

O Antiphons

Setting by K. Jurica

Dedicated to the students of
St. John's Lutheran School, Chicago, IL

December 10, 2023

My setting of the *O Antiphons* came about because of a conversation I had with my school's pastor, Rev. Jacob Ehrhard. At our last chapel before Christmas vacation in 2022, we created a service where select students read the traditional *O Antiphons* text and an Old Testament reading followed by the congregation responding with the corresponding verse of the hymn, *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*. He thought it would be worthwhile to find a musical setting that utilized the *O Antiphons* text for St. John's 3rd-8th grade Christmas program for December of 2023. I decided that I should be the one to compose it.

On December 10th, 2023, the 3rd-8th grade students from St. John's Lutheran School in Chicago, IL performed this setting of the *O Antiphons*. The only adult musicians were the flute player and some of the hand chime players. Every other part was performed by a grade-school student. They took this task very seriously and enjoyed sharing this unique blend of ancient and modern combined to share the good news of the birth of their Savior.

The following Biblical texts were read before each movement. Each selection includes a Messianic promise from the Old Testament and the fulfillment of that promise through the birth, life, and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. After each Antiphon was sung, the congregation responded with the corresponding hymn verse.

The first text was read after the *Prelude to Antiphon 1*.

Antiphon 1: Isaiah 11:2-4a & Luke 2:41-52

Antiphon 2: Isaiah 33:22 & Matthew 21:1-11

Antiphon 3: Isaiah 11:1, 10 & Matthew 1:1-17

Antiphon 4: Isaiah 22:22 & Luke 1:26-38

Antiphon 5: Isaiah 9:2 & Matthew 24:29-31

Antiphon 6: Isaiah 9:6-7 & Luke 1:32-33

Antiphon 7: Isaiah 7:14 & Matthew 1:18-25

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Prelude to Antiphon 1

Choir

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Adagio *Each note held by a small group * *a little faster*

Vo. 1 *mf* *f* Unison *mp* *rit.*

Ooo _____ Ooo _____ Ooo _____ Ooo Ve -

Vo. 2/3 *mf* *mp* Unison

Ooo _____ Ooo _____ Ooo _____

6

Vo. 1 *rit.*

ni, ve - ni E - man - u - el, cap - ti - vum sol - ve Is - ra - el.

Vo. 2/3

10

Vo. 1 *mf* *mp* Unison

Ooo _____ Ooo _____

Vo. 2/3 *mf* *f* Unison

Ooo _____ Ooo _____ qui ge - mit in ex - sil - i - o Pri - va - tus De - i

14

Vo. 1 *ff*

Gau - de! Gau - de! Em - man - u - el, nasc - e - tur pro te Is - ra -

Vo. 2/3 *ff*

Fi - li - o Gau - de! Gau - de! Em - man - u - el, Pro te Is - ra -

18

*Each note held by a small group *

Vo. 1

el! Ooo_____ Ooo_____ Ooo_____ Ooo

mf *mp* *p*

Unison

Vo. 2/3

*Each note held by a small group *

el! Ooo_____ Ooo_____ Ooo_____

mf *mp* *p*

Unison

Antiphon 1

O Wisdom-December 17

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♩ = 80

Voice

Piano

6

Vo.

f O — Wis - dom, pro - ceed - ing from the mouth of the Most

Pno.

11

Vo.

High, per - vad - ing and per - me - a - ting all — cre - a - tion,

Pno.

16

Vo.

might - i - ly or - der - ing all — things; *mf* Come and

Pno.

2

20

Vo.

teach us the way of pru - dence.

Pno.

Ped.

Detailed description: This is a musical score for voice and piano. The voice part is written in a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The lyrics are 'teach us the way of pru - dence.' The piano part is written in two staves (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of two sharps. It includes a 'Ped.' (pedal) marking. The score is numbered '20' at the top left.

