

A Christmas Mini-Musical for Children

Kids'
Scores

O' Tiddings

of the
Angelic
Division

Comfort and Joy



Created
by
Pam Andrews
and Ranzelle DeVries

Arranged
by John DeVries

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid.
I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Luke 2:10

Greetin's to ya!

We are excited to bring you this new mini-musical! What fun to share it with you. A mix of familiar carols and new songs, you'll love that it's easy-to-sing and very easy-to-stage. *O' Tidings* just might be what you're "calling" for this year.

With five (or six) speaking parts for children and a mix of non-speaking roles, this musical is versatile and ideal for churches of any size. An option which might be to your advantage is to have *O' Tidings* played by an older child or adult.

Another option, for a "bit 'o the Irish" flair, we recorded *O' Tidings* with an Irish accent your actor can imitate.

If you are a choir director who likes a good challenge, the verses of "The First Noel, Persian Version," can be sung rather than spoken.

Above all else, remember to rest this year and embrace God's message to you of comfort and joy.

God bless you as you invest your time, talent and heart in his children.

Pamelle DeVries

Remember, you can always request a letter of encouragement from Pam to your choir when you are performing any of the musicals she has written. You may contact her through the PamAndrewsMusic.com website or at pamandrewsmusic@comcast.net.

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O'Tidings Overture

CD: 1 Split: 1

Joyfull, with energy ♩ = 142

TRADITIONAL
Arr. by John DeVries

1 A B \flat B E 7

5 **A** E 7

8 A

11 E 7 A **Split: 2** **B** D A/D ♩ = 112

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time, key of D major. It consists of four systems of music. The first system (measures 1-4) features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, with chords A, B-flat, B, and E7 indicated above the staff. The second system (measures 5-7) continues the melody and bass line, with a repeat sign in measure 6 and a chord A above the staff. The third system (measures 8-10) continues the melody and bass line, with a chord A above the staff. The fourth system (measures 11-14) features a change in tempo to 112 and a change in time signature to 3/4, with chords E7, A, B, D, and A/D indicated above the staff. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and accidentals.



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We Wish You a Sorta Merry Christmas

CD: 2 Split: 3

Lazily, without joy ♩ = 92

TRADITIONAL
Arr. by John DeVries

4 A

We wish you a Mer-ry

7

Christ-mas; We wish you a Mer-ry Christ-mas; We wish you a Mer-ry

11 B

Christ-mas, and a Hap-py New Year. Good ti-dings we bring to

16 Split: 4

you and your kin; Good ti-dings for Christ-mas and a Hap-py New

21 C

Year. We wish you a Mer-ry Christ-mas; We wish you a Mer-ry

25

Christ-mas; We wish you a Mer-ry Christ-mas, and a Hap-py New Year. Good

30 D Fade out...

ti-dings we bring to you and your kin; Good ti-dings for



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Scene 1 CD: 3

- Casey: Stop...Stop...Stop the music! Come on everyone. Here we are an hour from our Christmas concert and we sound terrible. Where's the joy? Where's the peace on earth? All I'm hearing is bah humbug.
- Briley: Can I go to the bathroom? I need to wash the glitter from the crowns off my hands.
- Casey: Now? I was thinking we should practice a little more. We have to improve or the audience will fall asleep.
- Briley: (pleading) Please, it's an emergency.
- Casey: Fine. Just hurry, Briley. I'm not sure more practice will make a difference anyway. We're all missing Miss Nina, but somehow we've got to make it without her.
- Taylor: Casey. It's not your fault Miss Nina has the flu.
- Casey: I just don't have the joy that Miss Nina has. And this directing thing is harder than it looks.
- Taylor: Your directing style is a little...unusual but, you're the best one to lead us. You're doing great even if you are a kid.
- Casey: Thanks, Taylor. We just aren't singing as well without Miss Nina. Our joy seems to be missing! I wish there was something I could do.
- Rachel: I don't think I can sing my solo. (Coughs) I have a scratchy throat.
- Casey: Come on, Rachel, not you, too! This Christmas program is turning into a disaster.
- Rachel: I'm sorry, Casey. It feels like I swallowed sand.
- Casey: Okay, maybe we can have someone sing with you. Do we have any volunteers?
- Frederick: (Frantically raising hand and jumping up and down!) Me! Me! Me! Pick me!

