

The Christmas Life

*Setting of a poem by Wendy Cope
for undivided SATB and piano*

May also be performed a capella

JANET WHEELER

Duration c.3'45"



The Christmas Life

'If you don't have a real tree, you don't bring the Christmas life into the house.' Josephine Mackinnon, aged 8

Bring in a tree, a young Norwegian spruce,
Bring hyacinths that rooted in the cold.
Bring winter jasmine as its buds unfold –
Bring the Christmas life into this house.

Bring red and green and gold, bring things that shine,
Bring candlesticks and music, food and wine.
Bring in your memories of Christmas past.
Bring in your tears for all that you have lost.

Bring in the shepherd boy, the ox and ass,
Bring in the stillness of an icy night,
Bring in a birth, of hope and love and light.
Bring the Christmas life into this house.

WENDY COPE

Commissioned by Janet Lincé for Choros
The Christmas Life

WENDY COPE

JANET WHEELER

$\text{♩} = 88$

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

mp
Bring in, bring

mp
Bring in, bring

mf
Bring in, bring in, _____

Start at bar 5 for unaccompanied performance

$\text{♩} = 88$

Optional Piano part

mf

senza ped.

7

mf
Bring in, _____ bring in a tree,

in, _____ bring in, bring in, _____ bring in, _____ bring in, _____ bring in a tree,

in, _____ bring in, bring in, _____ bring in, _____ bring in, _____ bring in a tree,

bring in, bring in _____ bring in, bring in, _____ bring, _____ bring in a tree, _____

p

14

mf
Bring in a tree, a young Nor-we - gian spruce, a young Nor-we - gian

mf
Bring in a tree, bring in a tree, a young Nor-we-gian spruce, Nor-we - gian

mf
Bring in a tree, bring in a tree, a young Nor-we-gian spruce, Nor- we - gian

mf
Bring in a tree, a young Nor-we - gian spruce, a young Nor-we - gian

p *tr*
mp

20

p dolce
spruce, Bring hy - a-cinths that root - ed in the cold. *mp* Bring

dolce p
spruce, Bring hy - a-cinths that root - ed in the cold. *mp* Bring

dolce p
spruce, Bring hy - a-cinths that root - ed in the cold. *mp* Bring

dolce p
spruce, Bring hy - a-cinths that root - ed in the cold. *mp* Bring

26

win - ter jas - mine as its buds un - fold -

win - ter jas - mine as its buds un - fold -

win - ter jas - mine as its buds un - fold - Bring the

win - ter jas - mine as its buds un - fold - Bring the

mp

mp

mp

mp

32

Bring the Christ-mas life, bring the Christ-mas life, Bring the Christ - mas

Bring the Christ-mas life, bring the Christ-mas life, Bring the Christ-mas

Christ-mas life, bring the Christ-mas life, the Christ-mas life, Bring the Christ - mas

Christ-mas life, bring the Christ-mas life, the Christ-mas life, Bring the Christ - mas

mp

mp

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

cresc.

mf

mf

mf

mf

37

life, bring the Christ - mas life, bring the Christ-mas life in - to this house,

life, bring the Christ-mas life, bring the Christ-mas life in - to this house,

life, bring the Christ - mas life, bring the Christ-mas life in - to this house,

life, bring the Christ - mas life, bring the Christ-mas life in - to this house,

cresc. *f*

cresc. *f*

cresc. *f*

cresc. *f*

cresc. *f*

43

in - to this house. Bring red and green,

in - to this house. Bring red and green,

in - to this house. Bring red and green,

in - to this house. Bring red and green,

dim. *p*

dim. *p*

dim. *p*

dim. *mp*

mp

mp

49

Bring red and green and

Bring red and green and

Bring Bring red and green, red and green and

green, Bring red and green, red and green and

cresc.