The congregation joins in singing verse 2 of the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

Antiphon 2

O Adonai-December 18

KJurica

Andante

Trumpet in Bb *f*

Tubano *mf*

Tambourine *mf*

Voice

Piano *f*

3

Tpt. in Bb

Tub.

Tamb.

V. *f*

O Ad - o - nai and rul - er of the house of

Pno. *mf*

6

Tpt. in Bb

Tub.

Tamb.

V.

Pno.

Is - rael, who ap - peared to Mos - es and the burn - ing bush and

9

Tpt. in Bb

Tub.

Tamb.

V.

Pno.

gave him the Law on Si - nai:

12

Tpt. in Bb

Tub.

Tamb.

V.

mf
Come with an out-stretched arm and re -

Pno.

15

Tpt. in Bb

Tub.

Tamb.

V.

deem us.

Pno.

17

Tpt. in Bb

Tub.

Tamb.

V.

Pno.

The musical score is arranged in three systems, each containing five staves. The instruments are Tpt. in Bb, Tub., Tamb., V., and Pno. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The first system (measures 12-14) features a vocal line starting with 'Come with an out-stretched arm and re -' at measure 13, marked *mf*. The tuba and tambourine play rhythmic accompaniment. The second system (measures 15-16) continues the vocal line with 'deem us.' The third system (measures 17-18) concludes the passage with a double bar line.

Antiphon 3

O Root of Jesse-December 19

KJurica

Handchimes use

HC

The handchimes part consists of two staves, treble and bass clef. The treble staff contains a sequence of notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. The bass staff contains a sequence of notes: G3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4.

Andantino

Vo. 2

mp O Root of Jes-se, O

HC

mp

The first system of the score is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. It features a vocal line (Vo. 2) and a handchime accompaniment (HC). The vocal line begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a quarter note G5. The handchime accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the treble clef and a sustained bass line in the bass clef.

Vo.

mf O Root of Jes-se, stand-ing as a en - sign — be-

Vo. 2

Root of Jes-se, O Root of Jes-se, O

HC

The second system of the score continues the musical setting. It features a vocal line (Vo.), a second vocal line (Vo. 2), and a handchime accompaniment (HC). The vocal line begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a quarter note G5. The second vocal line begins with a half note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note D5, a quarter note E5, a quarter note F5, and a quarter note G5. The handchime accompaniment continues with the same accompaniment as in the first system.

11

Vo. 1
for the peo - ples, be - fore whom all kings are mute, to

Vo. 2
Root of Jes - se, O Root of Jes - se, O Root of Jes - se,

HC

16

Vo. 1
whom all na - tions will do hom - age. Come quick ly to de -

Vo. 2
O Root of Jes - se, O Root of Jes - se, O

HC

21

Vo. 1
liv - er us.

Vo. 2
Root of Jes - se, O Root of Jes - se,

HC

Antiphon 4

O Key of David-December 20

KJurica

Andante

Voice

mf O Key of Dav - id and

Piano

mf

5

Vo.

scep-ter of the house of Is - ra-el, You

Pno.


9


Vo.

o - pen and no one can close, You close and no one can o - pen:


Pno.

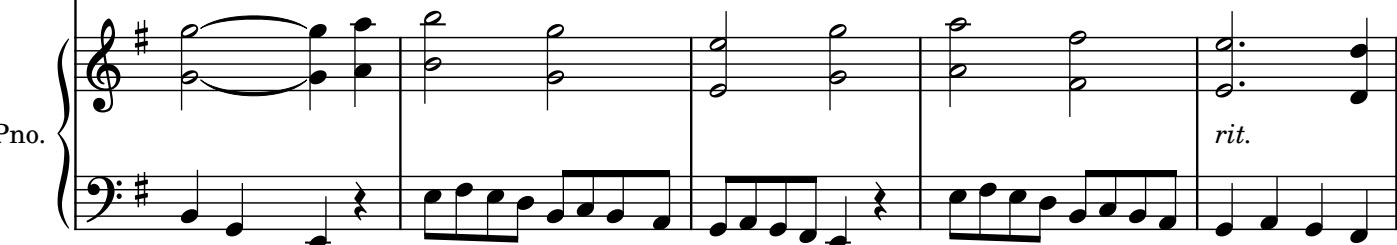
13

Vo. 