- Casey: (looking past Frederick) Like I said, do we have any volunteers?
- Frederick: (Frederick continues to raise his hand while jumping up and down!) Me! Me! Me! Come on Casey. Pick me!
- Casey: Frederick, the last time you sang a solo you went to the wrong microphone, you forgot the words and even sang a verse from the wrong song.
- Frederick: I'll do better this time, Casey. Come on, give me another chance!
- Rachel: He does sing well, Casey.
- Taylor: C'mon, Casey!
- Casey: Okay, Frederick. You can sing with Rachel. (Briley returns, rubbing hands together as though drying them.)
- Frederick: Yes! (begins vocalizing) AHHHHHHHHH. Ok, my voice is up for the challenge.
- Casey: (Looking at the music on his music stand.) All right, let's see, my notes say we're still a little rugged on "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen."
- Briley: Not much comfort and definitely no joy.
- Casey: Briley's right. I'm praying that somehow we'll find a little comfort and joy before the concert. Okay, here we go. (pleading) Please try to do your best. Shepherds, Angels, Mary and Joseph...you're on.

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

CD: 4 Split: 5

TRADITIONAL
Arr. by John DeVries

Swing ♩ = 168 1



1. God rest you mer-ry, gen-tle-men, let
 (2. From) God our heav-'ly Fa - ther, a

11



noth-ing you dis-may, For Je - sus Christ our Sav - ior was
 bless-ed an - gel came, And un - to cer - tain shep - herds, brought

15



born on Christ-mas day, To save us all from Sa-tan's pow'r when
 tid-ings of the same. How that in Beth-le - hem was born the

19

Split: 1st time 6 • 2nd time 8



we were gone a - stray: O__ ti-dings of com-fort and joy, com-fort and
 Son of God by name:

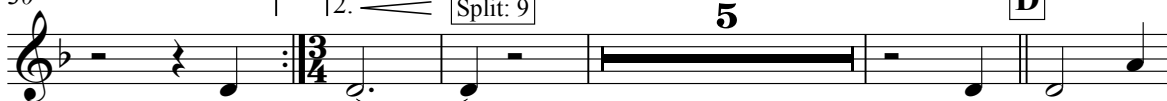
24



joy, O__ ti - dings of com - fort and joy.

♩ = ♩ with an Irish lilt

30



2. From joy.

3. The shep - herds



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Scene 2 CD: 5

Sound FX 1 Split: 11(Sound of crashing boxes off stage.
Everyone turns to look.)

Casey: Oh, no, what just happened? (Rachel runs off to check.)

O' Tidings: (Coming from direction of all the noise offstage, O' Tidings moves to Casey. Rachel follows with hands/palms up in an "I don't know" expression) I'm comin', comin', comin', comin'....Here I be!...Well, hello there lads, lasses. Greetin's!

Taylor: Who are you?

O' Tidings: O' Tidings is me name, from the Angelic Host's division of Comfort and Joy. You called me.

Taylor: (Somewhat confused) Uhhhhh....we did?

O' Tidings: (Sings) Oh, tidings of comfort and joy. You called me...and here I be.

Casey: Woahhh. Was that you making all that noise?

O' Tidings: Sorry. Afraid, when I'm in a hurry, I don't pay much attention to me surroundin's.

Casey: Okay. (Uncertain) Ummm.....Well, it's nice to meet you, ahhh, Mr. O' Tidings, Sir, but we're in the middle of a dress rehearsal for our Christmas program.

O' Tidings: Ah, Christmas! What a joy! Great job, shepherds and angels. You, too, Mary and Joseph. Lookin' like the real thing.

Briley: How would you know what they looked like?

O' Tidings: I was there...you know...in the fields near Bethlehem...watchin' the shepherds watch their sheep that night. You shoulda seen their faces when I appeared!

Frederick: Wait. You appeared? You saw their faces?

O' Tidings: Aye, like I said lad, I was there.