54

gold, bring things that shine, that shine. Bring, bring

gold, bring things that shine, that shine, shine. Bring can-dle sticks

gold, bring things that shine, that shine, shine. Bring can-dle sticks

gold, bring things that shine, that shine, shine. Bring can-dle sticks

f *dim.* *mp*

62

can-dle-sticks and mu - sic, food and wine.

and mu - sic, food and wine.

and mu - sic, food and wine.

and mu - sic, food and wine.

leggiere

69

mp Bring in your me-mo-ries, bring in you me - mo-ries of Christ - mas past, bring in your

mp Bring me - mo-ries. bring me - mo - ries of Christ - mas past, your

mp Bring me - mo-ries of Christ - mas past, me-mo-ries of Christ-mas.

mp me - mo-ries of Christ - mas past, Christ - mas past, your

mp * Patapan
(Guill - aume, prends ton tam-bou-rin, Toi prends ta flute Rob - in.)

* In a capella performances these carol tunes may be added ad lib. either by a solo soprano, (with solo tenor and bass on the LH parts bb70-72 ad lib) or down an octave by a tenor or alto soloist.

73

me-mo-ries of Christ - mas past. Bring in your tears for

me-mo-ries of Christ - mas past. Bring in your tears for

me-mo-ries of Christ - mas past. Bring in your tears

me-mo-ries of Christ - mas part. Bring in your tears

* Angelus ad virginem

(An-ge-lus ad vir-gi-nem Sub-in-trans in con-cla-ve)

Ped.

77

all that you have lost, for all that you have lost.

all that you have lost, for all that you have lost.

for all that you have lost.

for all that you have lost.

rit.

rit.

Tempo primo

82

♩. = 88

Bring in, bring

Bring in, bring

Bring in, bring in, —

Omit bars 91-94 for unaccompanied performance

Tempo primo

♩. = 88

mf

ancora senza ped.

88

mf

Bring in the shep - herd boy,

in, bring in, bring in, bring in, bring in the shep - herd boy,

in, bring in, bring in, bring in, bring in the shep - herd boy,

bring in, bring in bring in, bring in, bring in the shep - herd boy,

p

95

mf

Bring in the shep-herd boy, _____ the ox and ass, _____ the ox and _____

mf

Bring in the shep - herd boy, the ox _____ and ass, the ox and _____

mf

Bring in the shep - herd boy, the ox _____ and ass, the ox and _____

mf

Bring in the shep - herd boy, the ox and ass, the ox and _____

tr

101

p

subito pp

ass, _____ Bring in _____ the still - ness _____ of an

p

subito pp

ass, _____ Bring in the still - ness _____ of an

p

subito pp

ass, _____ Bring in _____ the still - ness _____ of an

p

subito pp

ass, _____ Bring in the still - ness _____ of an

109

p cresc.
i - cy night, Bring in a birth, of hope, and

p cresc.
i - cy night, Bring in a birth, of hope, and

p cresc.
i - cy night, Bring in a birth, of hope, and

p cresc.
i - cy night, Bring in a birth, of hope, and

pp

117

mf love, and light. *mp* Bring the Christ - mas life, Bring the

mf love, and light. *mp* Bring the Christ - mas life, Bring the

mf love and light. *mp* Bring the Christ mas life, Bring the Christ - mas life,

mf love and light. *mp* Bring the Christ mas life, Bring the Christ - mas life,

mp

123

cresc.

Christ-mas life, _____ Bring the Christ - mas life, _____ bring the Christ - mas
 Christ-mas life, _____ Bring the Christ-mas life, _____ bring the Christ-mas
 _____ the Christ-mas life, _____ Bring the Christ - mas life, _____ bring the Christ - mas
 _____ the Christ-mas life, _____ Bring the Christ - mas life, _____ bring the Christ - mas

cresc.

127

life, _____ bring the Christ-mas life in - to this house, in - to this house..
 life, _____ bring the Christ-mas life in - to this house, in - to this house..
 life, _____ bring the Christ-mas life in - to this house, in - to this house..
 life, _____ bring the Christ-mas life in - to this house, in - to this house..

f *mp*

133

Bring in the Christ - mas life

Bring in the Christ - mas life

Bring, bring in the Christ - mas life

Bring in the Christ - mas life

cresc.

137

in - to this house, in - to this house

in - to this house, in - to this house,

in - to this house, in - to this house,

in - to this house, in - to this house,

f

Ending A - for accompanied or unaccompanied performance

142 *cresc.* *ff*

Bring the Christ - mas life in - to this house.

cresc. *ff*

Bring the life in - to this house.

cresc. *ff*

Bring the Christ - mas life in - to this house.

cresc. *ff*

Bring the life in - to this house.

cresc. *ff*

Ending B - alternative option for unaccompanied performance

145 *ff* *

house, in - to this house.

ff

house, in - to this house.

ff

house, in - to this house.

ff *

house, in - to this house.

