



# Last Christmas

Words and Music by George Michael  
*Arranged by Chris M. Bernotas*

## INSTRUMENTATION

- 1 Full Score
- 8 Violin I
- 8 Violin II
- 5 Violin III (Viola  $\text{♩}$ )
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass
- 2 Drumset  
(Optional)
- 2 Percussion  
(Tambourine, Sleigh Bells)  
(Optional)

## PROGRAM NOTES

As classic as Santa and Rudolph, George Michael's iconic Wham! hit has been covered by Taylor Swift, Ariana Grande, and now it's your orchestra's turn. A snap to rehearse and program, this Chris M. Bernotas arrangement is suitable for all level string orchestras to usher in the holiday season.

## NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

If you have a combined music department concert, this would be an excellent closer to bring the choir (and even strings singing) in at the repeat of measure 49 for the last musical statement of the chorus. You could even print the lyrics in your holiday program and invite the audience to sing-along at that same point without the echos.

Chorus:

Last Christmas, I gave you my heart—echo (I gave you my heart)  
 But the very next day, you gave it away—echo (you gave it away)  
 This year, to save me from tears  
 I'll give it to someone special—echo (special)

While this arrangement works great with strings alone, an added drumset and easy tambourine and sleigh bell parts will add extra sparkle to the performance.

Best wishes for a joy-filled performance!

## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

In orchestral music, there are many editorial markings that are open for interpretation. In an effort to maintain consistency and clarity you may find some of these markings in this piece. In general, markings for fingerings, bowing patterns, and other items will only be marked with their initial appearance. For a more detailed explanation of our editorial markings, please download the free PDF at [www.alfred.com/stringeditorial](http://www.alfred.com/stringeditorial).

x  
extended position

-  
shift

'  
bow lift/reset

(b), (#), (d)  
high or low fingerings

▣▣ or V V  
hooked bowings

**Preview Only**  
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# Last Christmas

FULL SCORE  
Duration - 2:30

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Moderately  $\text{♩} = 108$

The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system includes Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, String Bass, Drumset (Optional), and Percussion (Tambourine, Sleigh Bells, Optional). The second system includes Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, String Bass, Drumset, and Percussion. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked 'Moderately' with a quarter note equal to 108 beats per minute. The dynamic marking is 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The score includes various musical notations such as stems, beams, and rests. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the score. The page is numbered 4, 5, and 6 at the bottom.





Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

Perc.

Musical score for measures 13-16. The score includes staves for Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, String Bass, Drumset, and Percussion. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). Measure 13 shows the start of a melodic line in Violin I with a 'V' marking. Measure 14 has a '-1' marking in the Cello part. Measure 15 has a '4' marking in the Violin II part. Measure 16 has a 'V' marking in the Violin II part. The Drumset and Percussion parts show a consistent rhythmic pattern.

13

14

15

16

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

Perc.

Musical score for measures 17-20. The score includes staves for Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, String Bass, Drumset, and Percussion. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). Measure 17 has a boxed '17' above the Violin I staff. Measure 18 has a '-3' marking in the Cello part. Measure 19 has 'V' markings in the Violin II part. Measure 20 has '4' markings in the Violin II and Viola parts. The Drumset and Percussion parts continue with their rhythmic patterns.

17

18

19

20

I  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla. (Vln. III)  
Cello  
Str. Bass  
Drumset  
Perc.

21 22 23 24

I  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla. (Vln. III)  
Cello  
Str. Bass  
Drumset  
Perc.

25 26 27 28

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

Perc.

29

30

31

32

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

Perc.

33

pizz.

f

4

-4

-1

33

34

35

36

I  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla. (Vln. III)  
Cello  
Str. Bass  
Drumset  
Perc.

37 38 39 40

41  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla. (Vln. III)  
Cello  
Str. Bass  
Drumset  
Perc.

41 42 43 44



I  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla. (Vln. III)  
Cello  
Str. Bass  
Drumset  
Perc.

45 46 47 48

This block contains the musical score for measures 45 through 48. It features seven staves: Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, String Bass, Drumset, and Percussion. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The music includes various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

49 Joyously!  
Vlns.  
II  
Vla. (Vln. III)  
Cello  
Str. Bass  
Drumset  
Perc.

49 50 51 52

This block contains the musical score for measures 49 through 52. It features seven staves: Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, String Bass, Drumset, and Percussion. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The music includes various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

1.

53 54 55 56

This block contains the first system of the musical score, covering measures 53 to 56. It features staves for Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, and Str. Bass, all in a key with two sharps (F# and C#). The Violin I and II parts have melodic lines with slurs and accents. The Viola part has a long note in measure 54. The Cello and Str. Bass parts provide a harmonic foundation. The Drumset and Percussion parts have rhythmic patterns, with the drumset including a -1 marking in measure 53. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

2.

57 58 59 60 61

This block contains the second system of the musical score, covering measures 57 to 61. It features staves for Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, and Str. Bass, all in a key with two sharps (F# and C#). The Violin I and II parts have melodic lines with slurs and accents. The Viola part has a long note in measure 58. The Cello and Str. Bass parts provide a harmonic foundation. The Drumset and Percussion parts have rhythmic patterns, with the drumset including a 'Fill' marking in measure 60. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.