

Good News!

SATB Choir & Piano
Optional C Instrument, Chimes,
& Tambourine

Daniel Watson

*Winner of the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir National Christmas Carol Commission Competition (2023)
Premiered by the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir, Eric Stark, Artistic Director*

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SATB Choir and Piano
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Daniel Watson
Text based on Luke 1:27-38, 2:6-16
Cover Photo: Sacré-Cœur Basilica, Paris, France (Daniel Watson)

About the Work

In the Bates-Hendricks neighborhood of Indianapolis, Indiana, there is a quiet residential street with a wide median adorned with colorful foliage and a stepping stone path. Nestled in the center of the median is a tiny wooden shelter with a vaulted ceiling and steeple. Within this open-air structure resides a community piano that thoughtful neighbor places outside during the spring and summer for the community to enjoy. A local sanctuary. This is where I wrote "Good News!"

For centuries, Christmas carols have enriched the Advent season with their captivating storytelling and tuneful melodies. These songs hold a special place in the hearts of many, primarily because of their comforting familiarity. My aim was to make "Good News!" resonate like a beloved carol that audiences already know and enjoy. By blending techniques from the 18th to the 21st century, this composition evokes the joy and anticipation of Christ's birth.

Performance Notes

If the optional parts are unavailable, this piece may be performed with choir and piano only. Full instrumentation (including C instrument, chimes, and tambourine) is recommended as it elevates the celebratory feel and blended styles. Any C instrument may be used and registers may be changed to best suit the instrument. An oboe or flute would best evoke the French carol style. If using a flute, the majority of the music should be played an octave higher than written. This adaptability offers performers and directors a range of options to suit their preferences and style.

Daniel Watson is a versatile composer, teacher, and musician from Indianapolis, Indiana. Inspired by the beauty of the natural world, Watson's music challenges performers and audiences to heighten their senses through sound. His first choral masterwork, *Virtues and Vices*, premiered at the University of Indianapolis in 2024, commissioned by Sound Ecologies Inc. In 2023, he won the Indianapolis Symphonic Choir National Christmas Carol Commission Competition with his work "Good News!". Watson has had the privilege of performing, directing, and premiering compositions at Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, and venues throughout Great Britain, France, Switzerland, Austria, Germany, and the United States. He continues to be commissioned for new works for professional, collegiate, high school, and middle school singers.

Watson has been recognized for his dedication to music education with the Outstanding Future Music Educator of the Year Award (2015) from the Indiana Music Education Association and the National Professional Achievement Award (2014, 2015) from the National Association for Music Education. He is the Director of Choirs at Greenwood Community High School, Associate Faculty of Music at Indiana University Indianapolis, and the owner of Daniel Watson Music LLC (danielscottwatson.com). He maintains an active private music studio (voice, piano, composition) and regularly collaborates in the community through conducting, piano and vocal performance, and composing.

Daniel
Watson
Music

danielscottwatson.com

Make Watermark

Good News!

SATB Choir & Piano
Optional C Instrument, Chimes, and Tambourine
Full Score

Based on Luke 1:27-38, 2:6-16

Daniel Watson

1 Adagio (♩ = c. 60-74)
freely

C Instrument

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano

Chimes

Tambourine

mp

a)

b)

- a) Keep piano damper pedal depressed mm 1-17. After that, pedal harmonically.
b) Play cue notes only the in absence of chimes and/or C instrument.

duration: c. 4'30"

4

Good News!

5

C. Inst. *espressivo* *mp* *ten.*

Pno. *ten.*

Chm. *ten.*

9

C. Inst. Joyfully! ♩. = c. 84

Pno. Joyfully! ♩. = c. 84

Chm.

Tamb. *mp*

14

C. Inst.

Pno.

Chm.

Tamb.

18 *mf*

C. Inst.

Pno. *mf*

Chm. *mf*

Tamb. *mf*

22

C. Inst.

Pno.

Chm.

Tamb.

26 *mf*

B

26 "Greet - ings to you of ho - ly fa - vor. God is with — us through our Sav - ior.

Pno.

Chm.

Tamb.

30 *mf*

T
8 Do not fear, for He _____ will free us. You will call Him Je - sus."

B
You will call Him Je - sus."

Pno.

34

C. Inst.

34 *mp*

S
"How will this be," did Ma - ry ask,

Pno.

34 *mp*

Chm.
mute *mp*

38

S

"The Ho - ly Ghost re - sides — with - in.

