

# Especially for Christmas

8 Christmas Favorites Arranged for Intermediate Pianists

Dennis Alexander

Christmas is the season for giving. I always enjoy sharing the gift of music with friends, family, students and their parents during this special time. *Especially for Christmas, Book 2* includes some of the world's favorite carols and Christmas songs such as *Jingle Bell Rock*, *Who Comes This Night* and *Winter Wonderland*. Pianists of all ages will enjoy the sophisticated yet easy-to-play arrangements. I hope that you, too, will be able to share the gift of music with your friends and loved ones this holiday season through the pieces in my *Especially for Christmas* series.

Merry Christmas!

*Dennis Alexander*

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*This series is dedicated to all the teachers and students from the Puyallup Valley Chapter of the Washington State Music Teachers Association who so kindly created the "Joy of Music Award" in 1998 in memory of my son, Darren. Wishing all of you a blessed and happy holiday season and many more years of joyful music making!*

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# O Little Town of Bethlehem

Lewis H. Redner  
Arranged by Dennis Alexander

Moderato e dolce (♩ = 80-84)

Musical notation for measures 1-4. The piece is in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The tempo is Moderato e dolce with a quarter note equal to 80-84 beats per minute. The first system shows measures 1 through 4. The right hand (RH) features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings (1, 2, 3, 5, 1, 2, 3, 5). The left hand (LH) provides a bass line with slurs and fingerings (5, 1, 5, 1). The dynamic marking *mp* is present.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. The second system shows measures 5 through 8. The right hand continues the melodic line with slurs and fingerings (5, 1, 2, 4). The left hand continues the bass line with slurs and fingerings (5, 5). The dynamic marking *mf* is present.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. The third system shows measures 9 through 12. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings (3, 4). The left hand continues the bass line with slurs and fingerings (5). The dynamic marking *mf* is present.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. The fourth system shows measures 13 through 16. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings (1). The left hand continues the bass line with slurs and fingerings (5, 1, 5, 3, 3). The dynamic marking *mf* is present.

# Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella

Traditional French Carol  
Arranged by Dennis Alexander

**Allegro giocoso** (♩. = 105–112)

The musical score is arranged in four systems, each with a treble and bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#).

- System 1:** Starts with a *mf* dynamic. The right hand features a triplet of eighth notes (1, 3, 5) and a quarter note. The left hand has a simple bass line with a 5-1 fingering.
- System 2:** Starts with a *f* dynamic. The right hand has a melodic line with a 5-1-2-1 fingering. The left hand has a bass line with a 1-3-2 fingering.
- System 3:** Starts with a *mp* dynamic. The right hand continues the melodic line with a 2-1 fingering. The left hand has a bass line with a 1-5-4-2-4-3 fingering.
- System 4:** Starts with a *p* dynamic and includes the instruction *cresc. poco a poco*. The right hand has a triplet of eighth notes (1, 2, 5) and a quarter note. The left hand has a bass line with a 1-5-4-3-3 fingering.

# Winter Wonderland

Words by Dick Smith  
 Music by Felix Bernard  
 Arranged by Dennis Alexander

Happily (♩ = 108-112) ♩ =  $\frac{3}{4}$

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time, B-flat major. It consists of four systems of music. The first system begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The second system starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The third system continues with *mf* and *f* dynamics. The fourth system also features *mf* and *f* dynamics. Fingerings and articulation marks are provided throughout the piece.

# Jingle Bell Rock

Words and Music by  
 Joe Beal and Jim Boothe  
 Arranged by Dennis Alexander

Moderate swing (♩ = 69-72)  $\text{♩} = \text{♩}^{\text{3}}$

The piano score for 'Jingle Bell Rock' is written in 2/4 time with a moderate swing feel. It consists of four systems of music, each with a measure number in a box at the beginning of the first staff. The first system starts at measure 1 and ends at measure 3. The second system starts at measure 4 and ends at measure 6. The third system starts at measure 7 and ends at measure 9. The fourth system starts at measure 10 and ends at measure 12. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp*, *f*, and *mf*. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-5 above or below notes. Pedal markings are present in measures 10 and 11. The piece concludes with a final chord in measure 12.