

small harp solo, 22 strings, C-c

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 a small harp solo in C major, 22 strings, C-c. It consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The tempo is 'not fast, gently'. The key signature is one sharp (F#), indicating C major. The time signature is 4/4. The score includes various chords and melodic lines with fingerings indicated by numbers 1-3. The first system (measures 1-4) features chords C, Dm, Em, G, and C. The second system (measures 5-8) features chords C/G, Dm/F, G, C, C/G, and Dm/F. The third system (measures 9-12) features chords G, C, G, C/G, Dm/A, and G. The fourth system (measures 13-16) features chords C, C/G, Dm, G, C, and Em. The score ends with a double bar line after measure 16.

14

G C C/G Dm/F G C

17

C/G Dm/F G C/E G C

20

Dm G C Dm G C

23

C/G Dm/F G C/E C/G Dm/F

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.