Christopher Beardsley

Carol of the Field Mice

for Children's Choir, SATB chorus and piano

CHRISTOPHER BEARDSLEY
CAROL OF THE FIELD MICE

Villagers all, this frosty tide,
Let your doors swing open wide,
Though wind may follow, and snow beside,
Yet draw us in by your fire to bide;
       Joy shall be yours in the morning!

Here we stand in the cold and the sleet,
Blowing fingers and stamping feet,
Come from far away you to greet—
You by the fire and we in the street—
       Bidding you joy in the morning!

For ere one half of the night was gone,
Sudden a star has led us on,
Raining bliss and benison—
Bliss to-morrow and more anon,
       Joy for every morning!

Goodman Joseph toiled through the snow—
Saw the star o'er a stable low;
Mary she might not further go—
Welcome thatch, and litter below!
       Joy was hers in the morning!

And then they heard the angels tell
'Who were the first to cry NOWELL?
Animals all, as it befell,
In the stable where they did dwell!
       Joy shall be theirs in the morning!'

Kenneth Grahame "Wind in the Willows"

First performed by St. Francis' School
and the Valley Singers conducted by the composer
in Hill Chapel, Goosnargh, Lancashire on December 5th 2019

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Carol of the Field Mice

("The Wind in the Willows")

Kenneth Grahame

Christopher Beardsley

Sprightly but not too fast (♩=c120)

Piano

p delicate

Children

p

Vil - la-gers all, this fros - ty tide,

Pf.

Children

Let your doors swing o - pen wide, Though wind may

Pf.

Children

fol - low, and snow be - side, Yet draw us in by your

Pf.

Children

fire to bide; Joy shall be yours in the mor - ning!

Pf.

Children: Here we__ stand in the cold and the sleet,_____ Blo - wing

S.: Here we__ stand in the cold and the sleet,_____ Ah,_____

A.: Here we__ stand in the cold and the sleet,_____ Ah,

T.: Here we stand,_____ Blo - wing

B.: Here we stand,_____ Blo - wing

Children: fin - gers *(blow), (blow), (blow)* and stam - ping feet, *(stamp), (stamp), (stamp)* Come from far a -

S.: __ *(blow), (blow), (blow)* and stam - ping feet, *(stamp), (stamp), (stamp)* Come from far__ a -

A.: __ *(blow), (blow), (blow)* and stam - ping feet, *(stamp), (stamp), (stamp)* Come__ from__

T.: fin - gers *(blow), (blow), (blow)* and stam - ping feet, *(stamp), (stamp), (stamp)* Come__ from

B.: fin - gers *(blow), (blow), (blow)* and stam - ping feet, *(stamp), (stamp), (stamp)* Come from far a -

Children: way_____ you to greet_____ You by the fire and

S.: way_____ you_ to_ greet_____ You by the fire and

A.: far a - way____ you to_____ greet_____ You by the fire and

T.: far a - way you_ to_ greet_____ You_ by the fire and

B.: way,____ a - way_ you to greet_____ You by the fire____ and

Children: we in the street– Bid - ding you joy in the mor - ning!

S.: we in the street– Bid - ding you joy in the mor - ning!

A.: we in the street– Bid - ding you joy in the mor - ning!

T.: we_ in the street– Bid - ding you joy in the mor - ning!

B.: we in the street Bid - ding you joy in the mor - ning!

For ere one half of the night was gone,____ Sud-den a star has led us on,____

Rain - ing bliss and ben - i - son,____ Bliss to - mor-row and more a - non!____

Slower (♩=c72)

Children: Good-man Jo-seph toiled through the snow– Saw the star o'er the sta-ble low; Ma - ry she might not

S.: Ma - ry she might not

A.: Ma - ry she might not

T.: Good-man Jo-seph toiled through the snow– Saw the star o'er the sta-ble low;

B.: Good-man Jo-seph toiled through the snow– Saw the star o'er the sta-ble low;

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Children: fur - ther go– Wel - come thatch and lit - ter be - low! Joy shall be hers in the mor - ning!

S.: fur - ther go– Wel - come thatch and lit - ter be - low! Joy shall be hers in the mor - ning!

A.: fur - ther go– Wel - come thatch and lit - ter be- low! Joy shall be hers in the mor - ning!

T.: Wel - come thatch and lit - ter be- low! Joy shall be hers in the mor - ning!

B.: Wel - come thatch and lit - ter be- low! Joy shall be hers in the mor - ning!

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A tempo (jubilant)

Children: And then they heard the

an-gels tell_____ "Who were the first to cry NO- WELL?

(shout!)

then they heard the an-gels tell_____ "No - well, No- well,

then they heard the an-gels tell_____ "No well,___

then they heard the an-gels tell_____ "No- well,_____ No-

then they heard the an-gels tell_____ "No- well,_____

A - ni-mals all, as it be - fell,_____ In the_ sta-ble where they did

_ No - well, No - well, No-well, In the_ sta-ble where they did

No-well, No - well, No- well,___ No - well, No -

well, No - well, No- well,_____ No - well, No -

No - well,___ No - well, No - well, No - - well, No -

Lyrics (measures 156–164):

- **Children:** dwell!_____ Joy shall be theirs_____ in the mor - - ning!"_____
- **S.:** dwell!_____ Joy shall be theirs, Joy shall be theirs in the mor - ning!"
- **A.:** well,_____ Joy shall be theirs in the mor - ning!"
- **T.:** well,_____ Joy shall be theirs, Joy shall be theirs in the mor - ning!"
- **B.:** well,_____ Joy shall be theirs in the mor - ning!"

Lyrics (measures 165 onward):

- **Children:** _____ "Joy shall be theirs in the mor - - ning!"_____
- **S.:** _____ "Joy shall be theirs in the mor - - ning!"
- **A.:** _____ "Joy shall be theirs in the mor - - ning!"
- **T.:** _____ "Joy shall be theirs in the mor - - ning!"_____
- **B.:** _____ "Joy shall be theirs in the mor - - ning!"_____

Tempo markings: molto rit. Presto