A

mp

"Since I am a vir - gin?" "The Ho - ly Ghost re - sides — with - in.

Pno.

38

Chm.

42

C. Inst.

f

S

mp

"I am the Lord's ser - vant."

A

mp

"I am the Lord's ser - vant."

T

f

8 You are the Lord's ser - vant."

B

f

You are the Lord's ser - vant."

Pno.

f

mp

42

Chm.

8 **46** **Poco Meno Mosso** ♩. = c. 78

Good News!

S *mf* "My soul glor - i - fies the Lord. I, His hum - ble ser - vant be.

A *mf* "My soul glor - i - fies the Lord. I, His hum - ble ser - vant be.

T *mf* "My soul glor - i - fies the Lord. I, His hum - ble ser - vant be.

B *mf* "My soul glor - i - fies the Lord. I, His hum - ble ser - vant be.

46 **Poco Meno Mosso** ♩. = c. 78

Pno. *mf*

Chm. *mf*

50

S "Scat - tered pride and ban - ish shame. Sing, "Glor - y to His Hol - y name!"

A "Scat - tered pride and ban - ish shame. Sing, "Glor - y to His Hol - y name!"

T *8* "Scat - tered pride and ban - ish shame. Sing, "Glor - y to His Hol - y name!"

B "Scat - tered pride and ban - ish shame. Sing, "Glor - y to His Hol - y name!"

50

Pno.

Chm. *50* L.V.

Joyfully! ♩. = c. 84

Good News!

9

C. Inst.

54

mf

S

Good news! Great joy!

A

Good news! Great joy!

T

8 Good news! Great joy!

B

Good news! Great joy!

Pno.

54

Joyfully! ♩. = c. 84

S

58

Good news! Great joy!

A

Good news! Great joy!

T

8 Good news! Great joy!

B

Good new! Great joy!

Pno.

58

8va -

Tamb.

58

mf

This musical score is for the hymn "Good News, Great Joy." It is arranged for a vocal soloist (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano ensemble. The score is divided into two systems, with measures 62-66 in the first system and measures 67-70 in the second system. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The vocal parts have lyrics: "Good news, great joy for all the people!" The piano accompaniment includes a piano (Pno.), a chime (Chm.), and a tambourine (Tamb.). The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). A large, diagonal watermark reading "PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the center of the page.

70

C. Inst.

Pno.

Chm.

Tamb.

L. V.

74

C. Inst.

S

A

T

B

Pno.

Chm.

Tamb.

mf

mf

mf (an echo) *p* *mf* *p* *sempre*

First to hear the glo - ri - ous news, low shep - herds God did choose.

First to hear the glo - ri - ous news, low shep - herds God did choose.

"Be

"Be

78

T

not a - fraid", the an - gel sang and told them why He came. "I

B

not a - fraid", the an - gel sang and told them why He came. "I

Pno.

78

Tamb.

mp

82

C. Inst.

mf

T

marcato

8

Bring you good news that will cause you great joy. The town of Da - vid has giv - en a boy. Go

B

marcato

Bring you good news that will cause you great joy. The town of Da - vid has giv - en a boy. Go

Pno.

marcato

82

Tamb.

p

86

S *mp* "Ly - ing in a man - ger."

A *mp* "Ly - ing in a man - ger."

T *mp* see this sign and fear not of dan - ger ly - ing in a man - ger."

B *mp* see this sign and fear not of dan - ger ly - ing in a man - ger."

Pno. *mp*

Chm.

92 Poco Meno Mosso ♩ = c. 78

90

S *p* "Ly - ing in a man - ger." "In a man - ger ye shall find Him,

A *p* "Ly - ing in a man - ger." "In a man - ger ye shall find Him,

T *p* "In a man - ger ye shall find Him,

B *p* "In a man - ger ye shall find Him,

92 Poco Meno Mosso ♩ = c. 78

Pno. *p*

94

S in the stalls of Beth - le - hem. When the shep - herds

A in the stalls of Beth - le - hem. When the shep - herds

T in the stalls of Beth - le - hem. When the shep - herds

B in the stalls of Beth - le - hem. When the shep - herds

Pno. *p*

97

S reached the stab - le see'ing the babe did com - fort them."

A reached the stab - le see'ing the babe did com - fort them."

T reached the stab - le see'ing the babe did com - fort them."

B reached the stab - le see'ing the babe did com - fort them."

Pno. *p*

Joyfully! ♩. = c. 84

C. Inst. 100 *mf* *f* *mf*

S 100 *f* Good news! Great joy!

