

**ORCHESTRA EXPRESSIONS™ SERIES**

Good King Wenceslas

TRADITIONAL

Arranged by SANDRA DACKOW

INSTRUMENTATION

1	Conductor
8	1st Violin
8	2nd Violin
5	3rd Violin (Viola T.C.)
5	Viola
5	Cello
5	String Bass
1	Piano Accompaniment (for rehearsal only)

PROGRAM NOTES

This English Christmas carol celebrates a king who gives alms to a poor peasant on the Feast of Stephen, which is the second day of Christmas, December 26. Also known as Boxing Day in England, it remembers when landowners “boxed” goods to be given as gifts to their tenants. During the journey spoken of in the carol, Wenceslas’ page boy is worn down by the cold weather, but, in the final verse is told to tread in the king’s own footprints in the snow, which miraculously generate heat. This legend is based on the life of the historical Saint Wenceslas I, Duke of Bohemia (907–935). One of the main thoroughfares in Prague is known as Wenceslas Square. The melody probably dates from the 13th century, while hymn writer John Mason Neale wrote the familiar English verses in the 19th century.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Quarter notes should be played at the frog and off the string, while eighth notes should be played with vigorous strokes. Try to come as close to a Brandenburg tempo and style as possible! Correlated to *Orchestra Expressions*, Book II.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Bob Phillips
Belwin/Pop String Editor



Good King Wenceslas

CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 1:50

Traditional
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Brightly (♩ = 80)

Violins
I
II

Viola (Violin III)

Cello

String Bass

f *non div.*

1 2 3 4 5

Vlns.
I
II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

pizz. *arco*

6 7 8 9 10 11

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

12 13 14 15 16 17 18

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

19 Lo 2

Hi 3

Hi 3

19 20 21 22 23 24 25

27

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

26 27 28 29 30 31

37

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

32 33 34 35 36 37 38

Vlns.
I
II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

39 40 41 42

Vlns.
I
II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

43 44 45 46

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

47 48 49 50

I Vlns.

II Vlns.

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

51 52 53 54

I
Vlns.

II

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

63 64 65 66

I
Vlns.

II

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

67 68 69 70 71

rit. Grandioso

Lo 2