re - deem - ing Lord was born, To

Org.

33

S. bring the light of Heav'n be - low; The Pow - ers of Dark - ness to dis - pel, And

A. bring the light of Heav'n be - low; The Pow - ers of Dark - ness to dis - pel, And

T. 8 bring the light of Heav'n be - low; The Pow - ers of Dark - ness to dis - pel, And

B. bring the light of Heav'n be - low; The Pow - ers of Dark - ness to dis - pel, And

Org.

4

S. 37 res - cue\_Earth from Death and Hell. While lis-ten-ing\_ to\_ that sac - red strain, My

A. res - cue\_Earth from Death and Hell. My

T. 8 res - cue\_Earth from Death and Hell.

B. res - cue\_Earth from Death and Hell.

Org.

4

S. 42 rap - tured spir - it soars on\_ high; I seem to hear those songs a - gain Re - sound - ing through the

A. rap - tured spir - it soars on\_ high; I seem to hear those songs a - gain Re - sound - ing through the

T. 8 Re - sound - ing\_ through the\_

B.

Org.

47

S. o - pen sky, That kin - dled such di - vine de - light, In those who watched their

A. o - pen sky, That kin-dled such di - vine de - light, In those who watched their

T. **p** o - pen sky, Ah Ah

B. **p** Ah Ah

Org.

51 **f** 5

S. flocks by night. With them I cel - e - brate his birth Glo-ry to God, in high-est Heav'n,

A. flocks by night. Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry to God! Good

T. **f** 5 With them I cel - e - brate his birth Glo-ry to God, in high-est Heav'n,

B. **f** Glo - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry to God! Good

Org. **f** 8

54

S. Good will! Good will! Good will to men! Our God is come to

A. will to men, and peace on Earth, To us a sav- iour-king is giv'n; Our God is come to

T. Good will! Good will! Good will to men! Our God is come to

B. will to men, and peace on Earth, To us a sav- iour-king is giv'n; Our God is come to

Org.

57

S. claim His own, And Sa - tan's power is o - ver - thrown! A sin - less God, for mp 6

A. claim His own, And Sa - tan's power is o - ver - thrown! A sin - less God, for mp

T. claim His own, And Sa - tan's power is o - ver - thrown! A sin - less God, for mp

B. claim His own, And Sa - tan's power is o - ver - thrown! A sin - less God, for mp

Org.

61

S.    *poco a poco crescendo*

A.    *poco a poco crescendo*

T.    *poco a poco crescendo*

B.    *poco a poco crescendo*

Org.

65

S.    

A.    

T.    

B.    

Org.

**Poco meno mosso**

68

S. *f con forza*  
Sa-tan's self must now con - fess, That Christ has earned a Right to bless:

A. *f con forza*  
Sa-tan's self must now con - fess, That Christ has earned a Right to bless:

T. *f con forza*  
Sa-tan's self must now con - fess, That Christ has earned a Right to bless:

B. *f con forza*  
Sa-tan's self must now con - fess, That Christ has earned a Right to bless:

**Poco meno mosso**

Org. *f* *poco rall*

**A tempo, Andante**

73

S. *mp* 7  
Now ho - ly Peace may smile from heav'n, And

A. *mp*  
Now ho - ly Peace may smile from heav'n, And

T. *mp*  
Now ho - ly Peace may smile from heav'n, And

B. *mp*  
Now ho - ly Peace may smile from heav- en, And

**A tempo, Andante**

Org. *pesante* 7

78

S. heav-en-ly Truth from earth shall spring: The cap - tive's gall - ing bonds are riv-en, For our Re-deem-er

A. heav-en-ly Truth from earth shall spring: The cap - tive's gall - ing bonds are riv-en, For our Re-deem-er

T. 8 heav-en-ly Truth from earth shall spring: The cap - tive's gall - ing bonds are riv-en, For our Re-deem-er

B. heav-en-ly Truth from earth shall spring: The cap - tive's gall - ing bonds are riv-en, For our Re-deem-er

Org.

83

S. is our king; And He that gave his blood for men Will lead us home to

A. is our king; And He that gave his blood for men Will lead us home to

T. 8 is our king; And He that gave his blood for men Will lead us home to

B. is our king; And He that gave his blood for men Will lead us home to

Org.

87

S. God a - gain.

A. God a - gain.

T. God a - gain.

B. God a - gain.

Org.

The musical score for 'Music on Christmas Morning' at rehearsal mark 87. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) sing the words 'God a - gain.' followed by a measure of rests. The organ part provides harmonic support with sustained bass notes and a melodic line above, marked with '3' over groups of three notes.









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