



"The Bewitching Bow" Series
for Staffordshire Music Service



"Carolling Along"



- Percussion joins in
the Festive fun



Kerry Milan

a Christmas selection from:

"Carol, gaily carol" (Black), "Merrily to Bethlehem" (Black),
"Christmas Tinderbox" (Black), Oxford Book of Carols (OUP)
"Folk Carols for Young Children" (Ward Lock)

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

CGC 43, FCYC 11

belltree

Musical notation for the first system of 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas'. It consists of a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is: D4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Below it is a percussion line in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. The rhythm is: quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note. The notes are: D4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4.

triangle

Musical notation for the second system of 'We Wish You a Merry Christmas'. It consists of a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is: D4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Below it is a percussion line in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. The rhythm is: quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note. The notes are: D4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4.

For the recording, verses 1 and 5 use Tambourine.

Verse 2 has line 1: drum, line 2: triangle.

Verse 3 has line 1: drum, line 2: tambourine.

Verse 4 has line 1: triangle, line 2: drum

Good King Wenceslas

FCYC 41 OBC 136 (A flat)

Musical notation for the first system of 'Good King Wenceslas'. It consists of a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Below it is a percussion line in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. The rhythm is: quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note. The notes are: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4.

Musical notation for the second system of 'Good King Wenceslas'. It consists of a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Below it is a percussion line in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. The rhythm is: quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note. The notes are: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4.

Jingle Bells

FCYC 42

wood blocks

Musical notation for the first system of 'Jingle Bells'. It consists of a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Below it is a percussion line in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. The rhythm is: quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note. The notes are: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4.

jingle bell

Musical notation for the second system of 'Jingle Bells'. It consists of a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Below it is a percussion line in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. The rhythm is: quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note. The notes are: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4.

Musical notation for the third system of 'Jingle Bells'. It consists of a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. Below it is a percussion line in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp. The rhythm is: quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note, quarter note. The notes are: D4, E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4.

The Holly and the Ivy

FCYC 37, OBC 38

Musical score for 'The Holly and the Ivy'. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The second system has a percussion line with a triangle and a cymbal. The triangle part has notes on the first and third beats of each measure, while the cymbal has notes on the second and fourth beats.

For the recording, verses 1 and 4 use Triangle.
Verses 2 and 3 use a Shaker.

He Smiles within His Cradle

MTB 11, OBC 84

Musical score for 'He Smiles within His Cradle'. It consists of two systems. The first system has a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The second system has a percussion line with notes on the first and third beats of each measure.

For the chorus, use Triangle each time.
For verses 1 and 5, use Cymbal.
For verses 2, 3 and 4, use different tuned
percussion instruments, on the note B.

We Three Kings

FCYC 44, OBC 195

Musical score for 'We Three Kings'. It consists of three systems. The first system has a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/8 time signature. The second system has a percussion line with notes on the first and third beats of each measure. The third system has a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/8 time signature. The percussion line has notes on the first and third beats of each measure. A triangle is indicated in the second system.

Past Three O'clock

FCYC 46

glock/chimes

hand bell

This musical score is for the hymn 'Past Three O'clock'. It is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score consists of three systems. The first system features a vocal line and a glock/chimes line. The second system features a vocal line and a hand bell line. The third system features a vocal line and a glock/chimes line. The glock/chimes and hand bell parts provide rhythmic accompaniment to the vocal melody.

Infant Holy

CGC 14

shaker

This musical score is for the hymn 'Infant Holy'. It is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score consists of two systems. The first system features a vocal line and a shaker line. The second system features a vocal line and a shaker line. The shaker part provides a steady rhythmic accompaniment to the vocal melody.

The slight differences in rhythm each verse reflect the different patterns of their words.
(No percussion for verses 1 and 6)

The Friendly Beasts (Jesus our Brother)

FCYC 23, CGC 18 (in F)

v2: wood blocks

v3: drum

v4: claves

v5: guiro

This musical score is for the hymn 'The Friendly Beasts (Jesus our Brother)'. It is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score consists of two systems. The first system features a vocal line and four percussion lines: wood blocks, drum, claves, and guiro. The second system features a vocal line and four percussion lines. The percussion parts provide a complex rhythmic accompaniment to the vocal melody.

For the recording, verse 1 uses Triangle,
verse 2 uses Tambourine, verse 3 Claves, and
verse 4 a Glockenspiel A.

Sans Day Carol

MTB 32, OBC 35 (in E flat)

First system of the musical score for Sans Day Carol. It consists of two staves: a vocal line in treble clef and a percussion line in bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/2. The vocal line begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The percussion line features a sequence of eighth notes and quarter notes, with some notes beamed together.