- Casey: (Confiding in Taylor) Okay, I think we might need to call security.
- O' Tidings: That first Christmas night was wonderful. There He was, Baby Jesus, lyin' in the manger. For t'ousands of years before He came folks were expectin' Jesus. He was their long-awaited Savior and King.
- Rachel: Hey, I know. (Rachel grabs her Bible.) Let's see the scripture was in Isaiah, right? Here it is. Isaiah 9:6 says, "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- O' Tidings: You are so right, lass. Jesus was expected for many, many years. Everyone knew He was comin', but no one expected Him that night. AND no one thought He would be born in a stable and laid in a manger. So it was me privilege to be tellin' the shepherds.
- Taylor: How cool to be a shepherd. Camping out all the time...eating by the campfire.
- Briley: (Sarcastically) Except...that there would be bugs and sheep baaing keeping you awake all night and you'd also be out there in the rain and you would probably smell like a sheep...other than that...I guess it would be okay.
- Taylor: Like I said...very cool.
- O' Tidings: Those shepherds were a motley bunch. They were just settlin' in for the evenin' after gettin' all their sheep comfy. Suddenly, the night sky lit up and out I came. At first, they were so frightened I thought they would actually run away. After I calmed them down, I told them the Savior had been born in Bethlehem. AND THEN, me and t'ousands of me closest angel friends began praisin' God sayin', "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." Yes, those shepherds were speechless!
- Frederick: Speaking from the human perspective, I can understand their reaction.

- O' Tidings: (Reflecting) But, as soon as they heard my good news, they hurried to worship the Baby. They almost did a jig flyin' down that hill to Bethlehem. Glorious, it was simply, glorious!
- Casey: (Skeptical) Wait a minute, you want us to believe you were there?
- Briley: How could he know all that if he wasn't there?
- Frederick: I believe him and I like hearing Mr. O' Tidings tell the story. He's awesome.
- Casey: Okay, I'm up for listening. Go for it. Let's hear what you have to say.
- Rachel: Mr. O' Tidings, can you tell us about the Wise Men?
- O' Tidings: Now there's a story lass! The Wise Men came from the east searchin' for the newborn king.
- Taylor: Oh yeah! Ridin' cool camels.
- Briley: What's with you and animals today? That would be the simply awful. (Holding nose.) Ridin' a smelly ole' camel. Hot desert sun. Gritty sand. Months and months of travel.
- Taylor: Just sayin'...very cool.
- Rachel: Just think, these dudes were kings in their own country...yet they were searching for Jesus to honor him.
- O' Tidings: True enough, children. The Wise Men followed that shinin' star which they knew would lead them to Jesus.
- Frederick: I bet that was the brightest star ever. I'm thinking, super nova.
- O' Tidings: Ah, i'twas bright. But danger lurked because at that time an evil king, name Herod ruled the land where Jesus was born. When the Wise Men came to Herod askin' where the new baby king was born, he was worried.
- Frederick: Yeah, we know...Herod thought Jesus would become king and take away his power.

O' Tidings: You are correct laddie. So, before the Wise Men left for Bethlehem Herod told them to come back and tell him where he could find the baby. The Wise Men were warned in a dream not to tell Herod so they returned home by another way. What a glorious story! I remember it as if i'twere yesterday...

