# Christmas Music For Solo Baritone Ukulele

Ellen S. Whitaker



Popular Christmas Tunes
Easy and Intermediate Arrangements

**Tablature and Standard Notation** 



**Press For Peace Music Publications** 

#### Available at lulu.com and Amazon.com. Author website: EllenWhitakerGuitar.com

# Christmas Music For Solo Baritone Ukulele by Ellen S. Whitaker

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#### CHRISTMAS MUSIC For SOLO BARITONE UKULELE

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#### Introduction

This volume replaces the retired book, "Christmas Music for Baritone Ukulele," and consisits of the same twenty solos and one duet (Carol of the Bells).

All of the arrangements are of popular and widely familiar tunes. Most are carols, and two are classical pieces that are often associated with the Christmas season (Bach's *Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring* and Beethoven's *Ode to Joy*).

These arrangements will be accessible to most players who have been studying, in earnest, fingerstyle and/or classical baritone ukulele (or classical guitar) for a year or so. Tablature is provided, in addition to the standard notation, for all the solos.

Most of the arrangements are in a two-voice texture. That is to say that the right hand thumb will be playing a lower line of music (lower voice) while the fingers play a higher voice (usually the melody). Take care to connect the notes of the bottom voice with one another and to connect the notes of the top voice with one another to get the full effect of the multiple voice texture.

The suggested left-hand fingerings are chosen with an effort to balance concerns for comfort, smoothness, cleanness, efficiency and timbre. Before changing any left-hand fingerings, consider how it will affect the smoothness of the individual lines. Sometimes the reason for a certain fingering will only become apparent several beats later.

Be certain that you will not be releasing a long note too soon or sacrificing the convenient use of a guide finger or pivot finger.

Right-hand fingering suggestions take into account timbre and smoothness. Using the thumb, p, in the bottom voice and fingers (i, m, and a) in the top voice(s) creates a distinct difference in the timbre between the voices. This will help your audience follow the individual voices in the pieces and appreciate the interactions between the voices.

May the music in these pages enhance the season's joy for you and everyone who hears you play.

#### **Notation Key**

Right hand finger indictions: thumb, index, middle and ring fingers p, i, m, a

respectively.

Left hand finger indications - index finger, middle finger, ring finger, and 1, 2, 3, 4

little finger respectively.

Roman numerals with a "C" in front of them indicate a bar chord at the fret CIII, 3/4 CIII

the numeral specifies. When a fraction is added, bar only some of the

strings. In the case of 3/4, you should bar 3 strings only.

Roman numerals without a "C" are position numbers. They do not indicate a II, III, IV

bar, but show which fret your left hand 1st finger should be in alignment

with.

p mp mf f ff Dynamic markings:

p = piano (Italian word for soft or restrained)

mp = mezzo piano (medium soft) mf = mezzo forte (medium strong)

f = forte (strong)

ff = fortissimo (very strong)

Allegro, Allegretto Tempo markings indicating a quick and lively tempo

Am, D, Dm

Chord symbols for an accompanist

Andante Play at a slow tempo.

a tempo Back to the original tempo

Crescendo (get stronger) little by little cresc. poco a poco

Da Capo al Fine. (From the head to the end) Repeat the piece from the D.C. al Fine

beginning, stopping at the spot marked "Fine."

dim. e rit. Gradually reduce volume and gradually slow down

simultaneously.

dolce Sweetly

Larghetto Play quite slowly. Slower than Andante.

Legato Smoothly

Moderato Play at a moderate tempo

ponticello Play the passage with the right hand close enough to

the bridge to achieve a brighter timbre.

rit. Gradually slow down.



Circled numbers are string numbers. If a note appears with a circled 3, for example, that note will be played on the third sting in this instance.



A mordent. An ornament indicating to play the written note, hammer onto the note above it and then pull off to the original note. (G#-A-G# in this case) All is done quickly so that, of the three notes sounded, the final note is longer than the first two.

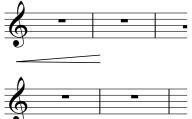


A grace note ornament. Play the smaller ornamental note on the beat, pulling off rather quickly to the ornamented note. The ornamented note arrives just a bit late. If a bass note is present, play the grace note with the bass note on the beat.



Triplet. This is an indicator that three notes of a certain value are occupying the same space that would usually have only two. The division of time is evenly divided by 3 instead of by the usual 2

#### **Notation Key (3of 3)**



Crescendo. Gradually increase volume.



Decrescendo. Gradually decrease volume.



Strum down. Strum up. (Respectively)



First ending and second ending. Play the music under the line marked "1" only the first time through the passage. Skip the 1st ending the second time the passage is played, and go to the second ending.



A dash in front of a left hand finger number indicates a guide finger. The finger has already been on the same string and will lightly glide to the note with the dashed finger number beside it.



Portamento. The finger slides audibly (and quickly) along the same string from the first note to the second note. Resist the temptation to leave the first note early. The second note should be articulated with the right hand after arriving there with the left.



Artificial harmonic. While holding down a C with the left hand at the first fret of the second string, execute the harmonic with the right hand marking the node at the 13th fret with the i finger while plucking with the a finger.



