

## The Huron Carol

Tune derived from *Une Jeune Pucelle* (16th c.)

arr. Robin John King

Huron Text by St. Jean de Brébeuf (ca. 1641)

Adapted by J.E. Middleton\*

*The Huron Carol* has been recorded on the CD "A Festival of Carols" (IBS 1013) by the Choir of St. John's Church, Elora, Ontario, under the direction of its conductor, Noel Edison.

'Twas in the moon of wintertime,  
When all the birds had fled,  
That mighty Gitchi Manitou  
Sent angel choirs instead;  
Before their light the stars grew dim,  
And wond'ring hunters heard the hymn:  
"Jesus, your King is born,  
Jesus is born: *In excelsis gloria!*"

Within a lodge of broken bark  
The tender Babe was found,  
A ragged robe of rabbit skin  
Enwrapped His beauty 'round;  
But as the hunter braves drew nigh,  
The angel song rang loud and high:  
"Jesus, your King is born,  
Jesus is born: *In excelsis gloria!*"

O children of the forest free,  
O sons of Manitou,  
The Holy Child of earth and heav'n  
Is born today for you.  
Come kneel before the radiant Boy,  
Who brings you beauty, peace, and joy.  
"Jesus, your King is born,  
Jesus is born: *In excelsis gloria!*"

\* English text to *'Twas In the Moon of Wintertime*  
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S Je - sus is born: *In ex - cel-sis glo-ri - a!*" *mp* With - in a lodge of

A *p*  
Ah

T

B *p*  
Ah

*mp*  
*p*

21

bro-ken bark The ten-der Babe was found, A rag - ged robe of rab - bit skin En -

*mp*  
*p*

26

wrapped His beau-ty 'round; But as the hunt-er braves drew night, The an-gel song rang

— (ah) — Ah

*p*

Ah

— (ah) — Ah

31

loud and high: "Je - sus, your King is born, Je - sus is born: In ex - cel-sis glo-ri -

In ex - cel-sis glo-ri -

In ex - cel-sis glo-ri -

In ex - cel-sis glo-ri -

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*mf*  
*a!"* O chil - dren of the for - est free, O sons of Man - i -

*mf*  
*a!"* O chil - dren of the for - est free, O sons of Man - i -

*mf*  
*a!"* O chil - dren of the for - est free, O sons of Man - i -

*mf*  
*a!"* O chil - dren of the for - est free, O sons of Man - i -

42

*mp* tou, Ah *f* Come

*mp* tou, Ah *f* Come

*mp* tou The Ho - ly Child of earth and heav'n Is born to - day for you. *f* Come

*mp* tou, Ah *f* Come

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kneel be- fore the ra - dant Boy, Who brings you beau-ty, peace, and joy. "Je - sus, your  
 kneel be-fore the ra - dant Boy, Who brings you beau-ty, peace, and joy. "Je - sus, your  
 kneel be- fore the ra - dant Boy, Who brings you beau-ty, peace, and joy. "Je - sus, your  
 kneel be-fore the ra - dant Boy, Who brings you beau - ty, peace, and joy. "Je - sus, your

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King is born, Je - sus is born: In ex - cel-sis glo - ri - a!"  
 King is born, Je - sus is born: In ex - cel-sis glo - ri - a!"  
 King is born, Je - sus is born: In ex - cel-sis glo - ri - a!"  
 King is born, Je - sus is born: In ex - cel-sis glo - ri - a!"

## **Robin John King**

(b. 1961)

Robin John King is a native of Toronto, Ontario.

A boy chorister in the choirs of The Cathedral Church of St. James and Royal St. George's College, he began organ studies with John Tuttle at the age of 15. He attended the University of Toronto on scholarships from the Bishop F.H. Wilkinson Foundation, receiving a Bachelor of Music degree in organ performance and church music. His teachers there included John Tuttle, William Wright, Godfrey Ridout and Talivaldis Kenins. A recipient of the Lillian Forsythe Scholarship, he studied organ and composition with Barrie Cabena.

Mr. King was appointed Director of Music at Robertson-Wesley United Church, Edmonton, Alberta, in 1988, where he served until 1993. While there, he continued to develop the church's long tradition of fine organ, choral and handbell music, including a weekly concert series, annual concerts and workshops, and a highly successful choir tour to England in 1991.

In 1994, he became Executive Director of The Alberta Choral Federation, a not-for-profit provincial service organization serving choirs and choral music in Alberta.

Composer, conductor, and organist, he and his music have been heard on the CBC and in concert across Canada, in the U.S.A. and in Great Britain.