

031.10

SHARA NOVA

# Come Round the Evergreen

From "Winter Hymns"

for SSA choir with divisi, harp, and viola (2024)

Blue Sword Publishing

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Music and Lyrics by  
Shara Nova, 2024.

Instrumental arrangements and  
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# Come Round the Evergreen

from “Winter Hymns”

for SSA choir with divisi, harp, and viola

Shara Nova, 2024 — Instrumentals arr. J. Clay Gonzalez — Duration ca. 3’00”

## Divisi

The choir has is divided into three main sections; Soprano 1, Soprano 2, and Alto. Soprano 2 is occasionally split further, with S2a an S2b designations.

## Commissioning Information

Commissioned by iSing Silicon Valley, conducted by Jennah Delp. Premiered December 2, 2023 at St. Mark’s Episcopal Church featuring harpist Jieyin Wu and violist Lesley Roberston.

## Instrumentation

For this piece, the choir is accompanied by a viola and a harp. The harp part can be substituted for a piano in no harp is available, though some adaptation may be needed to make the part idiomatic.

## Program Note

As midwinter approaches, many people slow down a bit to reflect, and to listen to the world around them. The internality of the season invites us to take stock of what we have, and grieve what we’ve lost. For many, it’s a time to pay attention to the relationships that give our lives meaning.

“Winter Hymns” brings us into the emotional world that characterizes these end-of-year reflections, often using nature as a lens.

Winter is a time of profound changes in the natural world, where the colors of fall give way to the austerity of December. These changes affect us deeply, shaping our moods and outlook. Within winter’s gloom, though, are hints of abundance. The vibrancy of an evergreen in snow. A glimpse of a silent barred owl. Stars emerging from a brilliant winter sunset. A flash of red as a cardinal flies by.

In “Winter Hymns,” these images lead us into a space of celebration and reflection, where we consider what connects us to loves ones, to nature, and to home.

## Editions

This piece is a movement of the larger work “Winter Hymns,” excerpted for stand alone performance.

[031.10] “Come ‘Round the Evergreen,” from Winter Hymns

The other three movements from “Winter Hymns” are also available as separate editions.

[031.20] “Owl Song” from Winter Hymns

[031.30] “The Last Light” from Winter Hymns

[031.40] “When Cardinals Appear, Spirits Are Near” from Winter Hymns.

Finally, all four movements are available in a single edition.

[031.00] Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, harp, and viola

## Lyrics

Come ‘round the evergreen,  
Come ‘round and sing;  
“Oh, joy to see you,  
Oh joy, joy!:

All the birds gather at the evergreen  
In its boughs, we fold our winds,  
And in the rush of gathering, (Ah, ah,)  
And in the rush of reuniting at the evergreen, (Ah, ah,)  
Come round and sing;  
“Oh, joy to see you,  
Oh joy, joy!



VOCAL RANGES

The image displays four musical staves, each representing a different vocal part. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are as follows:

- Soprano 1:** A quarter note on G4, followed by a half note on A4 with a flat (A4b).
- Soprano 2a:** A quarter note on G4, followed by a half note on A4 with a flat (A4b).
- Soprano 2b:** A quarter note on G4, followed by a half note on A4.
- Alto:** A quarter note on G4, followed by a half note on A4.



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SHARA NOVA

SHARA NOVA (2024)  
arr. J. Clay Gonzalez

**Swaying**,  $\text{♩} = 76$

*mf*

S1  
Come round the ev-er- green,

S2  
Come round the ev-er-green,

A  
Come round the

Viola  
sul c, with vib.  
*fp* *f* *f*

Harp  
*f* *mf*

5

S1  
Come round the ev-er-green,

S2  
Come round the ev-er-green,

A  
ev-er-green, Come round the

Vla.  
*f* *f*

Hp.  
vd

9

S1  
Come round and sing, "Oh,

S2a  
Come round and sing, "Oh,

S2b and A  
*mf*  
Come round and sing,

(Alto only)  
ev-er-green,

Vla.  
*p*

Hp.  
*mf*  
gently

"Come Round the Evergreen" from *Winter Hymns* — Shara Nova — Full Score

3

13

S1  
S2a

joy \_\_\_\_\_ to see you, \_\_\_\_\_ Come round \_\_\_\_\_ and sing,

S2b  
A

"Oh, joy \_\_\_\_\_ to see you, \_\_\_\_\_ Come round \_\_\_\_\_ and

sul C, with vib.

Vla.

mp

Hp.

18

S1  
S2a

"Oh, joy \_\_\_\_\_ to see you, \_\_\_\_\_ Oh, joy, \_\_\_\_\_

S2b  
A

sing, \_\_\_\_\_ "Oh, joy \_\_\_\_\_ to see you, \_\_\_\_\_ Oh, joy, \_\_\_\_\_

Vla.

Hp.

f mp

mp

**B**

24

S1  
S2a

joy, Oh, joy,

S2b  
A

joy, Oh, joy,

Vla.

warm vibrato

mp mp<sup>3</sup>

Hp.

29

S1

joy!" All the birds gath-er at the ev-er-green,

S2

joy!" All the birds gath-er at the ev-er-green,

A

joy!" All the birds gath-er at the ev-er-green,

Vla.

pp mf

Hp.

ff mf

**C**

33

S1  
S2a

In its boughs, we fold our wings,

S2b  
A

In its boughs, we fold our wings,

Vla.

pizz.

Hp.

37

S1  
S2a

And in the rush of the gather - ing,

S2b  
A

And in the rush of the gather - ing,

Vla.

arco

Hp.

41 **D**

S1  
S2a

Ah, ah, ah,

S2b  
A

Ah, ah,

Vla.

Hp.

45

S1  
S2a

And in the rush of re - u - nit - ing,

S2b  
A

And in the rush of re - u - nit - ing,

Vla.

Hp.

no vib. p

no vib. p

f pp

l.v.

p f

50 *pp* *p* no vib. **E**

S1  
S2a re - u - nit - ing at the ev - er - green, at the ev - er - green,

S2b  
A re - u - nit - ing at the ev - er - green, at the

Vla. sul pont. *p*

Hp.

55 *mp* *mf*

S1  
S2a at the ev - er - green,

S2b  
A ev - er - green, at the ev - er - green,

Vla. sul pont. *p*

Hp. *mf*

**F**

59

S1 S2a Ah, ah,

S2b A ev-er-green, ah, ah,

Vla.

Hp.

64

S1 S2a ah, ah,

S2b A ah, ah, molto vib.

Vla. f mp bisbig.

Hp. f p



**H**

S1  
"Oh, joy to see you, Oh,

S2  
sing, "Oh, joy to see you, Oh,

A  
"Oh, joy to see you, Oh,

Vla.  
*f*

Hp.  
*f*

82

S1  
joy, joy, Oh, joy,

S2  
joy, joy, Oh, joy,

A  
joy, joy, Oh, joy,

Vla.  
*p* *ppp*

Hp.

87

S1 *mf* joy, *f* joy,

S2 *f* joy, *f* joy,

A *mf* joy, *f* joy,

Vla. *pp*

Hp. *p* *mp*

91

S1 *rit.* *ff* joy!"

S2 *ff* joy!"

A *ff* joy!"

Vla. *ff*

Hp. *f* *ff*