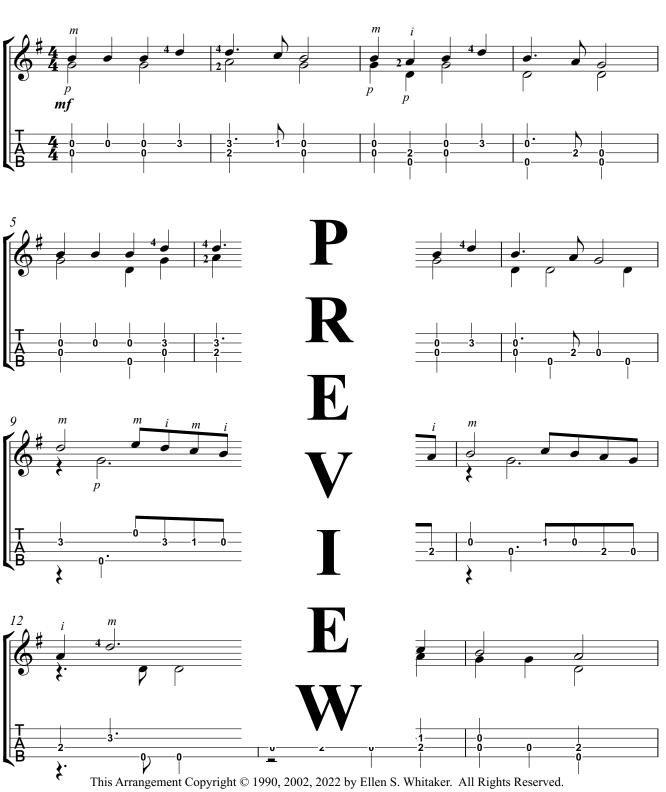
Arpeggio. Instead of articulating all of the notes of the chord simultaneously, stagger them ("roll" the chord) by plucking the notes one at a time in rapid succession beginning with the 4th string.

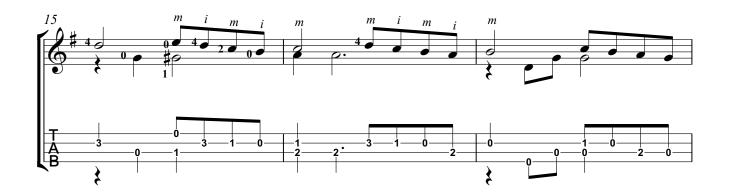


## Angels We Have Heard On High

Arranged for Baritone Ukulele by Ellen S. Whitaker

Traditional French





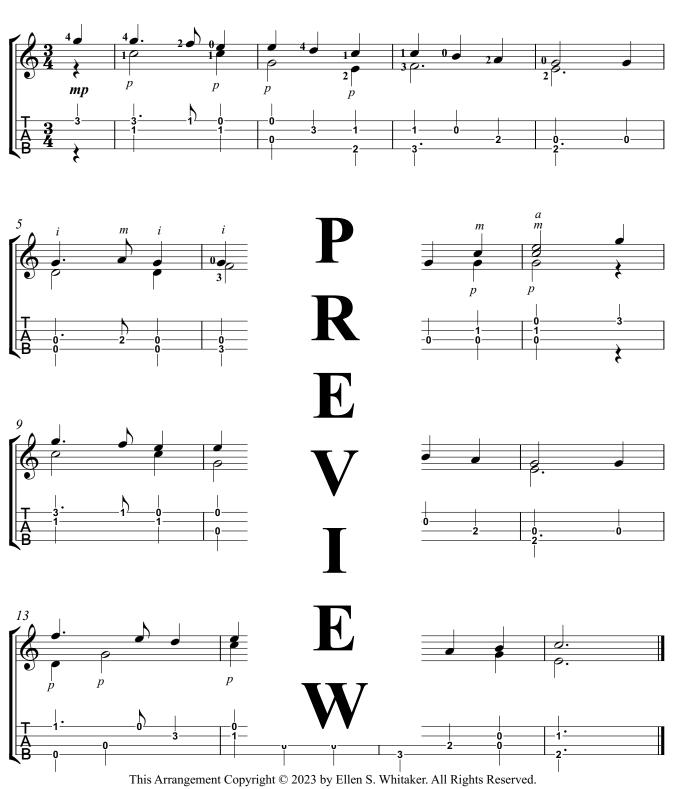




#### Away in a Manger

Arranged for Baritone Ukulele by Ellen S. Whitaker

James Murray (1841-1905)

