

**Two African Carols** – “Sing Noel” and “We Go Our Way in Joy” may be used in a variety of ways. They provide an excellent Introit and Benediction for a Christmas concert or service and could provide an effective processional and recessional for your choir. It is suggested that both selections be sung no faster than the suggested tempi. To give “Sing Noel” a driving beat and energy, singers are encouraged to observe the accent marks very carefully. Adherence to the dynamic markings is encouraged in both carols.

The percussion parts may be improvised, depending on the capability and creativity of the percussionists.

**Hal H. Hopson** is one of the most prolific composers of church music of his generation. With more than 1,800 published works for 30 publishers, Mr. Hopson’s music is heard weekly in congregations throughout our country. His compositions reflect respect for the best liturgical tradition, scripture, and theology. Mr. Hopson composes music accessible to nearly all choirs and congregations, striving always to include rather than to exclude. His published repertoire includes almost every conceivable genre: anthems for children, youth, and adult choirs; and compositions for organ, piano, harpsichord, and handbells. Mr. Hopson writes especially for congregations in concertato anthems, hymn tunes, responsorial psalm settings, and liturgical services.

A church musician throughout his professional life, Mr. Hopson has also been conductor-clinician for workshops and choral festivals in the United States, Europe, and Asia, and professor of church music at Westminster Choir College and Scarritt Graduate School. He is also a hymn writer whose texts appear in major denominational hymnals.

Hal Hopson was born in Mound, Texas, in a family of thirteen children where music making figured prominently. His first piano teacher was his older sister, Merle, whom he holds in deep regard for her enormous musical and personal influences on his life. Hopson’s well-known hymn tune, “Merle’s Tune,” is named in her honor. He first accompanied worship services at age thirteen and later graduated from Baylor University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with B.A. and M.S.M. degrees, respectively. He completed additional study at universities and conservatories in the United States and Germany.

A recipient of many honors for his distinguished service to music, Mr. Hopson is listed in the International Who’s Who in Music, Cambridge, England. He has served on the national boards of Presbyterian Association of Musicians, Choristers Guild, and Church Music Institute, and has received annual awards from ASCAP for many consecutive years. Expertise in psalmody and liturgy led to appointments on the Symposium for Church Composers, sponsored by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Milwaukee, and the Task Force on Psalmody, sponsored by the Presbyterian Church USA, resulting in the official Psalter for the denomination. Considered representative of this century’s choral music, Hopson’s cantata “God with Us” was chosen during the American Bicentennial, 1976, for placement in a capsule to be opened and performed at the Tercentennial in 2076. During the Bicentennial celebration, it received a performance on National Public Radio. In the summer of 2013, Austin, Texas, became the home of Hopson and his wife, church musician Martha Smith Hopson. They have three children and six grandchildren, and enjoy living in the beautiful Texas hill country.

# Introit

## 1. SING NOEL

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied,  
with two drums and shaker (or tambourine)\*

Traditional African Carol  
Arranged by  
HAL H. HOPSON (ASCAP)

Unhurried, with subtle accents (♩ = ca. 96)

SHAKER  
(or Tambourine)

DRUMS

ACCOMP.

5 S.A.T.B. CHOIR

*pp* (a tempo)

Sing No - el. Sing No - el. No - el, No - el.

Sing No - el. Sing No - el, No - el, No - el. Come, sing No -

(a tempo)

*pp*

(a tempo)

*pp*

(a tempo)

(accompaniment ad lib.)

\* To purchase a full-length performance recording (44584) of this piece, go to [alfred.com/downloads](http://alfred.com/downloads).

Part for Shaker (or Tambourine) and Drums is on pages 10-11.

Also available: FlexTrax Accompaniment CD (44582).

When "Sing Noel" is sung as a processional, the repeat back to measure 5 may be observed several times to accommodate the time necessary for the choir to be in place.

7 *p*

Sing No - el. Sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

*p*

el, No - el. Sing No - el, No - el, No - el. Come, sing No -

*p*

*p*

9 *mp*

Sing No - el. Sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

*mp*

el, No - el. Sing No - el, No - el, No - el. Come, sing No -

*mp*

*mp*

11 *mf*

Sing No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

*mf*

el, No - el, sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

*mf*

*mf*

13 Soprano/Tenor (opt. hand-claps)

*f* *ff*

Sing we all No - el. Sing we all No - el. Sing we all No - el.

Alto/Bass *f* *ff*

Come, sing No - el. Come, sing No - el. Come, sing No -

*f* *ff*

17

16 *f* *mf* *rit.*

Sing we all No - el. Sing No - el. Sing No - el.

*f* *mf*

el. Sing No - el. Sing No - el.

*f* *mf* *rit.*

19 Soprano/Alto *pp a tempo*

*pp*

Sing No - el. Sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

Tenor/Bass *pp*

Sing No - el. Sing No - el, No - el, No - el. Come, sing No -

*pp* *a tempo*

21

*p*

Sing No - el. Sing No - el, No - el, No - el.

*p*

el, No - el. Sing No - el, No - el, No - el. Come, sing No -

*p*

*p*

23 *mp*

*mp*

Sing No - el. Sing No - el, No-el, No-el. Sing No - el. Sing No - el,

*mp*

el, No - el. Sing No - el, No-el, No-el. Come, sing No - el, No - el. Sing No - el,

*mp*

*mf*

*mf*

26 *rit.*

*p* *pp*

No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el.

*p* *pp*

No - el, No - el, No - el.

*rit.*

*rit.*

*p* *pp*

*pp*

# 2. WE GO OUR WAY IN JOY

for S.A.T.B. voices, a cappella,  
with tom-toms and shaker

Botswanan traditional text  
Additional text by  
**HAL H. HOPSON** (ASCAP)

Church tune from Botswana  
Arranged by  
**HAL H. HOPSON** (ASCAP)

In a steady, moderate tempo (♩ = ca. 66)

SOPRANO  
ALTO

TOM-TOMS

SHAKER

*mf* (opt. solo)

*mf*

*mf*

1. We go our

(continue ad lib. to the end.)

(continue ad lib. to the end.)

3

2

way in joy. We go our way in joy. We go our

5

*mf* (tutti)

2

way in joy, for Christ the Lord is born. 2. Our thanks we

7

2

sing to God. Our thanks we sing to God. Our thanks we

9

2

sing to God. To God we sing our thanks. 3.\*Our God to  
Re - a - mo  
Reh - ah - moh

\* In verse 3, you can either sing the English text or the Botswanan text. The pronunciation is in italics.



19

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -

21

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -

23 SOPRANO DESCANT

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -

25

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia!

# Introit 1. SING NOEL

## PERCUSSION

Traditional African Carol  
Arranged by  
HAL H. HOPSON (ASCAP)

Unhurried, with subtle accents (♩ = ca. 96)

SHAKER  
(or Tambourine)

DRUMS

Med.  
Low *pp*

5 (a tempo)

*pp*

(a tempo)

*pp*

*p*

*p*

8

9

*mp*

*mp*

11

13

*mf*

*f*

*mf*

*f*

14

17

18

19

21

23

24

27