* optional divisi

Selected shorter choral pieces with and without accompaniment

You can hear many of these and other pieces by Janet Wheeler at www.janetwheeler.co.uk

Secular

A Place in the Choir (<i>arrangement of song by Bill Staines</i>) <i>published by Hal Leonard/de Haske Music</i>	2'45"
Care-charmer Sleep (<i>setting of Samuel Daniel for SATB divisi and soprano solo plus two additional short soprano solos</i>)	3'
Dream-Song Lullaby (<i>for SA plus piano</i>)	2'15"
Elegy for Himself (<i>for SATB with divisi in ATB.</i> <i>Second piece from The Joy as it Flies, words by Chidiock Tichborne</i>)	3'30"
Full Fathom Five (<i>setting of Shakespeare for SABar (or AABar) with piano</i>)	3'
Gaudeamus Igitur (<i>double choir setting of a poem by Kevin Crossley-Holland</i>)	4'
Green, Green (<i>Arranged for SATB with divisi and optional piano</i>)	2'30"
I Dream a World (<i>SATB setting of Langston Hughes poem (with divisi in SAB)</i>)	5'
Jamba, Jamba (<i>fun song for SATB with optional piano</i>)	2'30"
Like a Red, Red Rose (<i>Burns' song, richly harmonic with short tenor solo</i>)	3'
Sea Fever (<i>setting of John Masefield for SATBar (or AATBar) with piano</i>)	3'30"
Sonnet 8 – Music to Hear (<i>setting of Shakespeare for undivided SATB a capella</i>)	3'30"
Stevie's Pets (<i>3 jazz-inflected settings of Stevie Smith poems about pets</i>)	5'
The Joy as it Flies (<i>5 songs on the cycle of life, death and the sun's eternity</i>)	13'
The Waiter and the Porter and the Upstairs Maid (<i>a capella SSAATTBB</i>)	4'
The Winter it is Past (<i>setting of Burns poem</i>)	4'
Time Becomes a Song (<i>5 settings of poems by John Clare</i>)	15'
Varsity Drag (<i>SATB a capella arrangement – SSA plus piano also available</i>)	2'30"

Sacred

Alleluia, I heard a voice (<i>anthem with joyful syncopated middle section</i>)	4'
Four Spirituals (<i>medley published by OUP, now available from Banks Music</i>)	7'
God is Everywhere (<i>anthem with words by John Clare</i>) <i>for SATB with organ accompaniment</i>	5'
Homage to Albright (<i>a textured choral soundscape made from simple repeating Alleluias sung individually with organ accompaniment – duration variable</i>)	
Just as I am - Five Variants on 'Saffron Walden' (<i>hymn tune and variations</i>)	4'
O Perfect Love (<i>wedding anthem</i>)	3'
Preces and Responses with Lord's Prayer	
The Martyrdom of St Edmund (<i>prizewinning anthem for SATB and organ</i>)	5'30"

Advent/Christmas pieces (with and without accompaniment)

A la Media Noche (<i>Puerto Rican carol arr. for children, SATB and piano duet</i>)	4'
Advent Song (<i>Up-tempo setting of 'Prepare ye the way' for children, SATB and piano, featuring ostinati and clapping</i>)	3'
Because a Little Child is Born (<i>a capella SATB with divisi apart from tenors</i>)	3'
Carol of the Poor Children (<i>SATB with piano accompaniment</i>)	2'30"
Ding Dong Diggety! (<i>jazzy a capella SSAATBB slant on a familiar carol</i>)	3'
God Bless you Brother (<i>setting of Eleanor Farjeon for SATB with divisi</i>)	2'30"
Listen to the Angels (<i>Jazzy accompanied carol for children combined with Of the Father's Heart Begotten for SATB</i>)	3'
The Spirit of Christmas (<i>words by Martin Angel and Janet Wheeler</i>) <i>published by Hal Leonard/de Haske Music</i>	4'
To Bethlehem (<i>Children's carol with SATB and piano, quoting We Three Kings</i>)	4'