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Ten Communion Antiphons for Advent & Christmas
Unison Choir, Descant, Keyboard

Christopher Walker

CHORAL EXCELLENCE FOR TREBLE CHOIRS



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340 Oswego Pointe Dr., Lake Oswego, OR 97034-3253

(503) 281-1191 liturgy@ocp.org ocp.org

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Glorious Things

(The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

Christopher Walker

(♩ = ca. 142)

Unison Choir

mp

Glo - ri - ous things _____ are

Keyboard

p

8

spo - ken of you, O _____ Ma - ry, O _____

16

Ma - ry, for from you a - rose the sun of jus - tice,

cresc.

24 *mf*

Christ our God, _____ Christ our God. _____

2nd time: *rit.*

mf

2nd time: *rit.*

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The Lord Has Cast Down

(Our Lady of Guadalupe)

Luke 1:52

Christopher Walker

(♩ = ca. 54)

Unison Choir *mf*

The Lord has

Keyboard *mf*

Descant (2nd time only) *mf*

Cast down the might - y from their

(Melody)

cast down the might - y, has cast down the might - y from their

7

thrones, and has lift - ed

thrones, and has lift - ed up, has lift - ed up the low - ly,

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11 2nd time: *rall.*

up the low - ly, the low - ly.

and has lift - ed up the low - ly. low - ly.

2nd time: *rall.*

Composer Notes

These antiphons began life at the request of Gregg Schockman of St. Gregory Catholic Church in Phoenix, Arizona. He asked for simple communion antiphons that could be sung by a solo voice with keyboard accompaniment when there is no choir present. Some time later Stephen Bryant, organist of Clifton Cathedral in England, asked if he could try them with his children's Junior Choir. Subsequently they have been in regular use by the amateur adult Caritas Chorus at the Church of St. Paul the Apostle in Los Angeles.

The Communion Antiphons have been designed to be sung while the priest and communion ministers receive communion, before distribution to the people. They may also be sung at other times as short preludes or moments of meditation or after a homily. The vocal parts are in a comfortable range for children or adults, and may be sung by a solo voice, or by female/male/mixed voice unison choir.

When there is time in a celebration, an antiphon may be repeated, adding the optional descant, which may be sung by a soloist or small group. Alternatively the descant line may be played on an instrument.

—*Christopher Walker*

The Lord Will Bestow

(First Sunday of Advent)

Psalm 85:13

Christopher Walker

(♩ = ca. 100)

Unison Choir *mp*
The Lord will be-stow his

Keyboard *mp*

4 Descant (2nd time only) *mf*
The Lord will be-stow his boun - ty, and our earth shall

(Melody) *mf*
boun - ty, the Lord will be-stow his boun - ty, and our earth shall

cresc. *mf*

8 yield its in - crease, its

yield its in - crease, its in - crease. The

dim. *mp*

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13

in - crease. The Lord will be - stow his boun - ty.

in - crease. The Lord will be - stow his boun - ty.

dim. *dim.*

Preview

Jerusalem, Arise

(Second Sunday of Advent)

Baruch 5:5, 4:36

Christopher Walker

(♩ = ca. 108)

Unison Choir *mf*

Je - ru - sa - lem, a -

Keyboard *mf*

4 **Descant (2nd time only)**

and be - hold the joy which

(Melody)

rise, and stand up - on the heights, and be - hold the joy which

cresc.

8 *f*

comes to you, which comes to you from

1

f

comes to you, which comes to you from God. Je -

1 *mf*

dim. *mf*

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11 ² *mp*
God. Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise, a - rise.

² *mp*
God. Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise, a - rise.

²
dim. *mp*

Say to the Faint of Heart

(Third Sunday of Advent)

Isaiah 35:4

Christopher Walker

(♩ = ca. 100)

Unison Choir

Keyboard

p

Say to the faint of heart,

5

Descant (2nd time only)

Be strong and do not fear, do not

mp

say to the faint of heart: Be strong and do not fear, do not

cresc. *mp*

9

fear. Be - hold, our God will come, be - hold, our God will

cresc.

fear. Be - hold, our God will come, be - hold, our God will

cresc.

cresc.

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13 *mf*

come, and he will save us. Our God will

mf

come, and he will save us. Our God will

mf

18 1 2

come.

come. come.