Pno. 

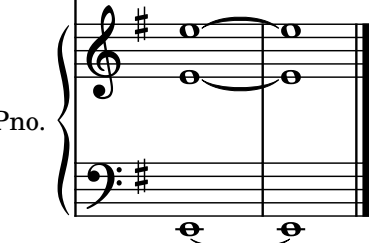
18

Vo. 

Pno. 

23

Vo. 

Pno. 

Antiphon 5

O Dayspring-December 21

KJurica

Handchimes Used

HC

Musical notation for Handchimes (HC) in G major, 6/8 time, measures 1-5. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of quarter notes on the treble and bass staves.

Andantino 2 3 *2nd time 8va* 4 5

Fl. *mf*

Desc. *mf* *2nd time only*

Vo. *mf* O Day-spring,

HC *mf*

Musical notation for measures 2-5. Flute (Fl.) and Descant (Desc.) parts are shown. The Descant part includes the lyrics "O Day-spring,". Handchimes (HC) provide accompaniment. The tempo is marked **Andantino**.

6 7 8 9

Fl.

Desc. splen-dor of light ev - er-las-ting:

Vo. light ev - er - las-ting:

HC

Musical notation for measures 6-9. Flute (Fl.) and Descant (Desc.) parts are shown. The Descant part includes the lyrics "splen-dor of light ev - er-las-ting:". Handchimes (HC) provide accompaniment.

2

10 Unison 11 12 13 14 15

Vo. Come and en-light-en those who sit in dark-ness and in the

HC

16 17 18 19

Fl.

Vo. sha - dow of death.

HC

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel." It is divided into two systems. The first system covers measures 10 to 15. The second system covers measures 16 to 19. The instruments are Voice (Vo.), Flute (Fl.), and Harp/Contra (HC). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score includes vocal lines with lyrics, a flute line, and a harp/contrabass line. The lyrics are: "Come and en-light-en those who sit in dark-ness and in the sha - dow of death." The word "Unison" is written above measure 10. Measure numbers 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, and 19 are indicated above their respective measures.

The congregation joins in singing verse 6 of the hymn "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel."

Antiphon 6

O King of the Nations-December 22

KJurica

Andantino

Trumpet

Voice

Piano

Tubano

Tambourine

4

Tpt.

Vo.

Pno.

Tub

Tamb.

mf

mp

f O King of the nations,

8

Tpt.

Vo.

Pno.

Tub.

Tamb.

the ru - ler they long for,

12

Tpt.

Vo.

Pno.

Tub.

Tamb.

the cor - ner - stone, the cor - ner - stone u -

Red.

16

Tpt. *mf*

Vo. ni - ting all peo-ple:

Pno. (Ped.)*

Tub. *mp*

Tamb. *mp*

20

Tpt.

Vo. Come _____ and save_us O

Pno.

Tub.

Tamb.

24

Tpt. *f*

Vo. Lord our God.

Pno.

Tub.

Tamb.

28

Tpt.

Vo.

Pno.

Tub.

Tamb.

Antiphon 7

O Emmanuel-December 23

KJurica

Handchimes used

Hand Chimes

Hand Chimes musical notation for two staves. The upper staff has notes with accidentals: Bb, A#, G#, F#, E, D, C, Bb, A#, G#, F#, E, D, C, Bb, A#. The lower staff has notes with accidentals: G#, F#, E, D, C, Bb, A#, G#, F#, E, D, C, Bb, A#. Both staves have a fermata over the final note. The word 'E#' is written below the first and fifth measures of the upper staff, and below the fifth measure of the lower staff.

Adagio

*Each note held by a small group *

Vo.