The First Noel, Persian Version

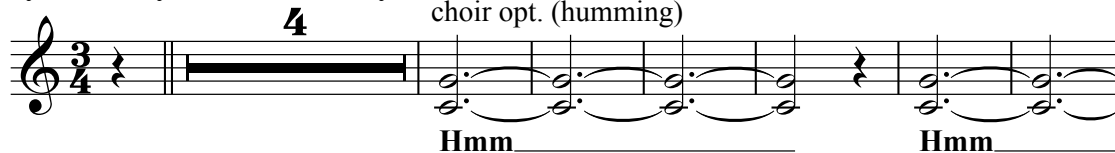
CD: 6 Split: 12

TRADITIONAL

Arr. by John DeVries

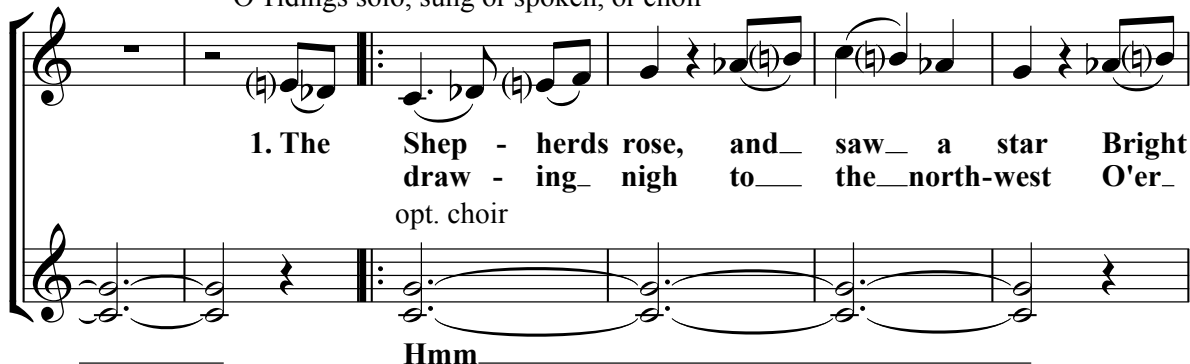
Mysteriously, in a Persian style ♩ = 112

choir opt. (humming)



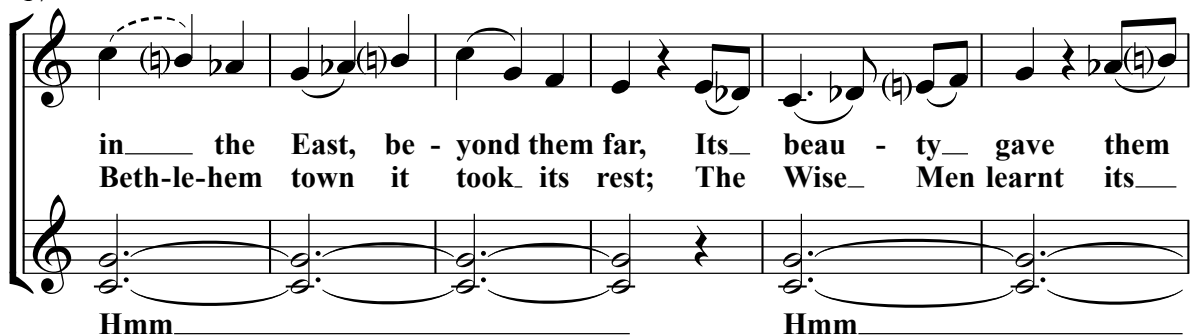
11

O'Tidings solo, sung or spoken, or choir



1. The Shep - herds rose, and saw a star Bright
draw - ing nigh to the north-west O'er
opt. choir

17



in the East, be - yond them far, Its beau - ty gave them
Beth-le-hem town it took its rest; The Wise Men learnt its

23

Split: 1st time 13 • 2nd time 15



great de - light, This star it set not day nor night.
cause of stay And found the place where Je - sus lay.



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Scene 3 CD: 7

Frederick: Wow, the Christmas story is truly amazing!

Rachel: Somehow we all just got so busy this year with programs and Christmas shopping and decorations that we forgot the miracle.

Taylor: We forgot Jesus.

Casey: That's why we're not feeling the joy everyone. Okay, Mr. O' Tidings, I know I was a little worried about you at first, but now I know why you came. You're here to help us remember the joy of Christmas...Jesus.

O' Tidings: Ah, me boy, you are so right. Jesus is the reason for Christmas.

Briley: Mr. O' Tidings. Sometimes I wonder why Jesus would come to the world. I'm sure heaven is a wonderful place. Why would He want to leave His home?

Casey: Yes, why would Jesus give all that up?

O' Tidings: Jesus has a heart of gold, lad...a heart for you.

Corne, Thou Long-Expected Jesus with "O Corne"

