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THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Claude T. Smith



**CLAUDE T. SMITH
PUBLICATIONS, INC.**

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ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Claude T. Smith was born in Monroe City, Missouri on March 14, 1932. He began his undergraduate degree at Central Methodist College in Fayette, Missouri, eventually enlisting in 1952 and serving in the 371st U.S. Army Band during the Korean War. After his service, he completed his Bachelor of Music Education degree at the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

Smith composed over 200 works for band, orchestra, choir, solos, small ensembles as well as three method books for band and orchestra. His compositions have been commissioned and performed by leading musical organizations throughout the world including the U.S. Air Force Band, the “President’s Own” U.S. Marine Band, the U.S. Navy Band, and the U.S. Army Field Band. His solos were written for noted artists such as “Doc” Severinsen, Dale Underwood, Brian Bowman, Warren Covington, Gary Foster, Rich Matteson, and Steve Seward.

Sacred choral music was a deep passion of Smith as he directed church choirs for five years in Cozad (NE), 10 years in Chillicothe (MO), and 10 years in Raytown (MO). Many of his choral anthems were written for his church choirs and for Missouri and Nebraska All-State Choirs, Bands, and Orchestras.

Smith was active as a clinician and guest conductor throughout the United States, Australia, Canada, and Europe. He received many awards for his contributions to music education and for his work in composition including numerous ASCAP Composers Award. Following his death, he was awarded the National Band Association Academy of Wind and Percussion Arts (AWAPA) Award (1987), honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Central Methodist College (1988), Missouri Bandmasters Association Hall of Fame (1988), Kappa Kappa Psi Distinguished Service to Music Medal (1988), Missouri Music Educators Association Hall of Fame (1992), and named School Director of the Year from the Christian Instrumental Directors Association (1994).

Smith was a member of the Music Educators National Conference (now NAfME), Missouri Bandmasters Association, National Band Association, American Bandmasters Association, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and served as past president of the Missouri Music Educators Association.

Claude T. Smith passed away on December 13, 1987 in Kansas City, Missouri having completed a Christmas concert at church with his choir and orchestra. His wife, Maureen Faye Smith and his daughter, Pam Smith Kelly, along with Pam’s husband, Jim, founded Claude T. Smith Publications, Inc. in 1993. C.L. Barnhouse Co. became the exclusive distributor for his instrumental works in 2016 with Claude T. Smith Publications, publishing his choral works, biography and recordings. Claude T. Smith Publications is dedicated to keeping the music of Claude T. Smith and many composers and arrangers available and in the hearts of musicians worldwide.

PROGRAM NOTES

THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS is an inspiring anthem depicting the joyous Christmas season. Reflecting on all the warmth of family, friends and faith, this text leads to the true reason for the season, the birth of our King. *The Meaning of Christmas* was a surprise anthem that Claude wrote and dedicated to his daughter, Pam, who was earning her Bachelor of Music degree at the Central Missouri State University (now UCM). Claude asked Pam’s woodwind and brass friends from CMSU to perform in the church Christmas service. As the instrumentalists and Claude’s choir began warming up, Pam was overwhelmed to realize that the new anthem she was hearing was written for her. This anthem premiered on Sunday, December 10, 1978, with Claude conducting. This was also Claude T. Smith’s first year, as the music director of the Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church in Raytown, Missouri. After this year, Claude wrote and crafted a full Christmas service with choir and orchestra for ten years. He passed away on December 13, 1987, following the morning Christmas service which he directed.

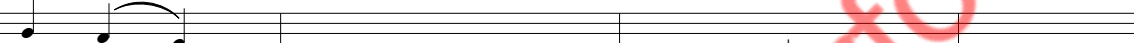


The Meaning of Christmas

Claude T. Smith, ASCAP

4

Andante



Andante

8 9 *mp*

Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the smile of a friend, find the

mp

Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the smile of a friend, find the

mp

Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the smile of a friend, find the

mp

Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the smile of a friend, find the

9

The musical score for 'The Rose Tree' is presented in a three-measure format. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The melody consists of a half note G4, a half note A4, and a half note B4. The bass line consists of a half note G3, a half note A3, and a half note B3. The score is marked with a '9' in a box above the first measure.

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[illegible]

14

warmth of the fire, find the mean - ing in the mem - 'ries we re - call. Find the

warmth of the fire, find the mean - ing in the mem - 'ries we re - call. Find the

warmth of the fire, find the mean - ing in the mem - 'ries we re - call. Find the

warmth of the fire, find the mean - ing in the mem - 'ries we re - call. Find the

rit. mp

rit. mp

rit. mp

rit. mp

17 *a tempo*

cresc.

mean - ing of Christ-mas in the carols that are sung, find the mean - ing in the tree lit so

a tempo

mean - ing of Christ-mas in the carols that are sung, find the mean - ing in the tree lit so

a tempo

mean - ing of Christ-mas in the carols that are sung, find the mean - ing in the tree lit so

a tempo

mean - ing of Christ-mas in the carols that are sung, find the mean - ing in the tree lit so

17

a tempo

cresc.

