

# Christmas Suite



## A CAROL CANTATA

ARRANGED BY  
**MARK HAYES**

ORCHESTRATIONS BY DAVE WILLIAMSON

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MUSIC

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## FOREWORD

I never tire of the Christmas story. The drama, the mystery, the joy...it's ever new. *Christmas Suite* tells this wondrous story once again, but in a shortened version that is perfect for a Christmas morning service, a candlelight service or a concert. About 15 minutes long, this work features accessible SATB arrangements of four beloved carols with narration and an optional chamber instrumentation that will nicely complement your choir. Adapted from my best-selling *10 Christmas Songs for Solo Voice*, *Christmas Suite* is a welcome alternative to longer Christmas cantatas. Each of the three movements may also be performed separately.

I enjoyed bringing the Christmas story to life in these arrangements. I hope you will be inspired by these new carol settings.

Mark Hayes

**Mark Hayes** is an internationally known and award-winning composer, arranger, concert pianist, and conductor with over 1,000 publications in print. Whether concertizing on the other side of the globe or composing at his home in Kansas City, Missouri, Mark is blessed to live out his mission “to create beautiful music for the world.”

## CHRISTMAS SUITE

### Narrations

**VOICE 1:** “Noel” - a word of joy, a word of hope. Noel is a season that’s all about “good news”... good news that comes in an ancient story we’ve heard many times before, but with a message that is ever new. Hear the good news of this scripture:

**VOICE 2:** And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a Baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” (*Luke. 2:8-12*)\*

**VOICE 1:** Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests.” (*Luke. 2:13-14*)

### MIDNIGHT NOEL – page 4

**VOICE 2:** In those days, Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. And everyone went to their own town to register. (*Luke. 2:1-3*)

**VOICE 1:** So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a Child. While they were there, the time came for the Baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a Son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them. (*Luke. 2:4-7*)

### BRING A TORCH, JEANNETTE, ISABELLA – page 14

**VOICE 2:** Good news! The Prince of Peace has come. This weary world, so long bound by the chains of darkness, is free! Behold! The Light has come.

**VOICE 1:** After the Magi had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the Child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. (*Matthew 2:9-10*)

**VOICE 2:** On coming to the house, they saw the Child with His mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped Him. Then they opened their treasures and presented Him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. (*Matthew 2:11-12*)

**VOICE 1:** We, too, have seen the star in the East and come to worship the Holy Child. We bow before Him and offer our own treasures. Christ is the Lord. Let us praise His name forever.

### O HOLY NIGHT – page 23

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# MIDNIGHT NOEL

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied

*Incorporating*  
 “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”  
 and “The First Noel”

*Arranged by*  
**MARK HAYES (ASCAP)**

**1** Peacefully (♩. = ca. 38)

SOPRANO  
ALTO

TENOR  
BASS

ACCOMP.

*mp* **3**

It came up - on the

mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old; from

\* Tune: CAROL, Richard Storrs Willis, 1819-1900  
 Words: Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876

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7

an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps\_ of

10

*mf* 11

gold: "Peace on the earth, good - will to men," from

*mf*

*mf*

13

*poco rit.* *mp* *a tempo*

heav'n's\_ all - gra - cious King! The world in sol - emn

*mp*

*a tempo*

*poco rit.* *mp*

3