CD: 8 Split: 1st time 18 • 2nd time 20

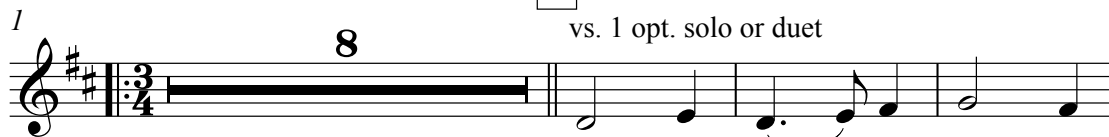
TRADITIONAL

Arr. by John DeVries

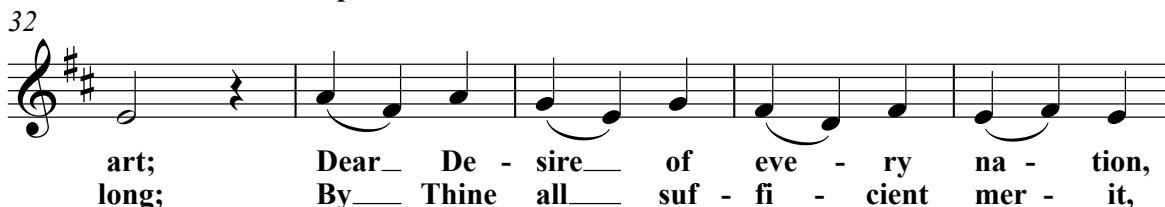
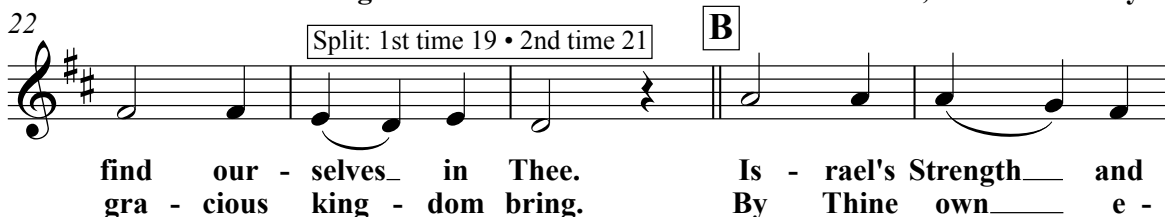
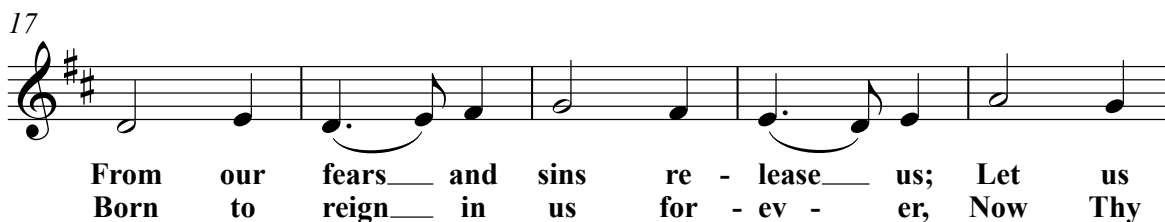
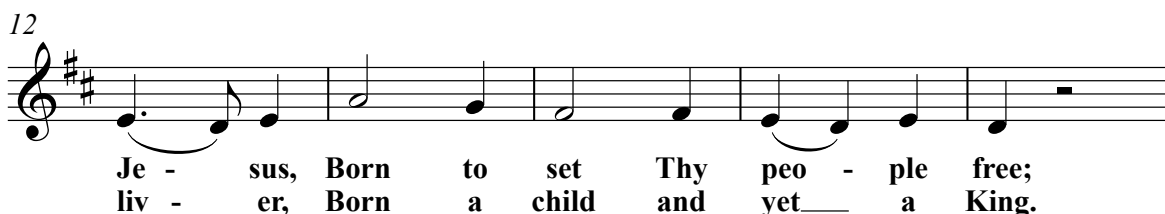
Energetically, with an Irish lilt ♩ = 186

A

vs. 1 opt. solo or duet



1. Come, thou long - ex - pec - ted
2. Born Thy peo - ple to de -



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Scene 4 CD: 9

- O' Tidings: (Turning/bending head as if hearing something.) Lads, lasses, got to go. I hear me name bein' called. Remember, Christmas is about Jesus. If you have him burnin' in your heart, then you'll have joy come bubblin' out of you. (Children talk among themselves and O' Tidings disappears.)
- Frederick: We're feelin' the joy! (dancing) It's Christmas! It's Christmas! We're feelin' it! We're feelin' it! It's Christmas! It's Christmas! We're feelin' it! The JOY!
- Briley: I'm right there with ya. It's Christmas! It's Christmas! We're feelin' it! We're feelin' it! It's Christmas! It's Christmas! We're feelin' it! The JOY!
- All Kids: It's Christmas! It's Christmas! We're feelin' it! We're feelin' it! It's Christmas! It's Christmas! We're feelin' it! The JOY!
- Casey: Hey wait a minute! Where did he go? Mr. O' Tidings? Mr. O' Tidings? (Casey looks around and O' Tidings is gone.) He's gone. Okay, really, no one will ever believe this.
- Rachel: Who would have ever expected this? When we needed to find Christmas joy, we meet Mr. O' Tidings.
- Taylor: Wait a minute...maybe we SHOULD have expected this. When we need help, Jesus is there.
- Casey: Are you all ready to sing...really sing...for Jesus?
- Kids: (Ad libs) Sure thing. Yes. All right. Let's do it. I'm all over it. Oh Yeah!
- Casey: Let's make this the best concert ever...filled with joy for Jesus. Rachel and Frederick, you're on. Places everyone! It's show time!