Behold, a Virgin Shall Conceive

(Fourth Sunday of Advent)

Isaiah 7:14

Christopher Walker

(♩ = ca. 100)

Unison Choir

p

Be - hold, a Vir - gin shall con -

Keyboard

p

6 **Descant (2nd time only)** *p*

And bear a son; Em - man - u -

ceive and bear a son; and his name will be

cresc.

11 *mf* *mp*

el, Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el, Em -

mf *mp*

called Em - man - u - el, Em - man - u - el, Em -

mf *dim.* *mp*

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16

man - u - el.

man - u - el. Be - el.

dim.

p

p

p rit.

1 2

1 2

1 2

The Glory of the Lord

(The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas): At the Vigil Mass)

Isaiah 40:5

Christopher Walker

(♩ = ca. 100)

Descant (2nd time only)

Unison Choir

Keyboard

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a descant in G major, 3/4 time, with a tempo marking of ca. 100. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. A repeat sign follows, with the instruction "(2nd time only)". The descant continues with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. The middle staff is for the Unison Choir, also in G major, 3/4 time. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. A repeat sign follows, with the instruction "(2nd time only)". The choir part continues with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. The bottom staff is for the Keyboard, in G major, 3/4 time. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a quarter rest, then a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. A repeat sign follows, with the instruction "(2nd time only)". The keyboard part continues with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. Dynamics include *mf* for the choir and keyboard.

(The) glo - ry of the
mf
The glo - ry of the

4

Lord will be re - vealed, and all flesh will see the sal -

Lord will be re - vealed, and all flesh will see the sal -

Keyboard

The second system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is for the vocal parts, in G major, 3/4 time. It begins with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, and a quarter note C. A repeat sign follows, with the instruction "(2nd time only)". The vocal part continues with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. The middle staff is for the keyboard, in G major, 3/4 time. It begins with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, and a quarter note C. A repeat sign follows, with the instruction "(2nd time only)". The keyboard part continues with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. Dynamics include *f* for the vocal parts and *cresc.* for the keyboard.

Lord will be re - vealed, and all flesh will see the sal -
f
Lord will be re - vealed, and all flesh will see the sal -
f
cresc.

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8

1 *mf* 2 *rit.*
 va - tion, the sal- The -va - tion of God.

1 *, mf* 2 *rit.*
 va - tion, the sal- va - tion of our God. The -va - tion of our God.

1 *dim.* *mf* 2 *rit. e dim.*

Preview

The Word Became Flesh

(The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas): At the Mass during the Night)

John 1:14

Christopher Walker

(♩ = ca. 72)

Unison Choir

Keyboard

p

The

3 **Descant (2nd time only)** *p*

The Word be - came flesh,

(Melody)

Word be - came _____ flesh, _____ and we have seen his

6 *p*

we have _____ seen his glo - ry.

mp cresc.

glo - ry, The Word be - came _____

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9 *p*

The Word be-came
flesh, and we have seen his glo - ry, we have

12 *rall. e dim.*

flesh, be - came flesh.
seen his glo - ry.

Rejoice, O Daughter Sion

(The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas): At the Mass at Dawn)

Zechariah 9:9

Christopher Walker

(♩ = ca. 74)

Unison Choir

mf

Re - joice, O Daugh - ter

Keyboard

mf

4

f

mf

Si - on; lift up praise, lift up praise, Daugh - ter Je - ru - sa-lem:

f

mf

9

mp

Be - hold, your King will come, the Ho - ly

p

mp

cresc.

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13 Descant (2nd time only) *mf* *f*

the Ho - ly One and Sav - ior, the Ho - ly One and

(Melody) *mf* *f*

One, the Ho - ly One and Sav - ior, the Ho - ly One and

mf *f*

17

Sav - ior, the Sav - ior of the world.

Sav - ior of the world. Re - of the world.

mf *rit.*

mf *rit.*

All the Ends of the Earth

(The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas): At the Mass during the Day)

Psalm 98(97):3

Christopher Walker

(♩ = ca. 100)

Unison Choir

mf All the ends of the earth have seen the sal -

Keyboard

mf *cresc.* *f*

6

1

va - tion of our God, all the ends of the earth.

dim. *mp*

12

2

Descant *rit.*

All the ends of the earth have seen the sal - va - tion of our God.

2

(Melody) *rit.*

all the ends of the earth have seen the sal - va - tion of our God.

2

cresc. *rit.* *dim.*

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