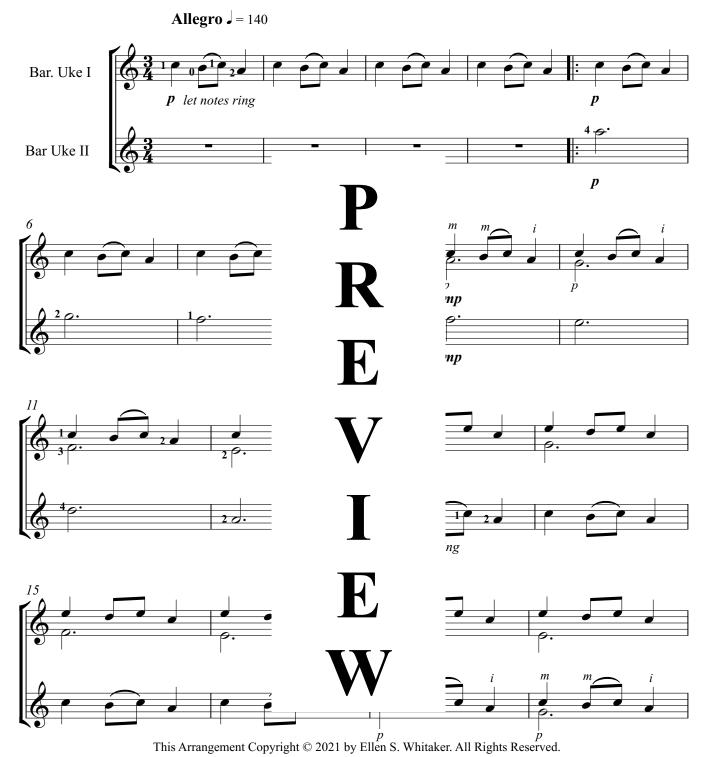


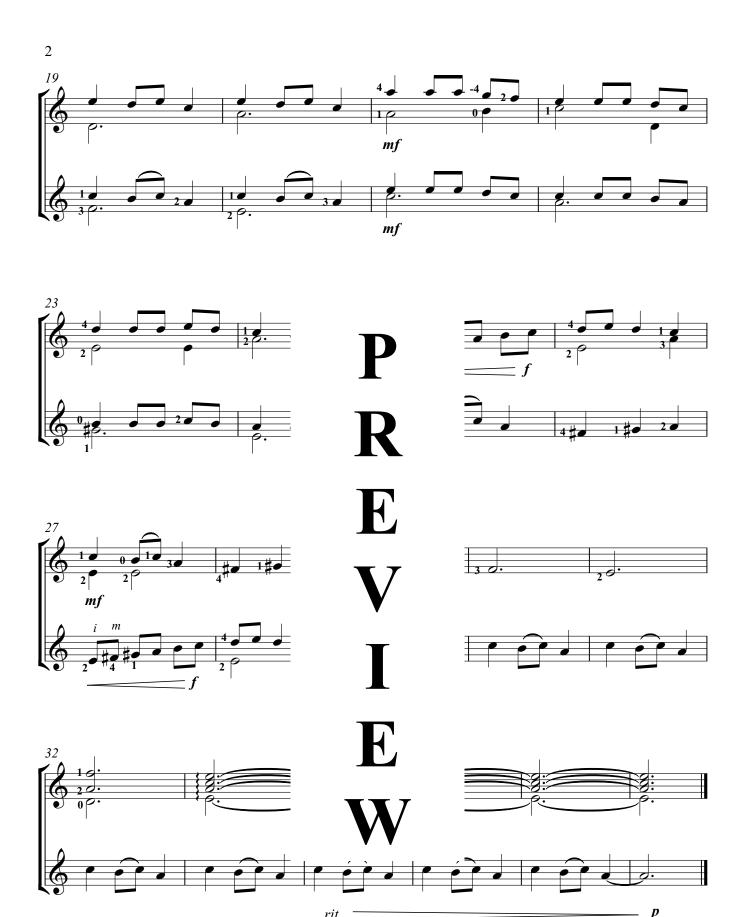
#### Carol of the Bells

(Duet, Full Score)

Arranged for Two Baritone Ukuleles by Ellen S. Whitaker

Ukranian Christmas Carol by Mykola Lyontovych (1916)





## **Coventry Carol**

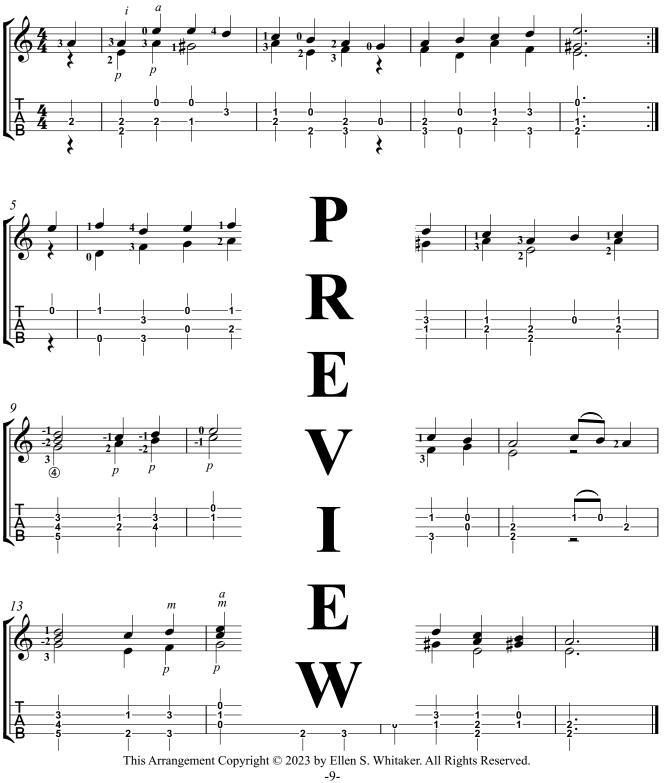
Arranged for Baritone Ukulele 16th Century English Tune by Ellen S. Whitaker m i This Arrangement Copyright  $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$  2023 by Ellen S. Whitaker. All Rights Reserved.

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#### God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

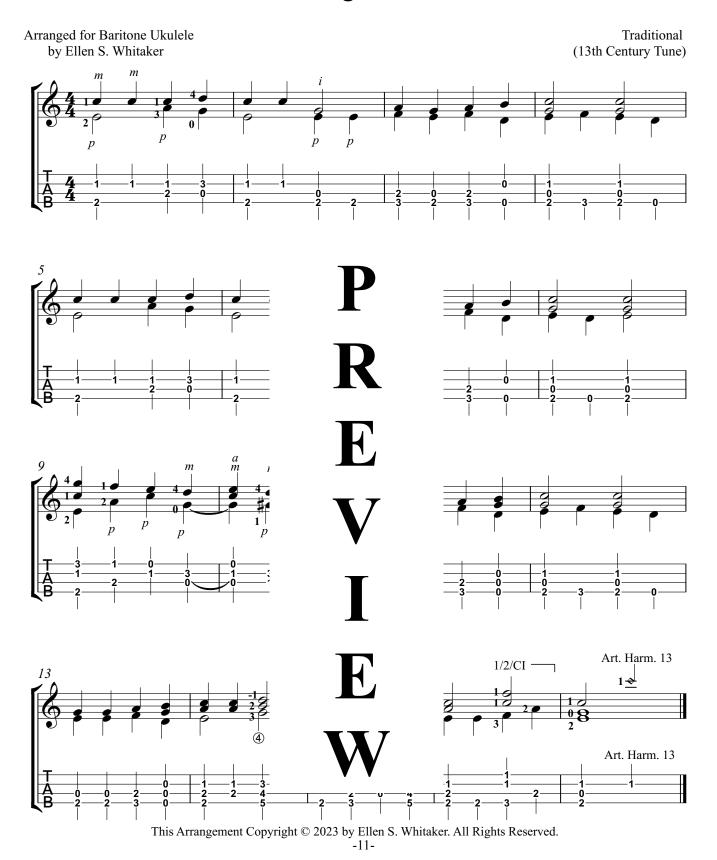
Arranged for Baritone Ukulele by Ellen S. Whitaker