A *f* Good news! Great joy!

T 8 *f* Good news! Great joy!

B *f* Good news! Great joy!

Pno. 100 Joyfully! ♩. = c. 84 *f*

S 104 *mf* *p* Good news! Great joy! Good news,

A *mf* *p* Good news! Great joy! Good news,

T 8 *mf* *p* Good news! Great joy! Good news,

B *mf* *p* Good new! Great joy! Good news,

Pno. 104 *mf* *p*

Tamb. 104 *f* *p*

109

S great joy! Good news, great joy! *ff* *mp*

A great joy! Good news, great joy! *ff* *mp*

T great joy! Good news, great joy! *ff* *mp*

B great joy! Good news, great joy! *ff* *mp*

Pno. *ff* *mp*

Chm. *ff* *mp*

Tamb. *ff* *pp*

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115 *p*
a tempo

S

A

T

B

Pno.

Chm.

Tamb.

Ring out, bells! Ring out this joy - ous day!

115 *a tempo*

115 *pp*

115 *pp*

115 *pp*

T

B

Pno.

Chm.

Shout and tell! The Lord has come to - day!

Shout and tell! The Lord has come to - day!

119 *mp*

119 *mp*

119 *mp*

123 *mp*

S If ye hear, lift up your voice and sing:

A *mp* If ye hear, lift up your voice and sing:

T *(mp)* 8 If ye hear, lift up your voice and sing:

B *(mp)* If ye hear, lift up your voice and sing:

Pno. *(mp)*

Chm. *(mp)*

123

C. Inst.

127 *f*

S "Praise be to our new - born King!" *mp* Good

A *f* "Praise be to our new - born King!"

T *f* 8 "Praise be to our new - born King!" *mp* Good

B *f* "Praise be to our new - born King!"

Pno. *f*

Chm. *f*

Tamb. *f*

127

131 *cresc. poco a poco*

S news, good news! _____ Good news, good news! _____

A *mp cresc. poco a poco*
Go _____ and tell it! Go _____ and tell it!

T *cresc. poco a poco*
8 news, good news! _____ Good news, good news! _____

B *mp cresc. poco a poco*
Go _____ and tell it! Go _____ and tell it!

Pno. *mp cresc. poco a poco*

135

S Good news! Great joy! Good news! Great joy!

A Good news! Great joy! Good news! Great joy! Great

T 8 Share good news of great joy for all! Share good news of great joy for all!

B Share the good news of such great joy for peo-ple! Share the good news of such great joy for peo-ple!

Pno.

$\text{♩} = 90$

143

C. Inst.

S

A

T

B

In a man - ger ye shall find Him, in the stalls of Beth - le - hem.

$\text{♩} = 90$

143

Pno.

Chm.

Tamb.

147

S

A

T

B

When the shep - herds reached the sta - ble see'ing the babe did com - fort them.

When the shep - herds reached the sta - ble see'ign the babe did com - fort them.

When the shep - herds reached the sta - ble see'ing the babe did com - fort them.

151

C. Inst.

S

A

Pno.

151

mf dolce

"Glo - ry to God in the high - est Heav'n. On

151

mf

155

C. Inst.

S

A

Pno.

155

Earth peace to those on whom His fa - vor rests."

155

Earth peace to those on whom His fa - vor rests."

155

159

C. Inst. *mf*

S *f*
Good news! Great joy!

A *f*
Good news! Great joy!

T *f*
Good news! Great joy!

B *f*
Good news! Great joy!

Pno. *f*

Chm. 159

Tamb. 159 *mf*

163

C. Inst. *mp*

S *sub. mp* *cresc.*
Good news, great joy for all

A *sub. mp* *cresc.*
Good news, great joy for all

T *sub. mp* *cresc.*
8 Good news, great joy for all

B *sub. mp* *cresc.*
Good news, great joy for all

Pno. *sub. mp*

Chm. *mute*

Tamb. *p* *sub. mp* *cresc.*

167

C. Inst.

167

S

mf

f

for all, good

A

mf

f

good

T

mf

f

good

B

mf

f

good

Pno.

167

Chm.

167

Tamb.

mf

f

mf

f

PREVIEW ONLY

molto rit. a tempo

173

C. Inst. *f*

S *ff* sop. div.
news for all the world!

A *ff*
news for all the world!

T *ff*
news for all the world!

B *ff*
news for all the world!

Pno. *ff*

Chm. *f* mute *mp*

Tamb. *ff*

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a) solo or few voices