

# Hymn to Saint Nicholas

in memory of Ann  
who sang this so beautifully

not fast, gently

traditional Dutch tune  
arranged by Barbara Ann Fackler

The musical score is written for piano in 6/8 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. The score includes various chords and fingerings indicated by numbers 1-3 and 2-4.

**System 1:** Measures 1-4. Chords: C, Dm, Em, G, C. Fingerings: 4 3 2, 1, 3 2 1, 1, 3, 2.

**System 2:** Measures 5-8. Chords: C/G, Dm/F, G, C, C/G, Dm/F. Fingerings: 1 2 1, 2 1, 2 1, 2 1.

**System 3:** Measures 9-12. Chords: G, C, G, C/G, Dm/A, G. Fingerings: 1 2, 1 2 3, 2.

**System 4:** Measures 13-16. Chords: C, C/G, Dm, G, C, Em. Fingerings: 1 2 1 3 2, 1 2 3, 3 2 1, 3 2 1.

Measures 14-16 of the harp solo. Measure 14 features a G chord in the treble and a C chord in the bass. Measure 15 contains a C/G chord and a Dm/F chord, both with complex fingerings (3, 2, 1, 2, 1, 3, 2, 2, 2). Measure 16 has a G chord and a C chord, with a melodic line in the treble and a bass line.

Measures 17-20 of the harp solo. Measure 17 has a C/G chord and a Dm/F chord. Measure 18 features a G chord and a C/E chord. Measure 19 has a G chord and a C chord. Measure 20 has a Dm chord and a G chord. The notation includes various fingerings and a melodic line in the treble.

Measures 21-23 of the harp solo. Measure 21 has a Dm chord and a G chord. Measure 22 features a C chord and a Dm chord. Measure 23 has a G chord and a C chord. The notation includes various fingerings and a melodic line in the treble.

Measures 24-27 of the harp solo. Measure 24 has a C/G chord and a Dm/F chord. Measure 25 features a G chord and a C/E chord. Measure 26 has a C/G chord and a Dm/F chord. Measure 27 has a G chord and a C chord. The notation includes various fingerings and a melodic line in the treble.

The musical score is written for harp in G major, 3/4 time. It consists of three systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system (measures 26-31) includes chords G, C, G, C, Dm, and G/D. The second system (measures 32-37) includes chords C, C/G, Dm/F, G, and C. The third system (measures 38-43) includes chords Dm, Em, G, and C. The score features various musical notations including eighth and sixteenth notes, rests, and fingerings (1, 2, 3) in the bass staff of the first system. Small double bar lines are used to divide the music into measures.

Less advanced harpists may prefer to play only the first setting of the tune. This arrangement may be shortened by beginning with the pickup to measure 5 and playing through measure 12. The small double bars will help determine sections that may be repeated or omitted as desired.

Saint Nicholas lived in a land far away;  
 A warm-hearted bishop, the people did say.  
 While still a young person his parents both died;  
 His fortune he shared with the poor far and wide.  
 The bishop of Myra he soon was proclaimed;  
 For prayer, holy life and good works he was famed.  
 The good friend of children, he cared for their need;  
 The sick and imprisoned he aided and freed.  
 He gave three young women a dowry of gold,  
 To help them find husbands to have and to hold.  
 Through his life shone Christ's life, and thus we proclaim:  
 Dear Nicholas, help us who honor your name.

Text: Charles William Polm

Tune: Traditional Dutch (Zie Ginds Komt de Stoomboot)

Saint Nicholas is honored on December 6 by Catholic, Orthodox, Anglican and Lutheran churches. He is also known as Nikolaos the Wonderworker and St. Nikolai The Miracle Creator. The Dutch celebrate on Saint Nicholas Eve (Dec. 5), referring to him as Sinterklaas, one of the sources for the American Santa Claus. He is widely known as the patron saint of sailors.