**English Traditional** 





#### Good King Wenceslas



#### Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

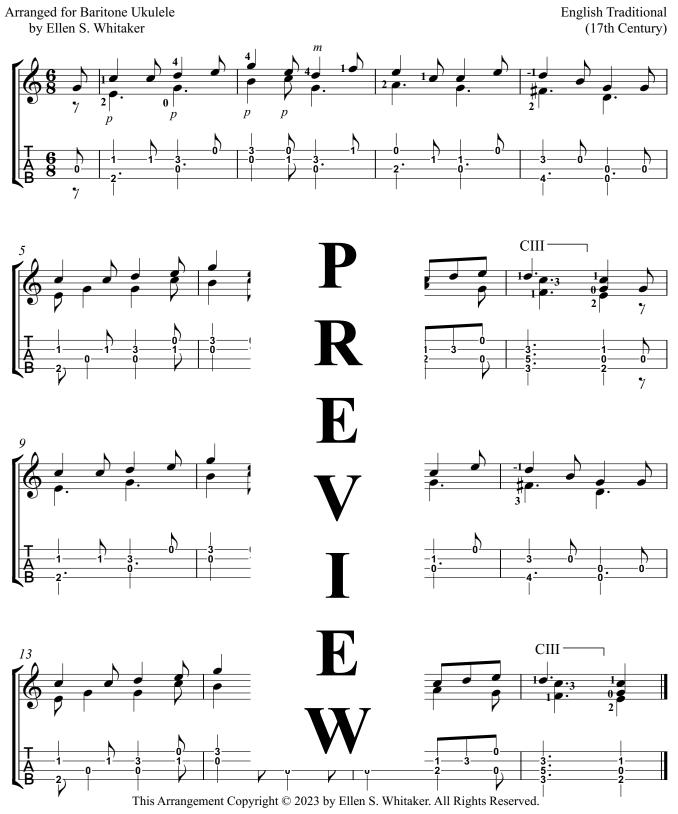




## The Holly and the Ivy



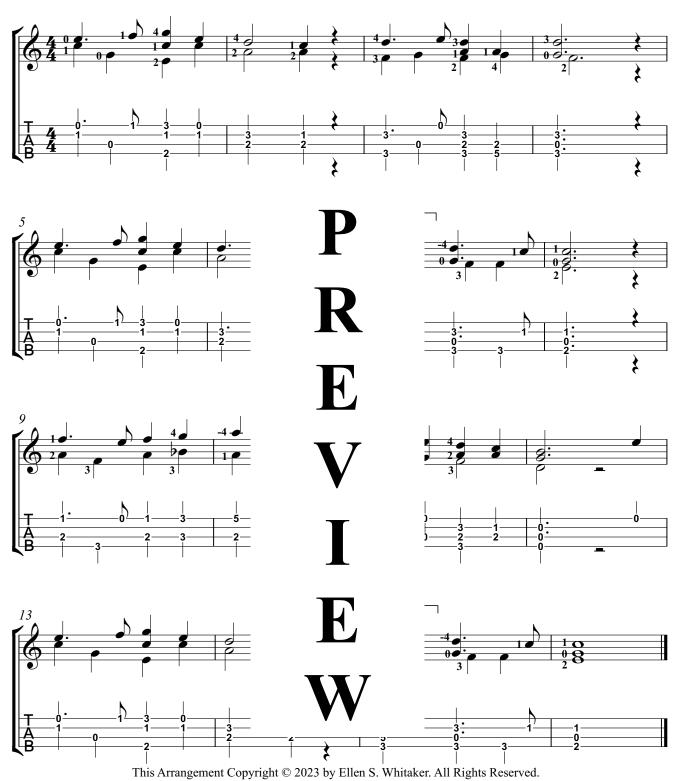
#### I Saw Three Ships



#### In The Bleak Midwinter

Arranged for Baritone Ukulele by Ellen S. Whitaker

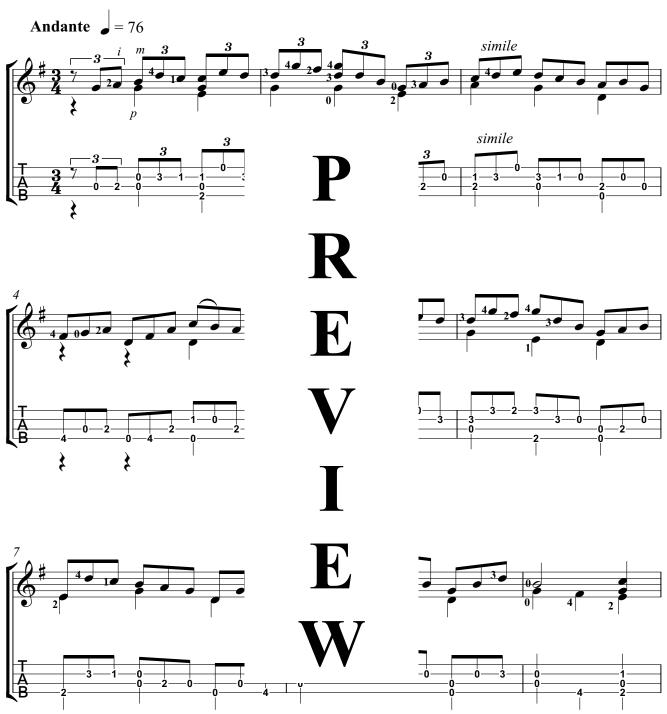
English Hymn



# Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring (Jesu bleibet meine Freude from Cantata No. 147)