Girls and boys, leave your toys

CGC 12

Second system of the musical score for Sans Day Carol, titled "Girls and boys, leave your toys". It consists of two staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The vocal line starts with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The percussion line includes specific instrument markings: "cymbal" and "triangle". The time signature changes to 3/4 for the final two measures. The instruction "also add tambourine" is placed below the percussion staff.

Hey, little bull behind the gate

CGC 13

Third system of the musical score for Sans Day Carol, titled "Hey, little bull behind the gate". It consists of two staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/2. The vocal line begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The percussion line includes the marking "triangle". The instruction "D.C. al Fine" appears at the end of both staves.

Away in a Manger

play in G

play in F

As well as the version in the key of G, there is also a version of the tune in the key of F, for use with FCYC 20. In this case the tuned percussion parts shown here will need changing, the G/D chord becoming F/C and the A/C chord becoming G/B flat.

The musical score for 'Away in a Manger' is presented in two systems. Each system consists of three staves. The top staff is the melody in treble clef, key of G (one sharp), and 3/4 time. The middle staff is for 'tambourine' in square clef, with rhythmic notation. The bottom staff is for 'chime bars or similar' in treble clef, key of F (no sharps or flats), and 3/4 time. The first system includes the instruction 'play in F' below the chime bars staff. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

Here, as in Patapan and "Everybody's Waiting" percussion join in for the introduction.

Mary had a Baby

CGC 21

The musical score for 'Mary had a Baby' is presented in two systems. Each system consists of three staves. The top staff is the melody in treble clef, key of B-flat (two flats), and 2/2 time. The middle staff is for 'cabasa' in square clef, with rhythmic notation. The bottom staff is for 'drum' in square clef, with rhythmic notation. The first system includes a double bar line at the end of the first measure, indicating an introduction.

Now Light 1000 Christmas Lights

FCYC 39, CGC 39

The musical score for 'Now Light 1000 Christmas Lights' is presented in one system with two staves. The top staff is the melody in treble clef, key of G (one sharp), and 4/4 time. The bottom staff is for 'triangle' in square clef, with rhythmic notation.

Everybody's Waiting (Christmas Eve)

Stuart Johnson's CHRISTMAS MUSIC FOR INFANTS
available from Staffordshire Music Service - also CT p44

Musical score for 'Everybody's Waiting (Christmas Eve)'. It consists of three systems of three staves each. The first system is labeled 'Perc. I' and 'Perc. II'. The music is in 2/2 time and B-flat major. The first system features a melodic line in the top staff and rhythmic accompaniment in the middle and bottom staves. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The third system concludes the piece with a final melodic phrase and accompaniment.

Deck the Halls

FCYC 35

Musical score for 'Deck the Halls'. It consists of two systems of three staves each. The first system is labeled 'triangle' and 'tambourine'. The music is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The first system features a melodic line in the top staff and rhythmic accompaniment in the middle and bottom staves. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

Rocking

FCYC 13, OBC 87

Musical score for 'Rocking'. It consists of two systems of two staves each. The first system is labeled 'tuned percussion' and 'F G C'. The music is in 2/4 time and B-flat major. The first system features a melodic line in the top staff and a bass line in the bottom staff. The second system continues the melody and bass line.

Blow the Trumpet, Beat the Drum (Il est né..) CGC 40, FCYC 24

(trumpet) (piano) (trumpet)

cymbal

side drum

glock/bells

(piano) Fine

Fine

triangle

Fine

D.C. al Fine

D.C. al Fine

Patapan

FCYC 43, MTB 42, OBC 82

tambour

(whistle)

drum 2

tambour

O Little Town of Bethlehem

FCYC 28, OBC 138

tuned percussion
(with B flat)

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Acknowledgements

“Everybody’s Waiting” (Christmas Eve) © Stuart Johnson
Other percussion and piano accompaniments © Kerry Milan
(excluding “O Little Town of Bethlehem”)

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Sources

This selection is taken from "Carol Gaily Carol" (Black), "Merrily to Bethlehem" (Black), "Christmas Tinderbox" (Black), Oxford Book of Carols (OUP), and "Folk Carols for Young Children" (Ward Lock).

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As well as these simple percussion parts there are melody parts for violin/recorder, viola, cello, flute, clarinet and E♭ saxophone.

This set of accompaniments should help instrumental staff in rehearsing with their pupils for school assemblies, carol concerts, etc. An * indicates a change of key.

The sound file for each carol, which can be triggered simply by clicking its title on the score, plays the numbers of verses as set out in the publications listed, which will be found in many schools.

To hear an individual percussion part, click its name.