

Composed for the Dale Warland Singers
20th Anniversary Benefit, June 1991

Why We Sing at Christmas

Two-part Men and Women (with optional divisi) and piano

Lyrics by
Iola Brubeck

Music by
Dave Brubeck

SOPRANO/ALTO
I love Christ - mas, Mer - ry, mer - ry Christ - mas.
When I dec - o - rate my Christ - mas tree, I

TENOR/BASS
I love Christ - mas, Mer - ry, mer - ry Christ - mas.
When I dec - o - rate my Christ - mas tree, I

PIANO (optional)
mf

Optional sleigh bells doubling piano rhythm.

S/A
Why does Christ - mas that make us want to sing? Songs of Christ - mas
sing those songs that mean so much to me. Songs I sang from

T/B
Why does Christ - mas that make us want to sing? Songs of Christ - mas
sing those songs that mean so much to me, Songs I sang from

PIANO (optional)
mp

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6 *mf*

S/A
bring us all to - geth - er, Yule - tide car - ols make the raf - ters ring!
swift - ly mov - ing sleighs and Songs I learned for church and shep - herd plays.

T/B
bring us all to - geth - er, Yule - tide car - ols make the raf - ters ring!
swift - ly mov - ing sleighs and Songs I learned for church and shep - herd plays

(8va)

9 *p*

S/A
Songs of sim - ple sen - ti - ment, a - bun - dant love from a - bove, star filled won - der - ment.
Songs from Christ - mas past and pre - sent min - gle round with the sound of the fam - i - ly.

T/B
Songs of sim - ple sen - ti - ment, a - bun - dant love from a - bove, star filled won - der - ment.
Songs from Christ - mas past and pre - sent min - gle round with the sound of the fam - i - ly.

(8va)

13

S/A
Songs that re - call those Bib - li - cal times and pret - ty lit - tle songs with
Light - ing the cand - les, car - ving the tur - key, join - ing hands in thanks, and

T/B
Songs that re - call those Bib - li - cal times and pret - ty lit - tle songs with
Light - ing the cand - les, car - ving the tur - key, join - ing hands in thanks, and

(8va)

16 *cresc.*

S/A hap - py Christ-mas rhymes. Jin - gle bells and First No - els and part - ridg - es and kings.
songs a bit off key. Pump - kin pies and Un - cles' ties and Aun - tie's Christ-mas cakes.

T/B hap - py Christ-mas rhymes. Jin - gle bells and First No - els and part - ridg - es and kings.
songs a bit off key. Pump - kin pies and Un - cles' ties and Aun - tie's Christ-mas cakes.

16 *cresc.*

19 *f* 1. *rit.* 2. *rit.*

S/A Si - lent nights, an - gel flights, five gol - den rings. voic - es in praise: For
Then we pause as we raise

T/B Si - lent nights, an - gel flights, five gol - den rings. voic - es in praise: For
Then we pause as we raise

19 *f* 1. *rit.* 2. *rit.*

22 *rit. al fine* *mf* *grand rit.* *ff*

S/A An - gel choirs came down to sing in praise of God and of our new - born King!

T/B An - gel choirs came down to sing in praise of God and of our new - born King!

22 *rit. al fine* *mf* *grand rit.* *ff*

Alternate Optional Ending

21 *mf* *sempre cresc.* *rit.* *ff*

S An - gel choirs came down to sing in praise of God and of our new - born King!

A *mf* *sempre cresc.* *ff*

An - gel choirs came down to sing in praise of God and of our new - born King!

T *mf* *sempre cresc.* *ff*

An - gel choirs came down to sing in praise of God and of our new - born King!

B 21 *mf* *sempre cresc.* *ff*

An - gel choirs came down to sing in praise of God and of our new - born King!

mf *sempre cresc.* *rit.* *ff*

Dave Brubeck (1920-2012)

A jazz pianist who is noted for his improvisational skills, Dave Brubeck is also the composer of many fully-notated works, including choral, hymns, orchestral, chamber music, ballet suites, a string quartet, solo pieces for piano, violin & voice, and large-scale works for chorus and orchestra. He has been designated a "Living Legend" by the Library of Congress and a "Jazz Master" by the National Endowment for the Arts.

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Christmas titles by Dave Brubeck

A Christmas Hymn (28888)

Ev'ry Christmas I Hear Bells (28887)

Good Will to Women (28886)

Hear the Bells Ring (HPC7082)

To Us Is Given (from *Pange Lingua Variations*) (28885)

We Three Kings (LG53057)

Why We Sing at Christmas (28889)

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