

# If ye would hear

## Carol for Choir SATB and Alto Solo

Text by  
Dora Greenwell (1821-1882)  
From the Oxford Book of Carols

Music by  
Robert Oganovic

Resolutely, moving forward (♩ = 120)

Alto  
(Full Section)

*mp* If ye would hear the an - gels sing, 'Peace on

A

earth and mer - cy mild', Think of Him who was once a child, On Christ - mas

A

Day in the morn - ing. *p* hear the an - gels

T

*mp* If ye would hear the an - gels

A

sing, Rise and spread your Christ - mas fare: mer - ier

T

sing, Rise and spread your - Christ - mas fare: 'Tis merr - ier

A

still the more that share, On Christ - mas Day in the morn - ing.

T

still the more that share, On Christ - mas Day in the morn - ing.

19

S *mp* Rise, and bake your Christ - mas bread: Christ - ians,

A *mp* Rise, and bake your Christ - mas bread: Christ - ians,

T *mp* Rise, and bake your Christ - mas bread: Christ - ians,

8

22

S rise! The world is bare, And blank, and dark with want and

A rise! The world is bare, And blank, and dark with want and

T rise! The world is bare, And blank, and dark with want and

8

25

S care, Yet Christ - mas comes in the morn - ing. *mf* If ye would hear the an - gels

A care, Yet Christ - mas comes in the morn - ing. *mf* If ye would hear the an - gels

T care, Yet Christ - mas comes in the morn - ing. *mf* If ye would hear the an - gels

B *mf* If ye would hear the an - gels

8

30

S  
sing, Rise and light your Christ - mas fire: See that ye pile the logs still -

A  
sing, Rise and light your Christ - mas fire: See that ye pile the logs still -

T  
sing, Rise and light your Christ - mas fire: See that ye pile the logs still -

B  
sing, Rise and light your Christ - mas fire: See that ye pile the logs still -

34

S  
higher On Christ - mas Day in the morn - - ing.

A  
higher On Christ - mas Day in the morn - - ing.

T  
higher On Christ - mas Day in the morn - - ing.

B  
higher On Christ - mas day in the morn - - ing.

37

S  
*p* [Ah...]

A  
*p* [Ah...]

T  
*p* [Ah...]

B  
*mf* Rise and light your Christ - mas fire: Christ - ians, rise! The world is

41

S

A

T

B

old, Time is wea - ry, and worn, and cold, Yet Christ - mas

44

S

A

T

B

*mf* If ye would hear the an - gels

*mf* If ye would hear the an - gels

*mf* If ye would hear the an - gels

*mf* If ye would hear the an - gels

comes in the morn - ing.

48

S

A

T

B

sing, Christ - ians! See ye let each door Stand wid - er than it e'er stood be -

sing, Christ - ians! See ye let each door Stand wid - er than it e'er stood be -

sing, Christ - ians! See ye let each door Stand wid - er than it e'er stood be -

sing, Christ - ians! See ye let each door Stand wid - er than it e'er stood be -

52

S fore, On Christ - mas Day in the morn - rit. - - - - ing. *Broadly* *f*

A fore On Christ - mas Day in the morn - rit. - - - - ing. *Broadly* *f*

T fore, On Christ - mas Day in the morn - rit. - - - - ing. *Broadly* *f*

B fore, On Christ - mas Day in the morn - rit. - - - - ing. *Broadly* *f* Rise and

56 *Poco marcato*

S O - pen wide the door: Christ - ians, rise! The world is wide, *3*

A O - pen wide the door: Christ - ians, rise! The world wide, And ma - ny there

T *Poco marcato* O - pen wide the door: Christ - ians, rise! The world is wide, *3*

B O - pen wide the door: Christ - ians, rise! The world is wide, And ma - ny there

60

S *ff* ma - ny there be that stand out - side Christ - mas comes in the morn - -

A *ff* be that stand out - side Yet Christ - mas comes in the morn - -

T *ff* ma - ny there be that stand out - side Christ - mas comes in the morn - -

B *ff* be that stand out - side Yet Christ - mas comes in the morn - -

S  
A  
Solo Alto  
T  
B

63

ing. *fff*

[Hum] - - - - -

ing. *fff*

[Hum] - - - - -

*p* If ye would hear the an - gels sing, Peace on earth and mer - cy

ing. *fff*

[Hum] - - - - -

ing. *fff*

[Hum] - - - - -

S  
A  
Solo Alto  
T  
B

68

mild, Think of Him who was once a child, On - Christ - mas Day in the morn -

72

S  
rit. *pp* Christ - mas comes in the morn - - - - ing. - - - - -

A  
rit. *pp* Christ - mas comes in the morn - - - - ing! - - - - -

Solo Alto  
rit. ing. *pp*

T  
8 rit. *pp* Christ - mas comes in the morn - - - - ing. - - - - -

B  
rit. *pp* Christ - mas comes in the morn - - - - ing. - - - - -

### Notes:

The poet and essayist Dora Greenwell was born on December 6, 1821 near Durham, England. She devoted much of her life to helping the local poor and visiting convicts in Durham prison. She was an advocate of better education for women and their right to vote. She was a friend of Christina Rossetti, another great poet of this time; they both shared an interest in theology. Two of her poems serve as texts for the Methodist hymn book although she herself was an Anglican (her brother, William Greenwell was canon at Durham Cathedral). She died on March 29, 1882 near Bristol, England.

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*Bob Oganovic  
September 2003*