Arranged for Baritone Ukulele by Ellen S. Whitaker

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)



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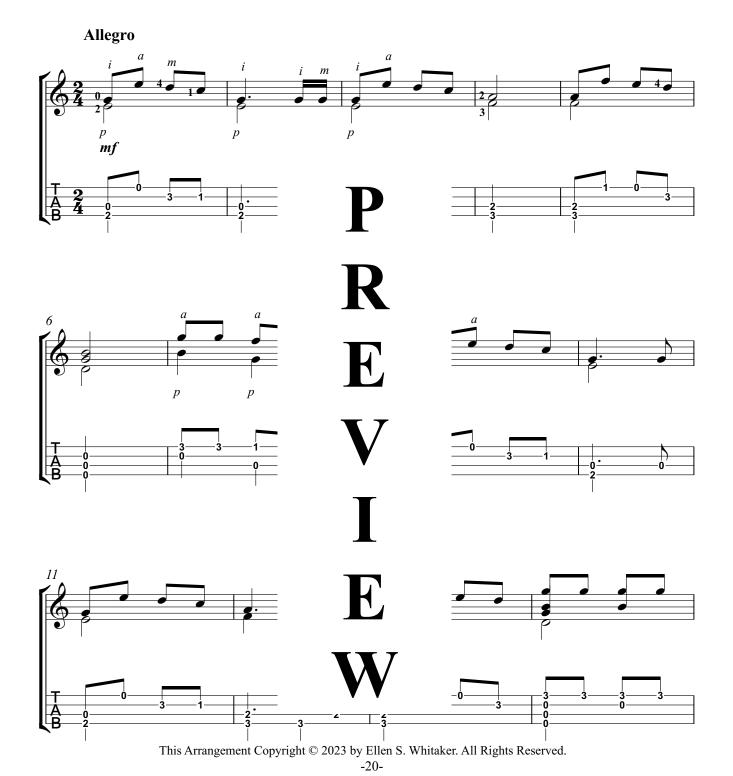


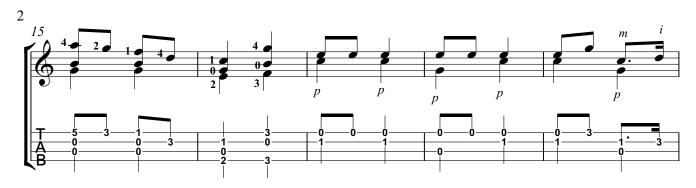


## Jingle Bells

Arranged for Baritone Ukulele by Ellen S. Whitaker

J. Pierpont (1827-1893)



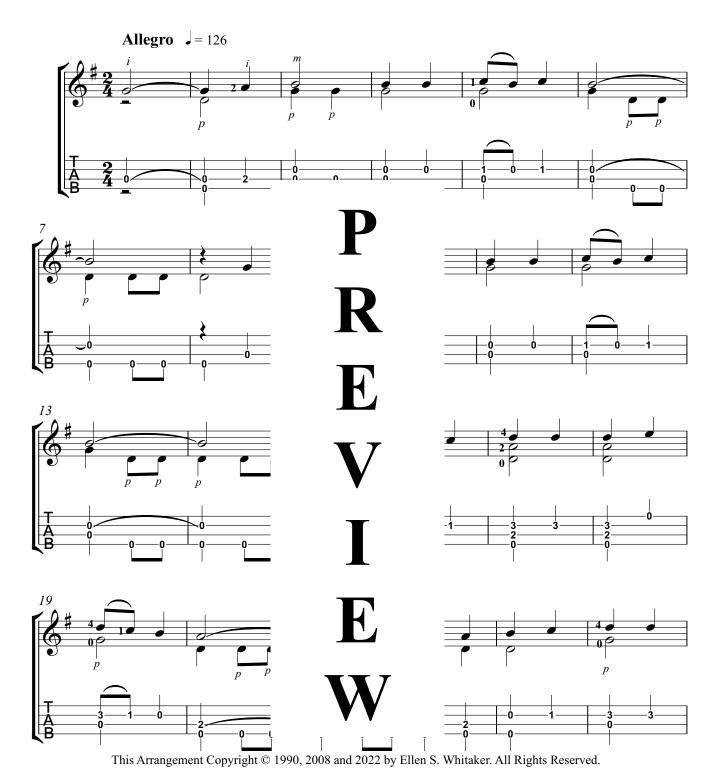




#### The Little Drummer Boy

Arranged for Baritone Ukulele by Ellen S. Whitaker

Katherine Vennicott Davis (1892-1980)





