

# The Truth from Above

*SSA(T)B and Organ*

Reginald Unterseher, arr.



## ABOUT THE CAROL

Here are all nine verses to "The Herefordshire Carol." For this arrangement, I have chosen to use verses 1, 6, 7, and 9, which focus more on the Christmas portion of the story rather than the Adam and Eve story.

***Cecil J. Sharp, English Folk-Carols pub. 1911***

1. This is the truth sent from above,  
The truth of God, the God of love;  
Therefore don't turn me from your door,  
But hearken all, both rich and poor.

2. *The first thing, which I do relate,  
That God at first did man create  
The next thing, which to you I tell,  
Woman was made with him to dwell.*

3. *Then after this, 'twas God's own choice  
To place them both in Paradise,  
There to remain from evil free  
Except they ate of such a tree.*

4. *But they did eat, which was a sin,  
And thus their ruin did begin;  
Ruined themselves, both you and me,  
And all of their posterity.*

5. *Thus we were heirs to endless woes,  
Till God the Lord did interpose  
For so a promise soon did run  
That He'd redeem us with a Son.*

6. And at this season of the year  
Our blest Redeemer did appear  
He here did live, and here did preach,  
And many thousands He did teach.

7. Thus He in love to us behaved,  
To show us how we must be saved  
And if you want to know the way  
Be pleased to hear what He did say.

8. *Go preach the Gospel new, He said,  
To all the nations that are made  
And he that does believe in me,  
From all his sins I'll set him free.*

9. God grant to all within this place  
True saving faith—that special grace,  
Which to His people doth belong—  
And thus I close my Christmas song.

# The Truth from Above

SSA(T)B with organ

"The Herefordshire Christmas Carol"  
verses 1, 6, 7, 9, and 10

Reginald Unterseher, arr.  
21 November, 2012

♩ = 56 SW

Organ GT *p*

Pedals *mp*

7 SA unison *p*

This —

GT *p*

14

— is the truth sent from a - bove, The truth of God, the god of

GT *p*

18

love: There - fore don't turn\_ me from your door, But hark - ken\_

22

all, both rich and poor. \_\_\_\_\_

SW

29

(T)B unison  
*mf dolce*

At\_ this sea - son of the year\_

35

Our blest Re-deem-er did ap - pear,

41

And here did live, and here did preach,

removed for security  
 thanks for understanding  
[www.reginaldunterseher.com](http://www.reginaldunterseher.com)

51

Thus he in love to us be-

Thus he in love to

56

haved, To show us how\_ we must be saved: And

us be - haved, To show us how\_ we must be

59

if you want to know the way, Be\_ pleased to\_ hear what he\_ did

saved: And if you want\_ to know the way, Be\_ pleased to hear what he\_

63

say. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ did say. \_\_\_\_\_

SW

*p*

*pp*

69

S (div.) *f*

A *f*

all stops on  
except SW reed,  
all couplers on

SW: closed

*mf*

73

seek! O seek, seek! O seek of God a - bove, O seek, O seek God a - bove,

(T)B *f*

76

That sav - ing That sav - ing faith that works by love! That sav - ing faith



79

love

And if God is pleased to grant thee this,

that works by love! And if God is pleased to

This system contains the musical notation for measures 79-81. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of a continuous eighth-note pattern in the right hand and rests in the left hand. The lyrics are: "love", "And if God is pleased to grant thee this,", "that works by love! And if God is pleased to".

82

Sure to have e -

Thou art sure to have e -

grant thee this, Thou art sure

This system contains the musical notation for measures 82-84. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with the eighth-note pattern in the right hand and rests in the left hand. The lyrics are: "Sure to have e -", "Thou art sure to have e -", "grant thee this, Thou art sure".

84

ter - - - - nal bliss.

ter - - - - nal bliss.

to have e - ter - - - - nal

86

bliss.

Broadly

♩ = 92

SSA

89

*f*

God grant to all with - in this place True

(T)B *f*

Detailed description: This block contains the SSA voice part for measures 89-91. It is written in a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 7/4. The music features a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "God grant to all with - in this place True". The dynamics are marked with a forte *f* and a mezzo-forte *f*. The tempo is marked "Broadly".

♩ = 92

SW: all, open

*f*

Detailed description: This block contains the SW piano accompaniment for measures 89-91. It is written in a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature has two flats. The time signature is 7/4. The music features a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The dynamics are marked with a forte *f*. The tempo is marked "Broadly".

92

sav - ing faith, that spec - ial grace Which to all peo - ple doth be -

Detailed description: This block contains the SSA voice part for measures 92-94. It is written in a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature has two flats. The time signature is 7/4. The music features a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "sav - ing faith, that spec - ial grace Which to all peo - ple doth be -".

Detailed description: This block contains the SW piano accompaniment for measures 92-94. It is written in a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature has two flats. The time signature is 7/4. The music features a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef.

95

long; And thus we close our Christ-mas song.

Measures 95-98. The vocal line is in 5/4, 4/4, and 6/4 time signatures. The piano accompaniment features chords and moving lines in the right and left hands.

Measures 95-98. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines in the right and left hands, corresponding to the vocal line above.

99

♩ = 56

Measures 99-101. The piano accompaniment features sustained chords in the right hand and moving lines in the left hand.

♩ = 56

**Tempo Primo**

Measures 102-104. The piano accompaniment features triplets in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand. The dynamic marking *ff* is present.

102

Musical score for measures 102-104. The top system consists of a grand staff with a treble clef and a bass clef. The treble staff contains a sequence of chords, each marked with a '3' and a slur, indicating triplets. The bass staff contains a single note, a half note, in each measure. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat).

105

SW

rit. . . . .

Musical score for measures 105-106. The top system has a treble clef and contains two chords. The middle system has a bass clef and contains a continuous eighth-note pattern. The bottom system has a bass clef and contains a single note, a half note, in each measure. The key signature has two flats. The time signature is 4/4. The word 'rit.' is written above the staff.

107

molto rit. . . . .

Musical score for measures 107-109. The top system has a treble clef and contains a long, sustained chord across three measures. The middle system has a bass clef and contains a continuous eighth-note pattern. The bottom system has a bass clef and contains a single note, a half note, in each measure. The key signature has two flats. The time signature is 4/4. The word 'molto rit.' is written above the staff.