

Choral music for Christmas

This Is The Birthday

Ken Johnston

for SATB voices and piano

Version for 2 part voices and piano composed 1994
This version, 2002

Duration of piece: 3' 30"

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

2 part voices (2nd part optional) and piano
SSA (or SAA) and piano
SAB and piano

This Is The Birthday

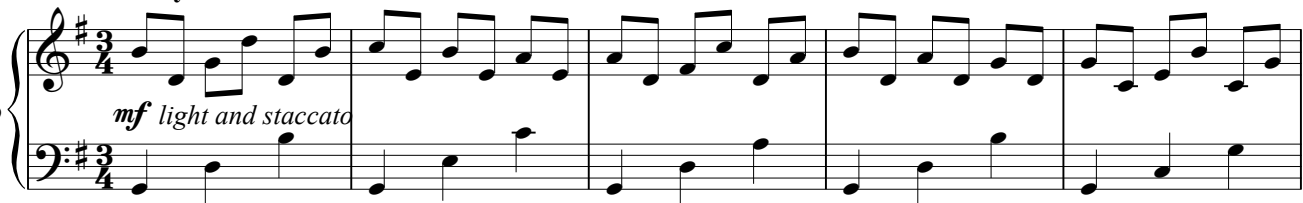
Words -
Anonymous

for SATB voices and piano

Music -
Ken Johnston

Lively but not too fast ♩ = 140

Piano *mf light and staccato*

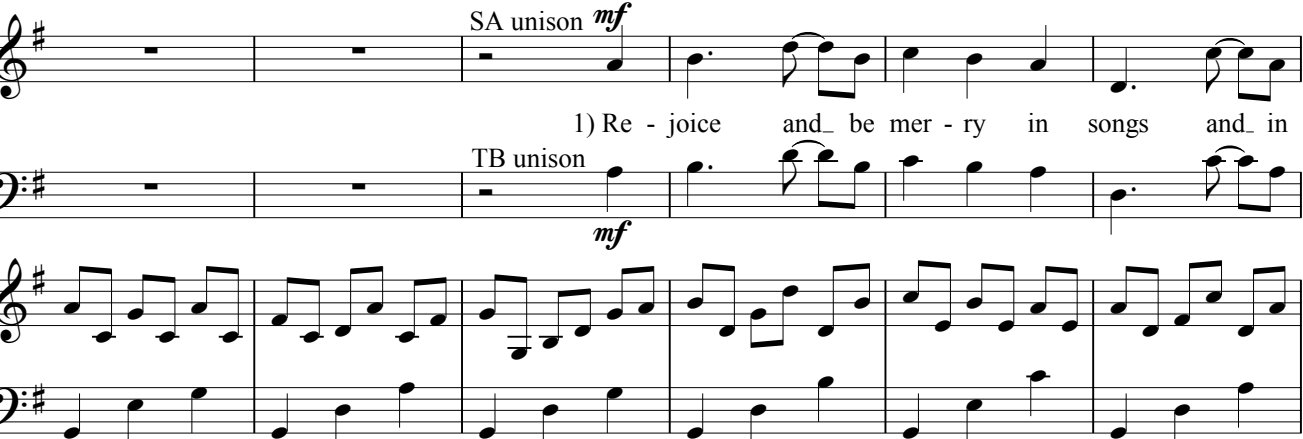


The piano introduction consists of two staves in 3/4 time, key of D major. The right hand plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, and the left hand plays a simple bass line of quarter notes.

6 SA unison *mf*

1) Re - joice and be mer - ry in songs and in

TB unison *mf*



The vocal parts (Soprano and Alto) and Tenor/Bass parts enter at measure 6. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. The lyrics are: "1) Re - joice and be mer - ry in songs and in".

12

S A mirth, O praise our Re-dee - mer, all mor - tals on earth. For this is the

T B



The vocal parts continue with the lyrics: "mirth, O praise our Re-dee - mer, all mor - tals on earth. For this is the". The piano accompaniment remains consistent.

18

S A birth - day of Je - sus our King, Who brought us sal - va - tion, his prai - ses we'll

T B



The vocal parts conclude with the lyrics: "birth - day of Je - sus our King, Who brought us sal - va - tion, his prai - ses we'll". The piano accompaniment continues to the end of the piece.

Duration: 3' 30"

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24

S A *div. f*

T B *div. f*

sing. For this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day, this is the

28

S A

T B

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

32

S A

T B

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

mf

37

S
A

T
B

43

S
A

SA unison *mf*

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

49

S
A

div.

an - gels the shep - herds did spy. Pro - claim - ing the birth - day of

54

S
A

Je - sus our King, Who brought us sal - va - tion, his prai - ses we'll

59

S
A

T
B

f

sing. For this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day, this is the

63

S
A

T
B

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

67

S
A

T
B

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

mf

72

S
A

T
B

78

T
B

TB unison *mf*

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

84

T
B

div.

men from the East to draw near. They found the Mes - si - ah, sweet

89

T
B

Je - sus our King, Who brought us sal - va - tion, his prai - ses we'll

94

S A *f*

For this is the birth-day, this is the birth-day, this is the

T B *f*

sing. This is the birth - day, this is the birth - day,

98

S A

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

T B

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

102

S A

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

T B

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

mf legato

Ped.

107

SA unison *p*

4) And when they were come, they their trea - sures un -

ped. (sim.)

113

fold, And un - to him of - fered myrrh, in - cense and gold. So bles - sed_ for

So bles - sed_ for

div.

p

119

ev - er be Je - sus our King, Who brought us sal - va - tion, his prai - ses we'll

ev - er be Je - sus our King, Who brought us sal - va - tion, his prai - ses we'll

125 *mp*

S
A
sing. For this is the birth - day, this is the birth - day, this is the

T
B
sing. This is the birth - day, this is the birth - day,

mp

(still legato and with pedal)

129

S
A
birth - day of Je - sus our King.

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

cresc.

134 *f*

S
A
For this is the birth - day, this is the birth - day, this is the

T
B
f

f

(staccato, without pedal)

138

S
A

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

T
B

142

S
A

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

T
B

146

S
A

unis.
sing. For this is the birth - day of Je - sus

T
B

unis.

150

S
A

our King.

T
B