

## **More About OH COME, OH COME EMMANUEL**

This is a fairly elaborate arrangement of the familiar Advent carol that I put together many years ago for the church choir I directed at the time. I got the idea from another choir that I had sung in several years earlier. They used this carol as a "Lessons and Carols" music service processional with a few of the singers ringing an ostinato on hand bells as they processed. I liked that idea, but decided that for my arrangement, I would use a full bell choir in the accompaniment along with organ, and add a solo horn to the mix that I would play myself when we presented the piece.

I have now performed this many times over the years, both as conductor and horn soloist. On a couple of occasions, I substituted other instruments for the horn, but I found that I didn't like the substitutions as well, and that a horn is the instrument I really want there. So when I published it, I included only a horn part with the instrumental set.

It's strange, but for all the times I have performed this arrangement, I've never gotten a usable live recording of it. So the audio track on the website is VST-generated. It actually sounds very realistic, except that the vocal parts are not able to "sing" the words and have to settle for "aah." Since the words are so familiar anyway--and you can also follow them if you open the vocal score preview at the J.W. Pepper link (ORDER MUSIC)--the recording should still be useful in auditioning the arrangement.