He Has a Heart of Gold

CD: 10 Split: 24

Words by
PAM ANDREWS

Music by
JOHN DEVRIES

Arr. by John DeVries

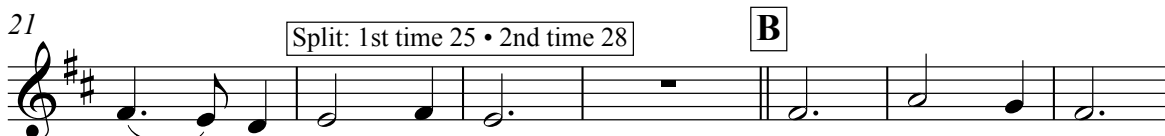
In a "One" feel, triplet 8ths $\text{♩.} = 60$



1. Why would He come on that
(2.) mem - ber our Lord on each



Christ - mas morn? What was the rea - son that
Christ - mas morn. And all the rea - sons why



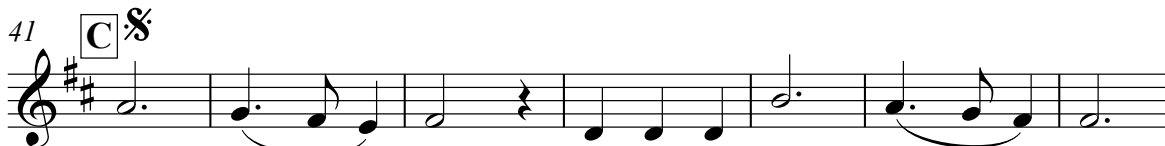
Je - sus Christ was born? Why would He leave
Je - sus Christ was born. Why would He leave



His home on _____ high To be born
His home on _____ high? He brought joy



in a sta - ble that first Christ - mas night?
to the world that glo - ri - ous night.



Heart of _____ gold, He has a heart of _____ gold.



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Scene 5 CD: 11

Kid: In John 15:11, Jesus said, "I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete." This Christmas focus on the joy of Jesus. Remember His love and the sacrifice He made for us so we can have eternal life. Remember Jesus' love for you. And if you have not yet met, my best friend, meet Him today. There is no better day than today to begin your life with Him. Merry Christmas everyone!

Sound FX 2 Split: 33 (O' Tidings sings)

I've Got the Joy-Finale

CD: 12 Split: 34

Joyfull, with energy ♩ = 142

TRADITIONAL
Arr. by John DeVries

A

1 **3** I've Got the Joy, Joy, Joy, Joy, Traditional

I've Got the joy, joy, joy, joy

6 down in my heart, where? Down in my heart, where?

8 Down in my heart. I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,

10 down in my heart, where? Down in my heart to stay. **Split: 35**

13 **B** Joy to the world, the Lord is come, is come! Joy to the world, the

Split: 36
♩ = 168 swing

16 Lord is come, is come! To



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O'Tidings Bow Music

CD: 13 Split: 41

Joyfull, with energy ♩ = 142

TRADITIONAL
Arr. by John DeVries

1 4 A 8 B 4 Split: 42 2 C 4 D 6

29 E 15 Split: 43 3 F

O come, let us a -

50

dore Him; O come, let us a - dore Him; O come, let us a -

58 Split: 44 G

dore Him, — Christ, — the Lord. For He a - lone is

66

worth - y; for He a - lone is worth - y; For He a - lone is

74

worth - y, — Christ, — the Lord, —

81

Christ, the Lord! — Christ, the Lord!



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We Wish You a Sorta Merry Christmas

TRADITIONAL

We wish you a Merry Christmas;
We wish you a Merry Christmas;
We wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;
Good tidings for Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We wish you a Merry Christmas;
We wish you a Merry Christmas;
We wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year.

