

Christmas Joy (Easter Joy) is a seasonal anthem that features texts for both Christmas and Easter. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings for Christmas include Psalm 97, Isaiah 62: 11-12, Luke 2: 1-20, and Titus 3: 4-7; one basic homiletical theme is joining with the heavenly angels to proclaim the good news that the Savior is born! Suggested corresponding lectionary readings for Easter include Psalm 118: 14-24, John 20: 1-9, Acts 10: 34-43, Colossians 3: 1-4, and 1 Corinthians 5: 6-8; one basic homiletical theme is announcing the triumphant Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

In rehearsal, strive for energetic four-measure legato phrases. Instruct all voices to sing the melody in m. 5-20 on staccato “doo,” with great vitality. Change the vowel and sing on legato “noo” without sacrificing the staccato energy. Next, speak the text, with crisp consonants and uniform vowels, then add it to the music. Rehearse m. 43-50 in a similar fashion until each entrance in the call-and-response vocal texture is clearly heard. Measures 1-20 may be used in worship as a choral introit or response.

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CHRISTMAS JOY

(EASTER JOY)*

for S.A.B. or two-part mixed voices, accompanied,
with optional handbells**

Words by

J. PAUL WILLIAMS and
JEAN ANNE SHAFFERMAN

Music by

ANNA LAURA PAGE

Joyfully ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 72-76$)

HANDBELLS *mf*

ACCOMP. *mf*

4 UNISON VOICES *mf*

1. Songs of joy from heav - en ring on - this joy - ful
2. Songs of joy from heav - en ring on - this glad, tri -

8

Christ - mas day. "Al - le - lu - ia!" — an - gels sing,
um - phant day. "Al - le - lu - ia!" — an - gels sing,
(Handbells rest)

* For Christmas, sing verse 1. For Easter, sing verse 2.

** Two-part mixed voices should omit the alto part. Part for three-octave handbells may be found on page 12.

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11 *S. unis.* (13)

A. Je - sus Christ is born_ to - day! "Glo - ri - a in ex -
Christ_ the Lord_ is ris'n_ to - day! Hon - or, glo - ry_

B. Glo - ri - a,
Al - le - lu

14 *unis.*

cel - sis De - o," an - gels sing in joy - ous praise.
give to Je - sus for the stone is rolled a - way.

glo - ri - a,
al - le - lu,

17

All cre - a - tion_ join the cho - rus, glad_ tri - um - phant songs to
All cre - a - tion_ join the cho - rus on_ this res - ur - rec - tion

20

f

raise.
day!

f

(HANDBELLS)

f

20

24

mf

Sweet - er songs than earth can give is the Christ - mas
Sweet - er songs than earth can give is the Eas - ter

(handbells rest)

24

mf

mf (unis.)

mel - o - dy, sweet - er now, be - cause He comes ful -
mel - o - dy, sweet - er now, be - cause He lives, the

fill - ing an - cient proph - e - cy. "Glo - ri - a in ex -
Eas - ter song of vic - to - ry. Hon - or, glo - ry —

f
Glo - ri - a,
Al - le - lu,

unis.

cel - sis De - o," an - gels sing in joy - ous — praise.
give to Je - sus for the stone is rolled a - way.

glo - ri - a,
al - le - lu,

36

Two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics, and the bottom staff is a bass line. Both staves show a key signature change from one flat to two flats (B-flat major to D-flat major) between measures 36 and 37.

All cre - a - tion_ join the cho - rus, glad_ tri - um - phant songs to
All cre - a - tion_ join the cho - rus on_ this res - ur - rec - tion

(HANDBELLS)

Two staves of music. The top staff is for handbells, showing rests for measures 36 and 37. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment with chords and moving lines. A key signature change from one flat to two flats occurs between measures 36 and 37.

36

39

Two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics, and the bottom staff is a bass line. Both staves show a key signature change from two flats to one flat (D-flat major to C major) between measures 39 and 40.

raise.
day.

39

Two staves of music. The top staff is the piano's right hand with chords and moving lines. The bottom staff is the piano's left hand with chords and moving lines. A key signature change from two flats to one flat occurs between measures 39 and 40.

43

f unis.

All cre - a - tion_ now re - joice: Christ for us _ this
 All cre - a - tion_ now re - joice: Christ for us _ the

All cre - a - tion_ now re - joice:
 All cre - a - tion_ now re - joice:

43

46

day is born. Heav'n and earth sing_ with one voice
 vic - t'ry won. Chris - tians sing with_ one great voice;

Christ for us _ this day is born. Heav'n and earth sing_
 Christ for us _ the vic - t'ry won. Chris - tians sing with_

46

49

al - le - lu - ias on — this morn.
love's re - deem-ing work - is done!

(51)

with one voice on this morn.
one great voice, "Al - le - lu!"

49

(51)

53

f "Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o," an - gels sing in
Hon - or, glo - ry — give to Je - sus for the stone is

f Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, an - gels sing in
Al - le - lu, al - le - lu, for the stone is

unis.

53

56

joy - ous _ praise. All cre - a - tion_
 rolled a - way. All cre - a - tion_

joy - ous _ praise. All cre - a - tion_ join the cho - rus,
 rolled a - way. All cre - a - tion_ join the cho - rus

56

59

join the cho - rus, glad_ tri - um - phant songs to raise.
 join the cho - rus on_ this res - ur - rec - tion day,

glad_ tri - um - phant songs to raise.
 on_ this res - ur - rec - tion day,

59

62 *f unis.*

Glad tri - um - phant
on this res - ur -

f

62

Sk. *Sk.*

66 *cresc. poco a poco* *ff rit.*

songs we raise!
rec tion day!

cresc. poco a poco *ff div.*

Sk. *Sk.* *ff rit.*

cresc. poco a poco

66 *cresc. poco a poco* *ff rit.*

CHRISTMAS JOY (EASTER JOY)

HANDBELLS

Music by
ANNA LAURA PAGE

Bells used: 15



Joyfully (♩ = ca. 72-76)

mf

2 3 4 5 6 7

13 6 19 20 21 22 23 24

f *mf*

25 7 32 6 38 39 40 41 42

43 44 51 52 53 54 55

56 57 58 59 60 61

62 63 64 *Sk.* 65 *Sk.*

66 *Sk.* 67 *Sk.* 68 69 *Sk.*

cresc. poco a poco *ff rit.*

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