

Written for the Capital University Chapel Choir, Christmas Festival 2007,
Dr. Lynda Hasseler, Director

Carol of the Birds

For SATB Choir and Piano

Traditional French Carol
Arranged by CRAIG COURTNEY
(ASCAP)

Flowing, $\text{♩} = 86$

The musical score is written for SATB choir and piano. It consists of four systems of music. The first system is a piano introduction in 4/4 time, marked 'Flowing, ♩ = 86'. It features a piano accompaniment with a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The melody is marked 'mp' and 'rit.'. The second system continues the piano introduction, marked 'a tempo' and 'rit.'. The third system introduces the vocal melody for the Soprano and Alto parts, marked 'SA unis. mp'. The lyrics are 'Whence comes this rush of wings a - far,'. The piano accompaniment continues with a melody marked 'a tempo' and 'simile'. The fourth system continues the vocal melody and piano accompaniment, with lyrics 'Fol - low - ing straight the No - el star?'. The piano accompaniment includes a final flourish marked with an asterisk (*).

mp *rit.*

a tempo *rit.*

SA unis. mp

Whence comes this rush of wings a - far,

a tempo *simile*

Fol - low - ing straight the No - el star?

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Birds from the woods in won-drous flight,

9 10

Beth-le-hem seek this ho-ly night.

11 12 13

mp

rit. *mp* TB unis *a tempo*

"Tell us, ye birds, why come ye here,

14 15 16

rit. *a tempo*

poco rit. *a tempo*

In-to this sta-ble, poor and drear?" "Hast-'ning we seek the new-born King,

17 18 19 20

poco rit. *a tempo*

And all our sweet-est mu-sic bring."

mf *mp rit.*

21 22 23 24

a tempo rit. *SA mp a tempo*

a tempo rit. *TB mp a tempo*

Hark! how the green-finch

a tempo rit. *a tempo*

25 26 27

bears his part, Phil-o-mel, too, with ten-der heart, _____

Night-in-gale,

8va

28 29 30

Red. * *Red.* *

Chants from her leaf - y dark re - treat, "Re, mi, fa, sol," in

mf

31 32 33

rit. *mp a tempo* *rit.*

ac - cents sweet.

rit. *mp* *a tempo* *rit.*

34 35 36

a tempo *rit.*

37 38

a tempo *mf* *molto rit.*

39 40