

The Cherry-Tree Carol

Collected in *Child's Ballads* (no. 54)
from various 15th-century sources

Appalachian Folk Melody
arr. Seigart

Not too fast ♩ = 100
let vibrate etc.

CHIMES

SOPRANO

SOLO *mf*

1. Jo - seph was an old man, an old man was he when he

7

wed the vir - gin Ma - ry in the land of Ga - li - lee, when he

11

wed the vir - gin Ma - ry in the land of Ga - li - lee.

16

SA *mp*

2. Jo - seph and Ma - ry walked through an or - chard good, where was cher - ries and ber - ries so_

TB *f*

cher - ries and ber - ries so_

22

red as a - ny blood, where was cher - ries and_ ber - ries so_ red as an - y blood. _

red as a - ny blood, where was cher - ries and ber - ries so_ red as an - y blood. _

2 29

S A *mp*

3. Then be - spoke Ma - ry, so meek and so mild, "Jo - seph pluck me a cher - ry, for

35

I am with child, Jo - seph pluck me a cher - ry, for I am with child."

42

T B *f*

4. Then be - spoke Jo seph with words most re - viled, "Let him pluck thee a cher - ry that

48

brought thee with child, let him pluck thee a cher - ry that brought thee with child."

55

S A SA unison *mp*

5. Then be - spoke Je - sus with - in his moth - er's womb, "Bow down the tall - est

62

tree for my moth - er to have some, bow down the tall - est

66

tree for my moth - er to have some.

70

S A *mf*

6. Then bowed down the tall - est tree un - to his moth er's hand, then she cried, "See, Jo - seph I have

T B *mf*

cher-ries at command, then she cried, "See, Jo-seph I have cher-ries at com mand."—

mf

83

T
B

Then be - spoke Jo - seph, "I have done Ma-ry wrong, but cheer up my dear-est, and do not be cast down, but cheer up my dear-est, and do not be cast down."—

do not be cast down, but cheer up my dear-est, and do not be cast down."—

8. Ma - ry plucked a cher-ry, as red as a-ny blood, and she did tra-vel on-ward, all with her hea-vy load, and she did tra-vel on-ward, all with her hea-vy load.

102

CHIMES

rit. A tempo molto rall. .

p slower

with her hea-vy load, and she did tra-vel on-ward, all with her hea-vy load.