

# CHRISTMAS COMES BUT ONCE A YEAR

for S.S.A. voices and piano  
with optional PianoTrax CD\*

Words and Music by  
**JAY ALTHOUSE**

Brightly, in two (♩ = ca. 96)

PIANO

*mf*

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand plays a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The left hand plays a bass line of half notes: G3, Bb3, G3, Bb3, G3, Bb3, G3. The music is in 2/4 time and B-flat major.

4

The piano accompaniment continues with the same melody and bass line as the introduction, spanning four measures.

8 SOPRANO I & II

*mf*

The vocal line for Soprano I & II begins with the melody: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The lyrics are: Christ - mas, comes but once a year, deep in cold De -

ALTO

The alto vocal line is silent, indicated by a whole rest in the first measure.

The piano accompaniment continues with the same melody and bass line, spanning four measures.

\* Also available for S.A.T.B. (47630) and S.A.B. (47631).  
PianoTrax 11 Accompaniment CD available (47188).

Please visit [alfred.com/choralparts](http://alfred.com/choralparts) to download free parts for drum and tambourine.

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11

cem - ber.

*mf*

Sing with voic - es strong and clear,

14

car - ols we re - mem - ber.

19

Deck the hall with  
Deck the hall with

red and green: hol - ly and the i - vy.

red and green: hol - ly and the i - vy.

Play the drum and tam - bou - rine. Make the mu - sic

Play the drum and tam - bou - rine. Make the mu - sic

live - ly. Trim, now, the Christ - mas tree,

live - ly. Trim, now, the Christ - mas tree,

29

tall and bright and mer - ry. Oh, what a

tall and bright and mer - ry. Oh, what a

32

sight we'll see in - to Jan - u - ar - y.

sight we'll see in - to Jan - u - ar - y.

35

Now, hang high the mis - tle - toe. All the boys are

Now, hang high the mis - tle - toe.

smil - ing. Can - dle lights are all a - glow,  
 Can - dle lights are all a - glow,

and the girls be - guil - ing

*Fa la* **45** *la,* *fa la* *la,* *fa la*  
*Fa la la la la la,*  
*Fa la la la,*

47 la, fa la la la la. Fa la la, fa la

fa la la la la la la. Fa la la

fa la la la la. Fa la

50 la, fa la la la la la la.

la la la, fa la la la.

la la, fa la la la la la.

53

*f*

56

57

*f*

Strike the chime and ring the bell.

Strike the chime and ring the bell.

*f*

Strike the chime and ring the bell.

Strike the chime and ring the bell.

Piano accompaniment for measures 56-58.

59

Join the celebra - tion. Catch a goose and

Join the celebra - tion. Catch a goose and

Join the celebra - tion. Catch a goose and

Join the celebra - tion. Catch a goose and

Piano accompaniment for measures 59-61.

62

roast it well, on this glad oc - ca - sion.

roast it well, on this glad oc - ca - sion.

roast it well, on this glad oc - ca - sion.

roast it well, on this glad oc - ca - sion.

Piano accompaniment for measures 62-64.

65

Hey, ho, it's time to eat. Place the meal be -

Hey, ho, it's time to eat. Place the meal be -

68

fore us. Bring, now the Christ mas treat,

fore us. Bring, now, the Christ - mas treat,

73

and we'll sing a chor - us. Christ - mas comes but

and we'll sing a chor - us. Christ - mas comes but



74

once a year, deep in cold De - cem - ber.

once a year, deep in cold De - cem - ber.

77

Sing with voic - es strong and clear, car - ols we re -

Sing with voic - es strong and clear car - ols we re -

80

mem - ber. **81** Fa la la, fa la la, fa la

mem - ber. Fa la la la la la,

mem - ber. Fa la la la la,

83 la, fa la la la la. Fa la la, fa la

fa la la la la la la. Fa la la

fa la la la la. Fa la

86 la, fa la la la la la la.

la la la, fa la la la.

la la, fa la la la la la.

89

Christ - mas comes but

once a year,

Christ-mas comes but

deep in cold De - cem -

once a year, deep in cold De - cem -

ber. Fa la la la la la la la.

ber. Fa la la la la la la.

