

Carol of the Kings – Partner songs are usually easy to learn and a fun way to introduce harmony to beginning choirs, but they also provide a “sure thing” for more advanced groups, and can be perfected in minimal rehearsal time. While this is not strictly a partner song in the traditional sense, many of the sections work as such, comprised of two melodies – one original and one familiar – that create harmony when sung together. While the familiar melody from “We Three Kings of Orient Are” will not immediately stand out, be certain that the voice part carrying the original melody can be clearly heard. It may not be obvious to the listener that this song is quoting that carol until the refrain is heard in measure 55.

Careful observance of the dynamic contrasts and tempo alterations will assure that the beauty of this work comes to life in your presentation. If the Triangle and Oboe are used, these additional timbres will add a lovely dimension, but don’t let anything overshadow the message of the words.

While this work is based upon a familiar carol, it is also a worship song sung to honor the Child of Christmas. The magi traveled many miles to adore Jesus and shower Him with rare and valuable gifts, setting a tone of praise and adoration. Although sung in a minor key, keep the mood majestic and worshipful. During the refrain, remember we are not singing to the star, only following it – the star merely leads us to the Perfect Light, Jesus.

Ruth Elaine Schram lives in Birmingham, Alabama, where she is a full-time composer and arranger. She currently has over 2,000 published works for all types of choirs, soloists, instrumentalists and keyboard. In addition to her printed choral music, her songs appear on numerous recordings and videos and have been heard on various television shows. Visit her website at www.choralmusic.com.

CAROL OF THE KINGS

for S.A.T.B. voices, opt. Oboe and Triangle, accompanied*

Words based on
Matthew 2:1-2

Words and Music by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM

Incorporating
"We Three Kings of Orient Are"
by **JOHN HENRY HOPKINS, JR.** (1820-1891)

Majestically (♩ = 88-92)

ACCOMP. *mf*

+ Oboe

+ Tri. - Tri.

5 SOPRANO / ALTO *mf*

Where is the King who is born this night?
- Oboe *was** that*

9 We have seen the star and we have fol - lowed its light, o - ver
+ Oboe
- Tri. - Tri.

* To purchase a full-length performance recording (46511) of this piece, go to alfred.com/downloads.

PDF files of the Oboe and Triangle parts are available for free download at alfred.com/choralparts (enter 46511 when prompted).
Also available: FlexTrax CD, Vol. 6 (46490)

** During Epiphany, sing italicized text.

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13

field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing;

T.B. *mf*

13

Field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain.

- Oboe

18

poco rall. *a tempo*

fol - low - ing the star.

poco rall.

+ Oboe *a tempo*

+ Tri. - Tri.

23

mp

Oo _____ Oo _____

mf

Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I

23

- Oboe

(mf)

28

mf [31]

Crown Him King for -

bring to crown Him a - gain; King for -

+ Oboe [31]

Piano accompaniment for measures 28-31.

32

cresc.

rall.

ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us, o - ver all of us to

ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er,

cresc.

Piano accompaniment for measures 32-36, including *cresc.* and *rall.* markings.

37

[39] *a tempo*

reign, to reign! Glo - rious now, be -

reign, to reign! Glo - rious now, be -

[39] *a tempo*

- Oboe

Piano accompaniment for measures 37-40, including *f* and *a tempo* markings.

41

hold Him a - rise; King and God and

+ Tri. - Tri. + Oboe

45

47

Sac - ri - fice. Sing al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

+ Tri. - Tri. 47 - Oboe + Oboe

50

a tempo

rall. lu - ia rings through the earth and the skies!

lu ia rings through the earth and the skies!

- Oboe *a tempo*

+ Oboe

rall.

55 *poco rall.* * *a tempo*

O ——— star of won - der, star of

55 + Tri. - Tri. *a tempo* - Oboe

poco rall.

60

night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright,

+ Tri. - Tri. + Tri. - Tri.

65

west - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, guide us

65 + Oboe

poco rall.

a tempo

mf

to thy per - fect light.

mf

poco rall.

a tempo

mf

77

Where is the King who is born
was

- Oboe
+ Tri. - Tri.

77

mp

rit.

this
that night?

mp

+ Oboe

mp

rit.

p