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;
Good tidings for ... (fade out)



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God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

TRADITIONAL

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray:

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heav'ly Father, a blessed angel came,
And unto certain shepherds, brought tidings of the same.
How that in Bethlehem was born The Son of God by name:

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

The shepherds at those tidings rejoic'd much in mind,
And left their flocks afeeding in tempest, storm and wind,
And went to Bethlehem straightway, this blessed Babe to find:

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort, O tidings of comfort,
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy!



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The First Noel, Persian Version

TRADITIONAL

The Shepherds rose, and saw a star
Bright in the East, beyond them far,
Its beauty gave them great delight,
This star it set not day nor night.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel.
Born is the King of Israel.

Drawing nigh to the northwest
O'er Bethlehem town it took its rest;
The Wise Men learnt its cause of stay
And found the place where Jesus lay.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel.
Born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those Wise Men three,
Fell reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in His presence,
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel.
Born is the King of Israel.
Born is the King of Israel.



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Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus with “O Come”

TRADITIONAL

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find ourselves in Thee.
Israel's Strength and Consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King.
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts along;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

O come, let us adore Him;
O come let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him.
Christ, the Lord.

For He alone is worthy;
For He alone is worthy;
For He alone is worthy,
Christ, the Lord,
Christ, the Lord!
Christ, the Lord!



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He Has a Heart of Gold

Lyrics by Pam Andrews, Music by John DeVries

Why would He come on that Christmas morn?
What was the reason that Jesus Christ was born?
Why would He leave His home on high
To be born in a stable that first Christmas night?

Heart of gold, He has a heart of gold.
That Savior long foretold is here for you.
Heart of gold, we want the world to know
He'll give His peace; He'll give His love:
He'll give His joy straight from His heart of gold,
His heart of gold.

Remember our Lord on each Christmas morn.
And all the reasons why Jesus Christ was born.
Why would He leave His home on high?
He brought joy to the world that glorious night.

CHORUS

Alleluia, alleluia, Jesus came that night for you and me.
Alleluia, alleluia, we should share His joy each Christmas,
And show His love with all we meet.

CHORUS

He'll give His peace; He'll give His love;
He'll give His joy straight from His heart of gold,
His heart of gold.



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I've Got the Joy—Finale

TRADITIONAL

I've Got the joy, joy, joy, joy down in my heart, where?
Down in my heart, where?
Down in my heart.
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart, where?
Down in my heart to stay.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come, is come!
Joy to the world, the Lord is come, is come!

To save us all from Satan' pow'r when we were gone astray.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find ourselves in Thee.
Israel's Strength and Consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear Desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord.

For He alone is worthy;
For He alone is worthy;
For He alone is worthy,
Christ, the Lord,
Christ, the Lord!
Christ, the Lord!



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O'Tidings' Bow Music

TRADITIONAL

O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ, the Lord.

For He alone is worthy;
For He alone is worthy;
For He alone is worthy,
Christ, the Lord,
Christ, the Lord!
Christ, the Lord!



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Cast:

Casey
Brimley
Taylor
Frederick
Rachel
O' Tidings

Non Speaking parts:

Joseph
Mary
Wise Men
Angels
Shepherds

Setting:

Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal

For T-shirt and backdrop information
contact:

Tom Roland
Personalized Gifts and Apparel
888-898-6172
www.pg4u.com
OR info@pg4u.com

Additional resources are available online at PamAndrewsMusic.com

The children don't seem to be in the Christmas spirit.
Miss Nina, their director is out with the flu.
It's the dress rehearsal of their Christmas program and things are going from bad to worse. All of a sudden, O' Tidings of the Angelic Division Comfort and Joy arrives: After all, the children called him as they sang the chorus of, "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen," didn't they?

Join in the wonder as O' Tidings tells the children about the events of the first Christmas—reviving their Christmas spirit.

A mix of familiar carols and new songs this easy-to-sing, easy-to-stage musical just might be what you called for this year.

Rest this year, in God's message of comfort and joy.

*We Wish You a Sorta Merry Christmas
God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen
The First Noel, Persian Version
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus
He Has a Heart of Gold
I've Got the Joy - Finale*

Staging suggestions, lesson plans, movement scripts and so much more is available in the **O' Tidings** Resource Materials.

ParzAndrewsMusic.com