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Hark! Hark! Glad  
Tidings Charm  
Our Ears

Christopher Maxim

SATB and organ

DO NOT COPY

## Christopher Maxim

Christopher Maxim was born in Wrexham, North Wales in 1971. As a small child he drove his grandfather to distraction with his improvisations on his grandmother's piano. He joined the choir of St Margaret's Church in 1978 and, since then, his passion for choral and organ music has been central to his life. He began writing notated compositions in 1980. Chris went on to be Organ Scholar and a prize winner at the University of Bristol, and afterwards held a Research Studentship at Cardiff University, completing his PhD in music in 1996. Following several years lecturing at Cardiff and the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, he moved to London and into the secondary education sector. An active conductor and organist, Chris has been Director of Music at St Matthew's, Bethnal Green since 2003 and conducts the Wiltspur Singers, a chamber choir based in the City of London. Chris's music is performed around the world and has been broadcast on the radio in the USA and the UK. It has been featured in music festivals, recorded on several CDs, and is in the catalogues of a number of eminent publishing houses. Many pieces can be heard in performances available online. His website is [www.christophermaxim.co.uk](http://www.christophermaxim.co.uk)

Composed for the 2017 Christmas Carol Service at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green

# Hark! Hark! Glad Tidings Charm Our Ears

SATB and organ

Prepare:  
Gt. Trumpet coupled to Sw.  
Ped. 16' coupled to Sw.

Derived from an American  
hymn (pre-1813) and the *Benedicite*

Christopher Maxim

Brightly and lightly  
legato

Organ

*mp* Sw. to Mixture

senza ped.

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10

S

A

T

B

*mp*

Hark!

*mp*

Hark! hark!

*mp*

Hark! hark!

10

13

*mp*

Hark! hark!

glad ti - dings charm our

hark!

glad ti - dings charm our

glad ti - dings charm our

glad ti - dings charm our

13

16

ears; An - gel - ic mu - sic fills the spheres;

ears; An - gel - ic mu - sic fills the spheres;

ears; An - gel - ic mu - sic fills the spheres;

ears; An - gel - ic mu - sic fills the spheres;

16

19

*mp*  
Earth

*mp*  
Earth spreads the

*mp*  
Earth spreads the sound

19

22 *mp* Earth spreads the sound with de-cent mirth: *f* "Our  
 spreads the sound with de-cent mirth: *f* "Our  
 sound with de-cent mirth: *f* "Our  
 with de-cent mirth: *f* "Our

22

25 God, our God is born on earth!"  
 God, our God is born on earth!"  
 God, our God is born on earth!"  
 God, our God is born on earth!"

25 *misterioso*  
 add Sw. Reeds, box shut *p*

28

Musical score for measures 28-30. The vocal line (bass clef) begins at measure 28 with a rest, followed by a quarter rest in measure 29, and then the lyrics "Our God is our!" in measure 30. The piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs) provides harmonic support. A dynamic marking of *mf* is present above the vocal line in measure 30.

*mf*

"Our God is our!" the

28

Piano accompaniment for measures 28-30. The right hand (treble clef) and left hand (bass clef) play chords and moving lines. The right hand features a melodic line with a slur over measures 28-30. The left hand provides a steady bass line.

31

Musical score for measures 31-33. The vocal line (bass clef) begins at measure 31 with a rest, followed by a quarter rest in measure 32, and then the lyrics "Our" in measure 33. The piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs) continues. A dynamic marking of *mf* is present above the vocal line in measure 33.

*mf*

"Our

val - leys cry;

31

Piano accompaniment for measures 31-33. The right hand (treble clef) and left hand (bass clef) play chords and moving lines. The right hand features a melodic line with a slur over measures 31-33. The left hand provides a steady bass line.

34

God is born!" the hills re - ply.

34

37

Eve - ning re - peats to won - d'ring morn:

*p* Eve - ning re - peats to won - d'ring morn:

*p* Eve - ning re - peats to won - d'ring morn:

*p* Eve - ning re - peats to won - d'ring morn:

37

Sw. Reeds off



40 *f* "Our God, our God on

*f* "Our God, our God, our God on

*f* "Our God, our God, our God on

*f* "Our God, our God on

40

43 *p* earth born!"

*p* earth is born!"

*p* earth is born!"

*p* earth is born!"

43 *mp*

46

*mp*  
The sun and moon re -

*mp*  
The sun and moon re -

46

49

*div.*  
-jice on high The stars of heav'n make glad the sky;

-jice on high The stars of heav'n make glad the sky;

*mp*  
The

*mp*  
The

49

52

show'rs and dew take up the song: "Our God is born."

show'rs and dew take up the song: "Our God is born!"

55

*a2 mf*  
The frost and cold, the winds and heat, The

*mf*  
The frost and cold, the winds and heat, The

*mf*  
and ere long The frost and cold, the winds and heat, The

*mf*  
and ere long The frost and cold, the winds and heat, The

58

ice and snow the news re - peat: *f* "Our  
 ice and snow the news re - peat: *f* "Our God is born!"  
 ice and snow the news re - peat:  
 ice and snow the news re - peat: *f* "Our God is born!"

58

God is born!" *meno f* "Our God is born!" and  
 "Our God is born!" *meno f* and  
 God is born!" "Our God is born!" and  
 "Our God is born!" *meno f* and

61

God is born!" *meno f* "Our God is born!" and  
 "Our God is born!" *meno f* and  
 God is born!" "Our God is born!" and  
 "Our God is born!" *meno f* and

61

[Gt.]

