

031.B0

SHARA NOVA

Come Round the Evergreen

From "Winter Hymns"

for SSA choir (with divisi) and piano (2025)

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) and piano

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 piano.

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

The original version of “Winter Hymns” is written for SSA choir, harp, and viola.

The following edition contains all four movements:

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

Additionally, each movement is available as stand-alone works.

[031.10] “Come ‘Round the Evergreen,” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, harp, and viola

[031.20] “Owl Song” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, harp, and viola

[031.30] “The Last Light” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, harp, and viola

[031.40] “When Cardinals Appear, Spirits Are Near”, for SSA choir, harp, and viola

Editions that substitute the harp part for a piano are available, rewriting various passages to be more idomatic for the piano.

[031.50] Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, piano, and viola

[031.60] “Come ‘Round the Evergreen,” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, piano, and viola

[031.70] “Owl Song” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, piano, and viola

[031.80] “The Last Light” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir, piano, and viola

[031.90] “When Cardinals Appear, Spirits Are Near”, for SSA choir, piano, and viola

(continued on next page)

Editions, continued.

This edition features the first movement, arranged for choir and piano only (no viola.)

[031.B0] “Come ‘Round the Evergreen,” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir and piano

Versions of all editions for SSA and piano only (no viola) are also available.

[031.A0] Winter Hymns, for SSA choir and piano

[031.C0] “Owl Song” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir and piano

[031.D0] “The Last Light” from Winter Hymns, for SSA choir and piano

[031.E0] “When Cardinals Appear, Spirits Are Near”, for SSA choir and piano

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 wings,
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 range. 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.

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.

Come Round the Evergreen

for SSA voices and piano

from "Winter Hymns"

SHARA NOVA

SHARA NOVA (2024)
arr. J. Clay Gonzalez

Swaying, $\text{♩} = 76$

S1 *mf*
Come round the ev - er - green,

S2 *mf*
Come round the ev - er - green,

A *mf*
Come round the

For performances in a wet space, the pedal markings shown here may be amended at the performer's discretion.

Piano *f* *mf*

5

S1
Come round the ev-er-green,

S2
Come round the ev-er-green,

A
ev-er-green, Come round the

Pno.

9

S1
mf Come round and sing, "Oh,

S2a

(Alto only) S2b and A
mf Come round and sing,

S2b
ev-er-green,

A

Pno.
mp
gently

13

S1
S2a

joy — to see you," — Come round — and sing, —

S2b
A

"Oh, joy — to see you," — Come round — and

Pno.

18

S1
S2a

— "Oh, joy — to see you, — Oh, joy, —

S2b
A

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

Pno.

B

24

S1
S2a

joy, Oh, joy,

S2b
A

joy, Oh, joy,

Pno.

mp

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,

Pno.

pp *mf* *mf*

C

33

S1
S2a

p *f*

In its boughs, we fold our wings,

S2b
A

p *f*

In its boughs, we fold our wings,

Pno.

p *f*

37

S1
S2a

mp

And in the rush of the gather-ing,

S2b
A

mp

And in the rush of the gather-ing,

Pno.

mp

41 **D**

S1
S2a

p Ah, ah, ah,

S2b
A

p *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

Ah, ah,

Pno.

45

S1
S2a

mf And in the rush of re - u - nit - ing, *p* no vib.

S2b
A

p *mf* And in the rush of re - u - nit - ing, *p* no vib.

Pno.

f *mp* l.v.

p *f*

50

S1
S2a

pp < > no vib. **E** *p*

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

S2b
A

pp < > *p* no vib.

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

Pno.

sempre pp

f

55

S1
S2a

mp < > *mf*

at the ev - er - green,

S2b
A

mf < >

ev - er - green, at the ev - er - green,

Pno.

pp

59

S1
S2a

S2b
A

Pno.

f **F** *mp*

Ah, ah,

mf *f* *mp* *mf*

ev-er-green, ah, ah,

ff *8va* *8va* *8va*

mp

mf

64

S1
S2a

S2b
A

Pno.

ah, ah,

ah, ah,

f *mp*