

Choral music for Christmas

This Is The Birthday

Ken Johnston

for 2 part voices (2nd part optional) and piano

Composed 1994 and revised 2002

Duration of piece: 3' 30"

Versions of this piece are also available for the following voice combinations:

SSA (or SAA) and piano
SATB and piano
SAB and piano

This Is The Birthday

Words -
Anonymous

for 2 part voices (2nd part optional*) and piano

Music -
Ken Johnston

Lively but not too fast ♩ = 140

Piano *mf light and staccato*

The score is written for piano and two voices. It begins with a piano introduction in 3/4 time, marked 'mf light and staccato'. The piano part consists of a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes in the right hand and quarter notes in the left hand. The vocal parts enter at measure 6. The first voice part (labeled '1') has a melody line, and the second voice part (labeled '2') is an optional line. The lyrics are: '1) Re - jice and_ be mer - ry in songs and in mirth, O praise our_ Re-dee - mer, all mor - tals on earth. For this is_ the birth - day of Je - sus our King, Who brought us_ sal - va - tion, his prai - ses we'll sing. For this is_ the birth - day, this is_ the birth - day, this is_ the'. The score includes dynamic markings such as 'mf' and 'f', and changes in time signature from 3/4 to 5/4 and back to 3/4.

6 *mf*
1) Re - jice and_ be mer - ry in songs and in

12
1) mirth, O praise our_ Re-dee - mer, all mor - tals on earth. For this is_ the

18
1) birth - day of Je - sus our King, Who brought us_ sal - va - tion, his prai - ses we'll


24 *f*
1) sing. For this is_ the birth - day, this is_ the birth - day, this is_ the

Duration: 3' 30"

* The melody line is always part 1. Part 2 is the optional line.

28

1



birth - day of Je - sus our King. For this is the birth - day,

32

1



this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day, his prai - ses we'll sing.

mf

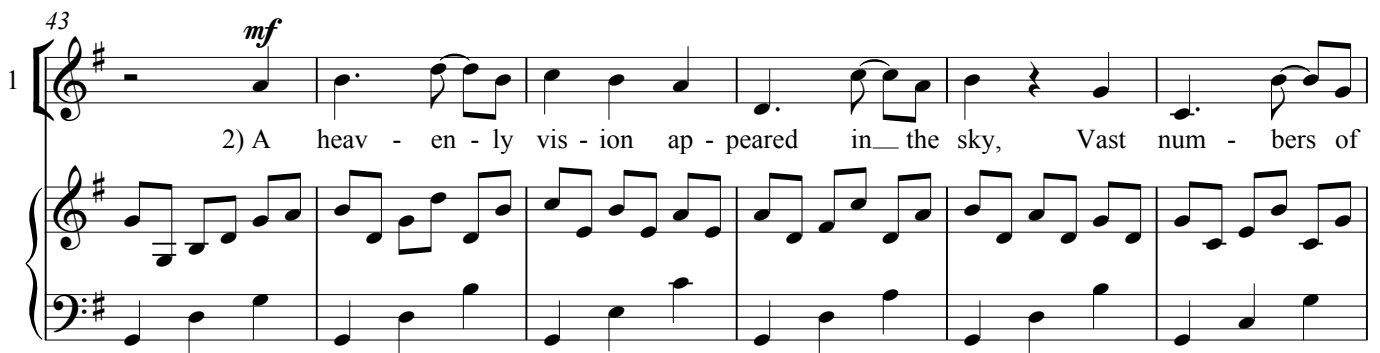
37

1



43

1



mf

2) A heav - en - ly vis - ion ap - peared in the sky, Vast num - bers of

49

1 an - gels the shep - herds did spy. Pro - claim - ing the birth - day of Je - sus our

2 (optional 2nd part) *mf* Pro - claim - ing the birth - day of Je - sus our

55

1 King, Who brought us sal - va - tion, his prai - ses we'll sing. For *f*

2 King, Who brought us sal - va - tion, his prai - ses we'll sing. For *f*

60 (unison)

1 this is the birth - day, this is the birth - day, this is the birth - day of

64

1 Je - sus our King. For this is the birth - day, this is the birth - day,

68

1

this is the birth-day, his prai - ses we'll sing.

mf

73

79

1

3) Like - wise a star in the sky did ap-pear, Which led wise - men from the

mf

85

1

East to draw near. They found the Mes-si - ah, sweet Je - sus our King, Who

2

They found the Mes-si - ah, sweet Je - sus our King, Who

mf

91

1 brought us sal - va - tion, his prai - ses we'll sing. For this is the birth-day,

2 brought us sal - va - tion, his prai - ses we'll sing. This is the

f

96

1 this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day of Je - sus our King. For

2 birth - day, this is the birth - day, this is the birth - day of Je - sus our

101

1 this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day, his

2 King. This is the birth - day, this is the birth - day, birth - day, his

105

1 prai - ses we'll sing. *p* 4) And when they were

2 prai - ses we'll sing.

mf legato

Ped. (sim.)

111

1 come, they their trea - sures un - fold, And un - to him of - fered myrrh, in - cense and

117

1 gold. So bles - sed for ev - er be Je - sus our King, Who brought us sal

2 *p* So bles - sed for ev - er be Je - sus our King, Who brought us sal

123

1 va - tion, his prai - ses we'll sing. *mp* For this is the birth - day,

2 va - tion, his prai - ses we'll sing. *mp* This is the

mp

(still legato and with pedal)

127

1 this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day of Je - sus our King. *cresc.*

2 birth - day, this is the birth - day, this is the birth - day, the birth-day of *cresc.*

cresc.

132

1 *f* For this is the birth - day,

2 Je - sus our King. *f* For this is the birth - day,

f

(staccato, without pedal)

136

1 this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day of Je - sus our King. For

2 this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day of Je - sus our King. For

141

1
this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day, his

2
this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day, his

145

1
praises we'll sing. For this is the birth-day of Jesus

2
praises we'll sing. For this is the birth-day of Jesus

150

1
our King.

2
our King.