20 *mf*

bright. Find the mean - ing of Christ-mas in the gifts that we give, find the

mf

bright. Find the mean - ing of Christ-mas in the gifts that we give, find the

mf

bright. Find the mean - ing of Christ-mas in the gifts that we give, find the

mf

bright. Find the mean - ing of Christ-mas in the gifts that we give, find the

mf

23 *molto rit.* *mp* *mf* 25 *a tempo*

mean - ing in the stars' dis - tant light. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the

molto rit. *mp* *mf* *a tempo*

mean - ing in the stars' dis - tant light. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the

molto rit. *mp* *mf* *a tempo*

mean - ing in the stars' dis - tant light. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the

molto rit. *mp* *mf* *a tempo*

mean - ing in the stars' dis - tant light. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the

25 *a tempo*

molto rit. *mp* *mf*

26 *molto rall.* *f*

can - dles as they glow, and in the laugh - ter of chil - dren as they play. Find the

molto rall. *f*

can - dles as they glow, and in the laugh - ter of chil - dren as they play. Find the

molto rall. *f*

can - dles as they glow, and in the laugh - ter of chil - dren as they play. Find the

molto rall. *ten. f*

can - dles as they glow, and in the laugh - ter of chil - dren as they play. Find the

molto rall. *ten. f*

29 *a tempo, piu mosso* *rit.*

mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sound of the bells as they ring forth the joys of the

a tempo, piu mosso *rit.*

mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sound of the bells as they ring forth the joys of the

a tempo, piu mosso *rit.*

mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sound of the bells as they ring forth the joys of the

a tempo, piu mosso *rit.*

mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sound of the bells as they ring forth the joys of the

a tempo, piu mosso *rit.*

mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sound of the bells as they ring forth the joys of the

32 *mp* *a tempo*

day! Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sto - ries that are told, find the

mp *a tempo*

day! Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sto - ries that are told, find the

mp *a tempo*

day! Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sto - ries that are told, find the

mp *a tempo*

day! Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sto - ries that are told, find the

33 *mp* *a tempo*

mp *a tempo*

35 *cresc.* *mf*

mean - ing in the hope that it brings. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the

cresc. *mf*

mean - ing in the hope that it brings. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the

cresc. *mf*

mean - ing in the hope that it brings. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the

cresc. *mf*

mean - ing in the hope that it brings. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the

cresc. *mf*

mean - ing in the hope that it brings. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the

38 *rit.* *p a tempo*

love that we share, find the mean - ing in the birth of the King!

rit. *p a tempo*

love that we share, find the mean - ing in the birth of the King!

rit. *p a tempo*

love that we share, find the mean - ing in the birth of the King!

rit. *p a tempo*

love that we share, find the mean - ing in the birth of the King!

rit. *p a tempo*

love that we share, find the mean - ing in the birth of the King!

41 (WOMEN)
mp

Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the smile of a friend, find the

44 *cresc.* *mf*

mean - ing in the snow as it falls. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the

47 *rit.* *mp* (MEN)

warmth of the fire, find the mean - ing in the mem - 'ries we re - call. Find the

50 *a tempo* *cresc.*

mean - ing of Christ - mas in the carols that are sung, find the mean - ing in the tree lit so

53

8 bright. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the gifts that we give, find the

8 bright. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the gifts that we give, find the

mf

mf

56

8 mean - ing in the stars' dis - tant light. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the

8 mean - ing in the stars' dis - tant light. Find the mean - ing of Christ - mas in the

molto rall.

molto rall.

p

p

molto rubato

molto rubato

molto rubato

molto rubato

molto rall.

p

for rehearsal only

molto rubato

58

58

59

can - dles as they glow, and in the laugh - ter of chil - dren as they play. Find the

can - dles as they glow, and in the laugh - ter of chil - dren as they play. Find the

can - dles as they glow, and in the laugh - ter of chil - dren as they play. Find the

can - dles as they glow, and in the laugh - ter of chil - dren as they play. Find the

molto rit.

mf

molto rit.

ten.

molto rit.

ten.

62 *a tempo*

mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sound of the bells as they ring forth the joys of the

a tempo

mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sound of the bells as they ring forth the joys of the

a tempo

mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sound of the bells as they ring forth the joys of the

a tempo

mean - ing of Christ - mas in the sound of the bells as they ring forth the joys of the

a tempo

65 *mp* **66** *a tempo*

day! Find the mean - ing of Christ-mas in the sto - ries that are told, find the

day! Find the mean - ing of Christ-mas in the sto - ries that are told, find the

day! Find the mean - ing of Christ-mas in the sto - ries that are told, find the

day! Find the mean - ing of Christ-mas in the sto - ries that are told, find the

66 *a tempo* *mp (play)*

68 *cresc.* *mf*

mean - ing in the hope that it brings. Find the mean - ing of Christ-mas in the

cresc. *mf*

mean - ing in the hope that it brings. Find the mean - ing of Christ-mas in the

cresc. *mf*

mean - ing in the hope that it brings. Find the mean - ing of Christ-mas in the

cresc. *mf*

mean - ing in the hope that it brings. Find the mean - ing of Christ-mas in the

71

molto rall., dim. to end

love that we share, find the mean - ing in the birth of the King, birth of the

molto rall., dim. to end

love that we share, find the mean - ing in the birth of the King, birth of the

molto rall., dim. to end

love that we share, find the mean - ing in the birth of the King, birth of the

molto rall., dim. to end

love that we share, find the mean - ing in the birth of the King, birth of the

73

mp

73

mp

molto rall., dim. to end

mp

74

p King, birth of the King! *pp*

p King, birth of the King! *pp*

p King, birth of the King! *pp*

p King, birth of the King! *pp*

p King, birth of the King! *pp*

p *pp*

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