64

all sing praise: The light and dark - ness, nights and days, The

all sing praise: The light and dark - ness, nights and days, The

all sing praise: The light and dark - ness, nights and days,

all sing praise: The light and dark - ness, nights and days, The

64

Piano accompaniment for measures 64-66, featuring treble and bass clefs with a key signature of one sharp (F#).

67

light - nings, clouds and all the earth Re - joice, *p*

light - nings, clouds and all the earth Re - joice, *p*

light - nings, clouds and all the earth Re - joice, *p*

light - nings, clouds and all the earth Re - joice, *p*

67

add Sw. Reeds

Piano accompaniment for measures 67-69, including the instruction 'add Sw. Reeds' and a dynamic marking of *p*.

70

*mp* re - joice, *f* re -

*mp* re - joice, *f* re -

*mp* re - joice, *f* re -

*mp* re - joice, *f* re -

70

Piano accompaniment for measures 70-72, featuring a treble and bass clef with a grand staff. The music consists of a steady eighth-note melody in the treble and a supporting bass line in the bass clef.

73

-joice at the Mes - si - ah's birth. *sfp*

-joice at the Mes - si - ah's birth. *sfp*

-jice at the Mes - si - ah's birth. *sfp*

-joice at the Mes - si - ah's birth. *sfp*

73

*ff*

LH: Gt.

Piano accompaniment for measures 73-75. Measure 73 continues the previous accompaniment. Measure 74 features a *ff* dynamic marking. Measure 75 includes a guitar part for the left hand (LH: Gt.) with a treble clef and a melodic line.

76 *ff*

76 *ff*

76 *ff*

76 *ff*

76 Sw. Reeds off *f* 7

79

The musical score consists of four systems. The first system (measures 76-77) features four staves: three woodwinds (flute, oboe, clarinet) and a bassoon, each playing a half note followed by a quarter rest. The second system (measures 78-79) features a piano accompaniment with a right-hand treble clef staff and two left-hand bass clef staves. The right hand plays a series of eighth notes with a '7' fingering. The left hands play sustained chords. The third system (measures 80-81) continues the piano accompaniment. The fourth system (measures 82-83) continues the piano accompaniment. A large 'DRAFT COPY' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Musical score for measures 85-87. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor/Bass) enter with the lyrics "Hark! hark!". The piano accompaniment features a treble clef with a melodic line and a bass clef with a supporting bass line. A large "DRAFT COPY" watermark is overlaid on the page.

Musical score for measures 88-91. The vocal parts continue with the lyrics "Hark! hark! glad ti - dings charm our" and "hark! glad ti - dings charm our". The piano accompaniment continues with the same melodic and bass lines. A large "DRAFT COPY" watermark is overlaid on the page.



91

ears; An - gel - ic mu - sic fills the spheres;

ears; An - gel - ic mu - sic fills the spheres;

ears; An - gel - ic mu - sic fills the spheres;

ears; An - gel - ic mu - sic fills the spheres;

91

94

Earth

Earth spreads the

Earth spreads the sound

94

97

Earth spreads the sound with de-cent mirth: "Our  
 spreads the sound with de-cent mirth: "Our  
 sound with de-cent mirth:  
 with de-cent mirth: "Our

97

Piano accompaniment for measures 97-99, featuring a treble and bass clef with various chords and melodic lines.

100

God, our God is born on earth!"  
 God, our God is born on earth!"  
 God, our God is born on earth!"  
 God, our God is born on earth!"

100

add Sw. Reeds, box shut *p*  
 misterioso

Piano accompaniment for measures 100-102, including a dynamic marking of *p* and the tempo instruction *misterioso*.

103

Musical score for measures 103-105, vocal line only. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music consists of three measures of rests, followed by a vocal line starting at measure 103. The lyrics are: "Our God is born!" the

*mf*

"Our God is born!" the

103

Piano accompaniment for measures 103-105. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs and ties, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with eighth notes.

106

Musical score for measures 106-108, vocal line only. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music consists of three measures of rests, followed by a vocal line starting at measure 106. The lyrics are: God is born!" the val - leys cry; "Our

*mf*

God is born!" the val - leys cry;

*mf*

"Our

val leys cry;

106

Piano accompaniment for measures 106-108. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs and ties, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with eighth notes.

109

*mf*

"Our God is born!" the

God is born!" the hills re - ply.

109

112

hills re - ply. Eve - ning re - peats to won - d'ring morn:

Eve - ning re - peats to won - d'ring morn:

Eve - ning re - peats to won - d'ring morn:

Eve - ning re - peats to won - d'ring morn:

112

open Sw. box,  
prepare Full Gt.

add Gt. to Ped.

115

*f* "Our God, our God  
*f* "Our God, our God, our  
*f* "Our God, our God, our  
*f* "Our God, our God

115

Empty musical staves for piano accompaniment.

118

on earth is  
 God earth is  
 God on earth is  
 on earth is

118

Empty musical staves for piano accompaniment.

121 *ff* *rall. molto*

born!"

*ff*

born!"

*ff*

born!"

*ff*

121 *rall. molto*

*Sw. ff*

Gt.

*ff*

124

124

full organ

*fff*

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