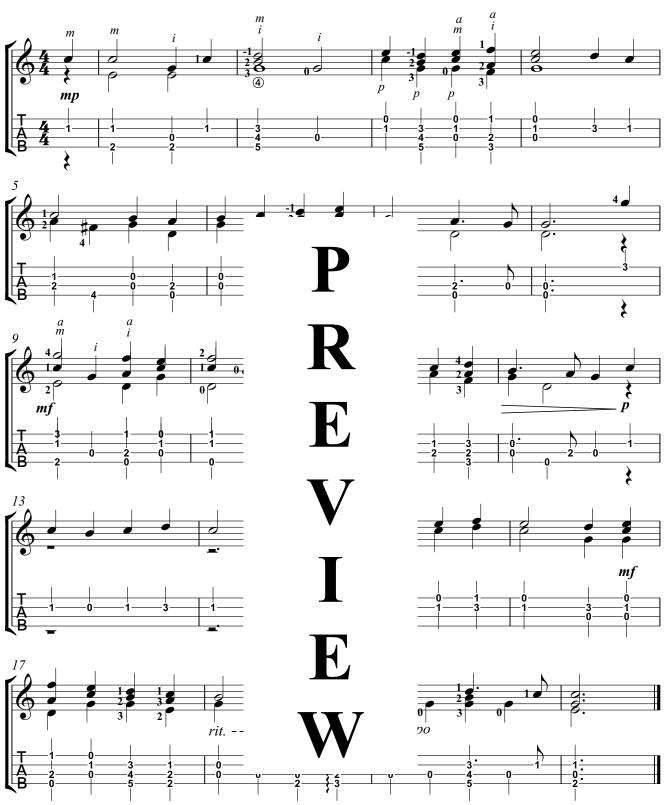
#### O Christmas Tree

Arranged for Baritone Ukulele by Ellen S. Whitaker German Traditional

#### O Come All Ye Faithful

Arranged for Baritone Ukulele by Ellen S. Whitaker

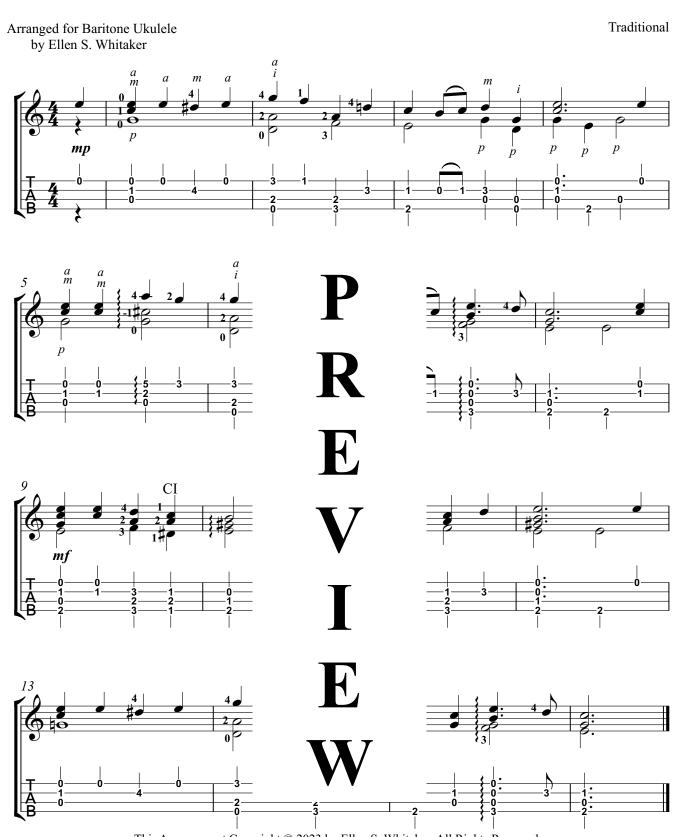
Traditional (18th Century)