Vocal musical notation in 4/4 time. The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The notes are held with a fermata. The lyrics 'Ooo' are written below each note. The dynamic is *mf*. The word 'Unison' is written above the final two notes. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#).

Moderato

5

Fl.

Flute musical notation in 3/4 time. The melody starts with a rest for one measure, then plays quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The notes are held with a fermata. The dynamic is *f*.

HC

Hand Chimes musical notation for two staves. The upper staff has notes with accidentals: G#, F#, E, D, C, Bb, A#, G#, F#, E, D, C, Bb, A#. The lower staff has notes with accidentals: G#, F#, E, D, C, Bb, A#, G#, F#, E, D, C, Bb, A#. Both staves have a fermata over the final note. The dynamic is *f*.

Pno.

Piano musical notation for two staves. The upper staff has notes with accidentals: G#, F#, E, D, C, Bb, A#, G#, F#, E, D, C, Bb, A#. The lower staff has notes with accidentals: G#, F#, E, D, C, Bb, A#, G#, F#, E, D, C, Bb, A#. Both staves have a fermata over the final note. The dynamic is *f*.

10

Fl. Descant 2nd time only

HC

Desc. Descant 2nd time only

Vo. *f* our king and our

f O Em - man - u-el, our king and our

Pno.

15

Fl.

Desc. Lord, their

Vo. Lord, the an - noint - ed for the na - tions and their

Pno.

19

Fl.

Desc.

Vo.

Pno.

1. 2.

Sav - - - - ior:

Sav - ior: O Em - ior:_____

23

Fl.

HC

Vo.

Vo. 2/3

Pno.

Come and save us O Lord our God. Ve - ni, ve -

Come and save us O Lord our God.

Come and save us O Lord our God. Ve - ni, ve -

28 *rit.*

Fl.

a tempo

HC

rit.

a tempo

Vo.

rit.

ff

ni, E - man - ue - el.

Vo. 2/3

rit.

ff

ni, E - man - ue - el.

Pno.

rit.

a tempo

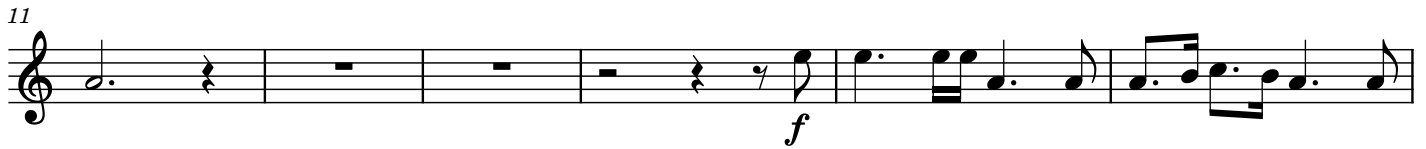
Antiphon 2

O Adonai-December 18

Trumpet

KJurica

Andante



Antiphon 2

O Adonai-December 18

KJurica

Andante

Tubano

Tambourine

mf

(O)

4

Tub.

Tamb.

Adonai)

8

Tub.

Tamb.

13

Tub.

Tamb.

(Sinai)

17

Tub.

Tamb.

Antiphon 5

O Dayspring-December 21

Flute

KJurica

$\text{♩} = 60$
2
3 *2nd time 8va 4* 5 6 7 8 9
mf

10 8 18 19

Antiphon 6

Trumpet

O King of the Nations-December 22

KJurica

Andantino

4

mf

4

17

mf

4

f

28

mf

Antiphon 6

O King of the Nations-December 22

KJurica

Andantino

Tubano *mp* *(O)*

Tambourine *mp*

5
Tub *King)*

Tamb. *mp*

10
Tub

Tamb. *mp* *(people)*

15
Tub

Tamb. *mp*

20
Tub

Tamb.

25
Tub

Tamb.

28
Tub

Tamb.

Antiphon 7

Flute

O Emmanuel-December 23

KJurica

Adagio **Moderato**

9 **Descant 2nd time only**

19 1. 2.

27 *rit.* *a tempo*

f