

A HOME IS FOUND AT CHRISTMAS

for SATB chorus and orchestra



Original text and music by
Dominick DiOrio

Program Note

A HOME IS FOUND AT CHRISTMAS was commissioned by The Choral Arts Society of Washington and Laura S. Pruitt for their *O Night Divine!* Concert in December 2023 at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. It is dedicated to their Executive Director Tad Czyzewski and the premiere conductor Marie Bucoy-Calavan. I am grateful and honored to have been commissioned by Choral Arts previously—with the US Marine Band in 2019—and to have served as a guest conductor with the organization in Spring of 2023. This original song is my gift to the singers of Choral Arts in thanksgiving for welcoming me into their musical family.

- Dominick DiOrio, August 2023

Original Text by the Composer

A home is found at Christmas
In places near and far,
In home-cooked meals and ringing peals,
A chock-full cookie jar,
In stories told and memories old,
A lightly struck guitar,
A home is found this Christmas
In all lit by the star.

A home is found at Christmas
For those cast far astray,
In letters sent and evenings spent
In waiting for the day,
'Til they return and cure the yearn
That will not go away...
A home is found this Christmas
For loved ones soon to stay.

A home is found at Christmas
For those who wait and see,
A promise cast, a longing fast,
A faith in what will be,
A vacant sky, an urgent cry,
An oath, a prayer, a plea...
A home is found this Christmas
For all we wish would be.

And if you long at Christmas
For a home to call your own,
A chance to rest not as a guest
But as a soul full-known,
Recall the gift made for us swift
By God made flesh and bone...
A home is found this Christmas
For all whom grace was shown.

A home is found at Christmas
In boundaries we destroy,
In chains released, in heart'ning feast,
In all that we enjoy,
In windswept love and heaven's dove,
In newborn girl and boy...
A home is found this Christmas
In bright, enduring joy.

Cover Photo

“Girl in dress posing by Christmas tree” by Matheus Bertelli. Accessed on August 12, 2023:
<https://www.pexels.com/photo/girl-in-dress-posing-by-christmas-tree-13871137/>
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B

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Perc.

Timp.

Hp.

Choir

home-cooked meals and ring-ing peals, A chock-full cook-ie jar,— In sto-ries told and mem-ries old, A light-ly struck gui - tar, A home is found this Christ-mas In

mf

B

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

mp

mp

mp

mp

mp

Fl. *mp* *mf*

Ob. *mf* *mp*

Cl. *mp* *p*

Bsn. *mp* *p*

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Perc. Glockenspiel *p*

Timp.

Hp. *mp*

DCB | EFGA

Choir *mp* *p*

all lit by the star. A home is found at Christ-mas For those cast far a - stray, In

Vln. I *p* *pizz* *p³*

Vln. II *p* *pizz* *p³*

Vla. *p* *mp* *pizz* *p*

Vc. *p* *mp* *pizz* *p*

Cb. *p* *p*

C

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Bsn.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Tba.

Glock.

Timp.

Hp.

Choir *mp*
 let - ters sent and ev' - nings spent In wait - ing for the day, — 'Til they re - turn and cure the yearn That will not go a -

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

E

Fl. *mf* *f* *mf*

Ob. *f* *mf*

Cl. *f* *mf*

Bsn. *f* *mf*

Hn. *mf*

Tpt. *f*

Tbn. *mf*

Tba. *mf*

Perc. *p* *f* *mf* Sleigh Bells

Timp. *mf*

Hp. *f* *gliss.*

Choir
A home is found at Christ-mas For those who wait and see, A pro-mise cast, a long-ing fast, A faith in what will

Vln. I *f* *arco* *mf*

Vln. II *f* *arco* *mf*

Vla. *f* *arco* *mf*

Vc. *f* *arco* *mf*

Cb. *f* *arco* *mf*

54 7

Fl. *f* *ff*

Ob. *f* *ff*

Cl. *f* *ff*

Bsn. *f* *ff*

Hn. *mp*

Tpt. *f*

Tbn. *mp* *f*

Tba. *mp*

S.Bells Cymbals *p*

Timp. *fp* *fp*

Hp.

Choir
be, — A va-cant sky, an ur-gent cry, An oath, a prayer, a plea... A home is found this Christ-mas For all we wish would be. And

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

Cb. *f*

F

8 63 **G**

Fl. *f* *mp* *p* *mf* *p*

Ob. *f* *mp* *p* *mf* *p*

Cl. *f* *mp* *p* *mf* *p*

Bsn. *ff* *p* *mp* *p*

Hn. *f* *mp* *p* *mp*

Tpt. *mf* *f* *mf*

Tbn. *mp* *p* *mp*

Tba. *f* *mp* *p* *mp*

Perc. *ff*

Timp. *ff*

Hp.

Choir
 if you long at Christ-mas For a home to call your own, A chance to rest not as a guest But as a soul full - known, Re - call the gift made for us swift By God made flesh and

G

Vln. I *ff* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Vln. II *ff* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Vla. *ff* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Vc. *ff* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Cb. *ff* *mp* *mf* *mp*

74 **H** **I**

Fl. *f* *ff* *p* *mf*

Ob. *f* *ff* *mf* *p* *mf*

Cl. *f* *ff* *p* *mp*

Bsn. *mf* *f* *ff* *p* *mp*

Hn. *f* *ff*

Tpt. *f* *ff*

Tbn. *mp* *f* *ff*

Tba. *mp* *f* *ff*

Perc. *p* *ff*

Timp. *fp* *ff*

Hp. *ff* *mf* *mp*

Choir
bone... A home is found this Christ-mas for all whom grace was shown...

div **H** **I**

Vln. I *mf* *f* *ff*

Vln. II *mf* *f* *ff* *div*

Vla. *mf* *f* *ff* *mf* *p*

Vc. *mf* *f* *ff* *mf* *p*

Cb. *mf* *f* *ff*

J

Fl. *p* *mf* *a2*

Ob. *p* *mf*

Cl. *p* *mf*

Bsn. *mf*

Hn. *f* *mp* *mf warm* *a2*

Tpt. *f* *mf warm*

Tbn. *f* *mp* *mf warm* *a2*

Tba. *mf*

Perc. Glockenspiel *mf* *f* Cymbals

Timp. *pp* *mf*

Hp. *p* *mf* *f*

F to Fb Fb to F
D to Db D C Bb | E F G A

Choir

J

Vln. I *pp* *mf* *f*

Vln. II *pp* *mf* *f*

Vla. *pp* *mf* *f*

Vc. *pp* *fp* *mf*

Cb. *pp* *fp* *mf*