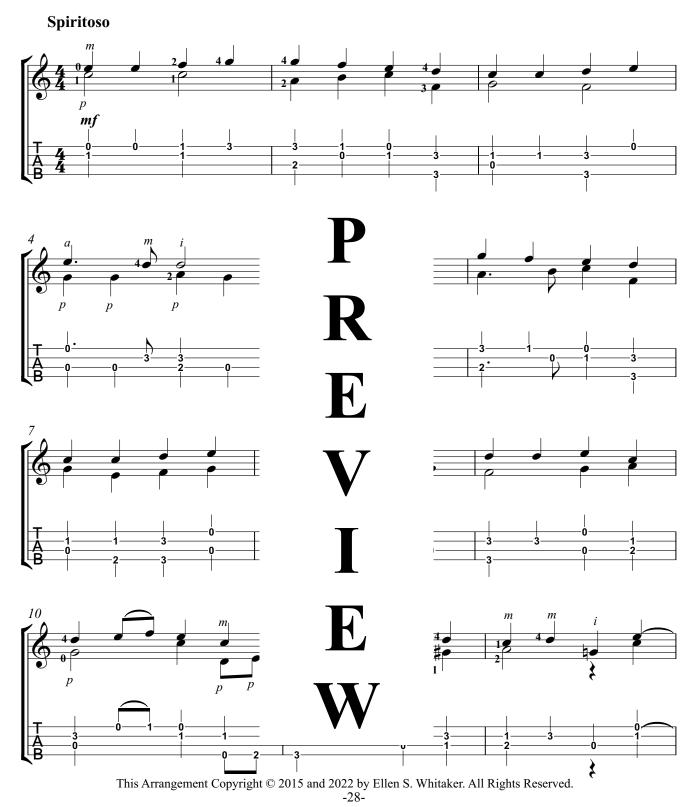


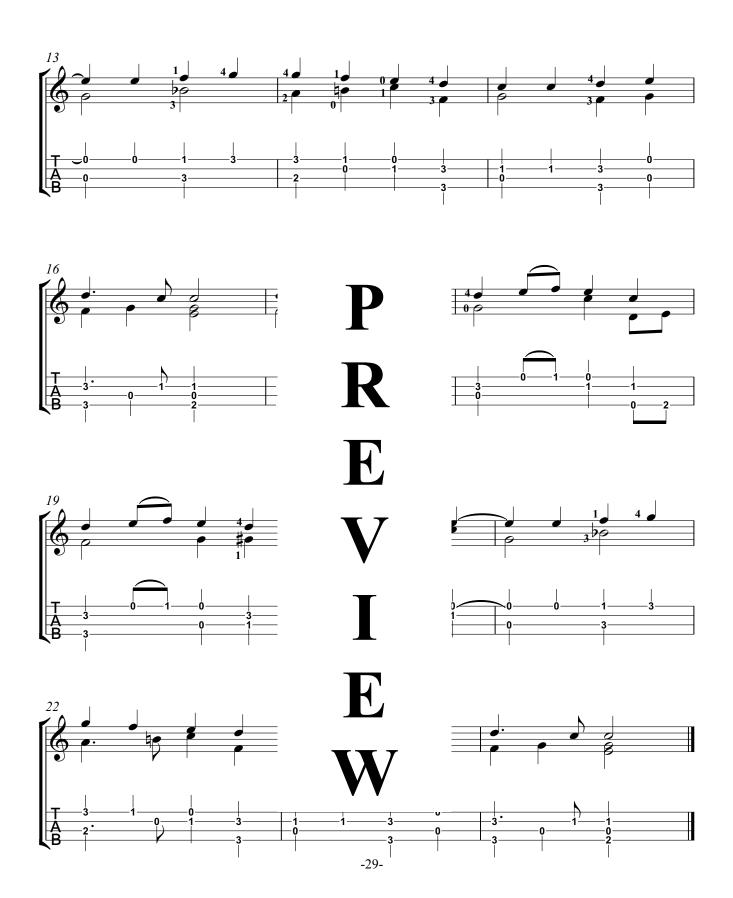
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## O Little Town of Bethlehem



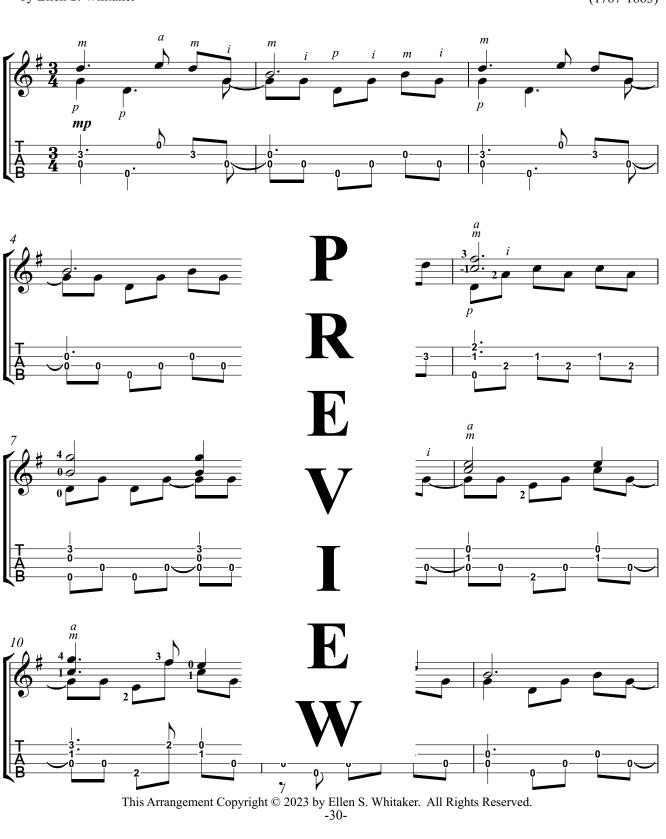




# Silent Night

Arranged for Baritone Ukulele by Ellen S. Whitaker

Franz Grüber (1787-1863)





