

# Cherry Tree Carol - Joseph was an Old Man

Traditional English

Arr: PKN - August 2007

The musical score is arranged in three systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (treble and bass clefs) and a piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score begins with a repeat sign. The first system contains the first four measures of the piece. The second system starts at measure 5 and includes the lyrics: "V1. Jo-seph was an old man, and an old man was he, V4. Go to the tree then, Ma - ry, and it shall bow to thee; and". The third system starts at measure 9 and includes the lyrics: "when he mar-ried Ma - ry in the land of Ga - li - lee. you shall ga - ther cher - ries by one, by two, by three." The piano accompaniment features a mix of chords and moving lines, with some measures containing triplets or sixteenth-note patterns.

13

V2. And as they were  
V5. Then bowed down the

Musical score for measures 13-16. The vocal line begins with a rest for three measures, then enters with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

17

walk - ing through an or - chard so good, where were cher - ries and  
high - est tree un - to our La - dy's hand; "See," Ma - ry cried, "see,

Musical score for measures 17-20. The vocal line continues with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment features a more active right hand with arpeggiated chords and a steady bass line.

21

ber - ries as red as an - y blood.  
Jos - seph, I have cher - ries at com - mand.

Musical score for measures 21-24. The vocal line concludes with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and arpeggiated figures, ending with a final chord.

25

V3. O then be-spoke Ma - ry, with  
 V6. "O eat your cher-ries, Ma - ry, O

29

words both meek and mild, "Pluck me one cher-ry, Jos - eph, for  
 eat your cher-ries now; eat your cher-ries, Ma - ry, that

words both meek and mild, "Pluck me one cher-ry, Jos - eph, for  
 eat your cher-ries now, eat your cher-ries Ma - ry, that

33

that I am with child." 2nd time, on to verse 7  
 grow u - pon the bough."

that I am with child." Rall e Dim.  
 grow u - pon the bough."

37

Generally quieter and slower.

V7. Then Ma - ry pluck'd a cher - ry, as red as an - y

41

blood, then Ma - ry went she home - wards all with her hea - vy  
then Ma - ry

45

load.

This piece can be sung in a variety of ways:

SA MEN - as written;

UNISON - with the melody in every verse, all accompanied;

SA - as written, but in verses 3 and 6 the altos sing the melody an octave higher than written;

LADIES/MEN - as written, without the Alto part. Some ladies may

prefer to sing some of the alto notes for bars 31 and 32.