

PERFORMANCE NOTES

The text to *What Child Is This?* was written by William Chatterton Dix, who worked for an insurance company in Glasgow, Scotland. In 1865, while recovering from an illness, Dix had a spiritual awakening and many of his hymns were from this period. *What Child Is This?* was first published in England in *Christmas Carols Old and New*, and was likely paired with the folk song *Greensleeves* by John Stainer, one of the editors. It remains more popular in the United States than in England. In addition to *What Child Is This?*, Dix wrote *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*, and *As With Gladness Men of Old*.

Rumors persist that King Henry VIII wrote the tune *Greensleeves* while wooing Anne Boleyn. However, the style of the song did not come into fashion in England until after Henry's death. It likely arose during the Elizabethan period.



Sondra K. Tucker, BSE, MMus (b. 1957) is Handbell Editor for Jubilate Music Group. She has served churches in Texas and Tennessee as organist and Director of Music. She has served Handbell Musicians of America in various capacities, and teaches composition at the Master Series of classes sponsored by the Guild. She is in demand as a conductor and clinician for denominational and Guild events. Sondra is an accomplished organist and flutist, and her published works include music for choir, organ, and instrumental ensembles in addition to handbells. She lives in Memphis with her husband, and has two children and two granddaughters.

What Child Is This?

for 3–6 octaves of Handbells with optional Handchimes*

Handbells used: 37, 49, 59, 63

optional

optional

Handchimes used: 33, 34

opt.

3 octave choirs omit notes in ().

4 octave choirs omit notes in [].

Andante con moto (♩ = ca. 104)

GREENSLEEVES, English Folk Song

Arranged by Sondra K. Tucker

LV

1

2

3

4

mp R

5

6

7

8

LV

LV

LV

LV

LV

LV

LV

* To purchase a full-length performance recording (47204) of this piece, go to alfred.com/downloads.

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47204

LV

9 10 11 12

LV

13 14 15 16

LV

17 18 19 20

R *mf*

21 22 23 24

47204

Measures 25-28 of a musical score. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody in the treble clef consists of eighth and quarter notes. The bass clef accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern. Measure 27 includes a fermata over the final chord.

Measures 29-32 of a musical score. The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes. The bass clef accompaniment maintains the eighth-note pattern. Measure 32 ends with a double bar line.

Measures 33-36 of a musical score. The melody features a mix of eighth and quarter notes. The bass clef accompaniment continues with eighth notes. Measure 36 ends with a double bar line.

Measures 37-40 of a musical score. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The bass clef accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern. Measure 40 ends with a double bar line.

41 42 43

44 45 46

47 48 49

50 51 52

LV

R
mp

LV

53 54 55

56 57 58

59 60 61

62 63 64 65 66 67

LV

p

R

Musical score for measures 68-74. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The notation is for a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). Measure 70 contains a circled 'q' above a note. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes with various accidentals.

Musical score for measures 75-80. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The notation is for a grand staff. Measure 77 includes the dynamic marking *mp* and the instruction *LV*. Measure 78 includes the instruction *R*. Measure 79 includes the instruction *LV*. Measure 80 includes the instruction *R*.

Musical score for measures 81-86. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The notation is for a grand staff. Measure 85 includes the instruction *LV*. Measure 86 includes the instruction *R*.

Musical score for measures 87-92. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The notation is for a grand staff. Measure 87 includes the instruction *LV*. Measure 88 includes the instruction *R*. Measure 91 includes the dynamic marking *pp*. Measure 92 features a long, sustained note in the bass clef.

93 94 95 96

p

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97 98 99 100

mp

Preview Requires Purchase

101 102 103 104

mf

Preview Requires Purchase

105 106 107 108

f

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109 *ff* 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 *mp* 123 *LV* 124

125 126 127 128

LV

129 130 131 132

LV R LV R

rit. al fine

133 134 135 136

p

137 138 139 140

LV R

pp