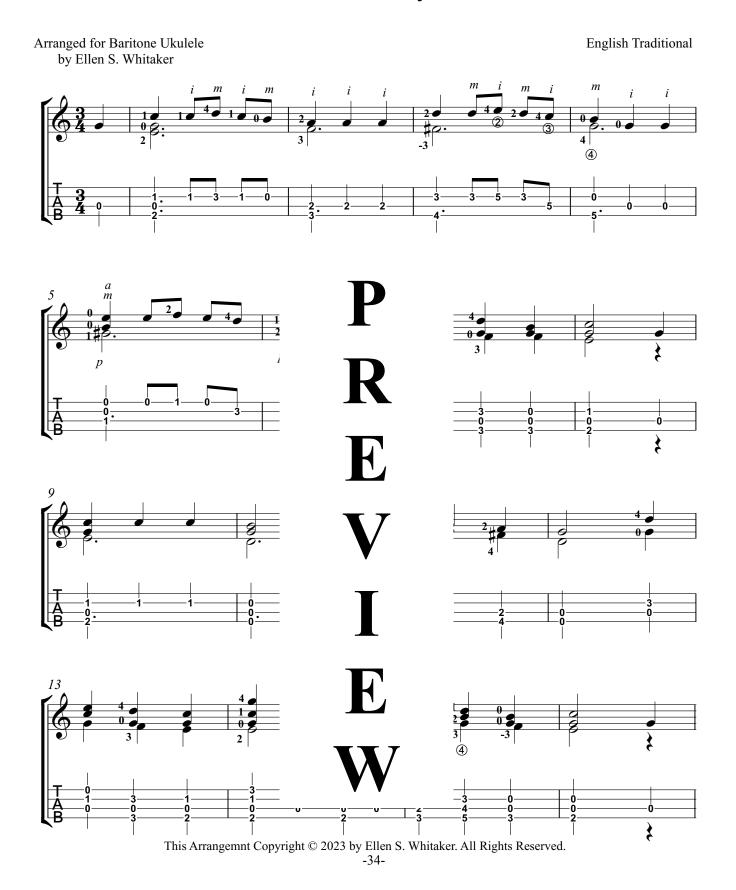
## We Three Kings

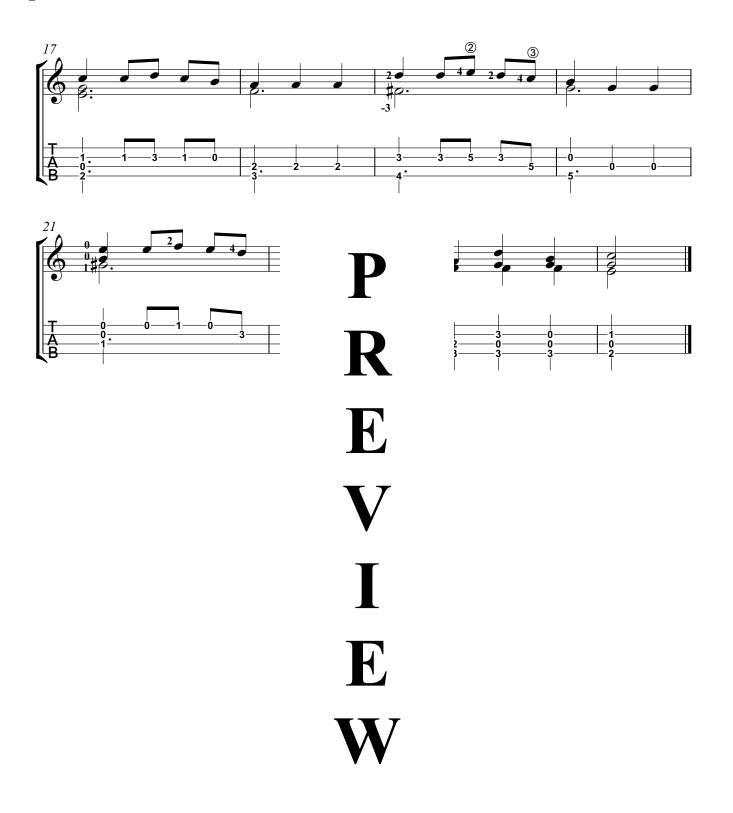






## We Wish You A Merry Christmas

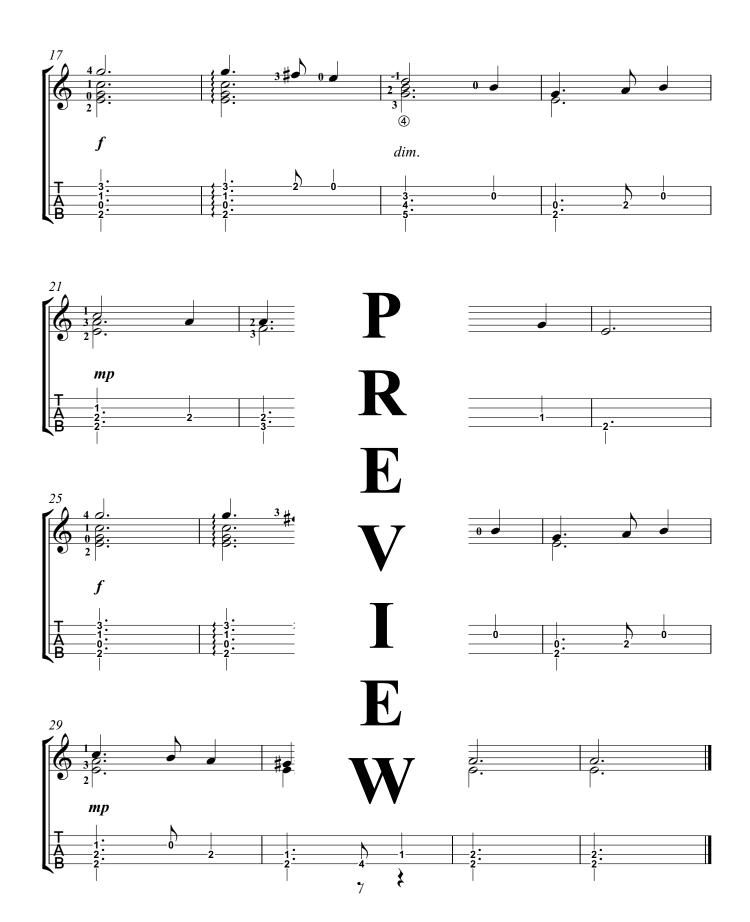




#### What Child Is This?

(Greensleeves tune) Arranged for Baritone Ukulele by Ellen S. Whitaker Anonymous (16th Century Tune) Moderato m p p mf

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#### **About the Arranger**

Ellen Whitaker is a guitar teacher, ukulele teacher, arranger and composer. She began teaching herself to play the guitar at nine years of age and studied classical guitar from the age of 12 with various teachers.

She began her formal study of music theory at City College of San Francisco, and went on to earn a BA in Music from Mills College and an MA in Music Theory from the University of California at Santa Barbara.

Whitaker has been teaching guitar since 1981 and ukulele since 2015. While at UCSB, she taught undergraduate classes in music fundamentals, advanced theory and composition.

Other publications by Whitaker include:

- Jewish Traditions for Classical and Fingerstyle Guitar,
- Music for Classical and Fingerstyle Ukulele Low G,
- Music for Baritone Ukulele: Classical and Fingerstyle, and
- Christmas Music for Ukulele: Low G

In addition, she has written original repertoire pieces and studies for guitar and for ukulele, as well as original pieces for various chamber ensembles.

Whitaker's home and studio are located in Durham, NC where she teaches individual lessons in guitar, ukulele and music theory.