

Christ the Light (Phos Hilaron) Music by Deanna Witkowski

Originally commissioned by Bill Carter
for the jazz hymnal "Swing a New Song to the Lord"

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Composer note: This is a text often used in vespers services. This setting includes an interlude (bars 23-38) for an instrumental solo between verses 2 and 3. The piece can easily be played without this interlude by simply omitting the second ending (in other words, use the written first ending twice; at the end of the third verse, take the coda as written).

Also note that although the main rhythm throughout is a dotted-quarter followed by an eighth, the dotted-quarter should be played short. Listen to the mp3 clip for an example.

The congregational sheet does not have the coda written in order to preserve easy readability.

Med. shuffle

Christ the Light (lead sheet sample)

Deanna Witkowski

♩=108

Musical notation for the first line of the lead sheet sample. It consists of a single staff in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The tempo is marked as Med. shuffle with a quarter note equal to 108 beats per minute. The melody is written in treble clef. Above the staff, the following chords are indicated: F-7, G-7, A^bΔ7, G-7, F-7, G-7, A^bΔ7, G-7. The melody begins with a quarter note on G4, followed by a quarter note on F4, and then a quarter note on E4. The line ends with a double bar line and the number 1.0.

Musical notation for the second line of the lead sheet sample. It begins with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The melody continues with a quarter note on D4, followed by a quarter note on C4, and then a quarter note on B3. The line ends with a double bar line. Below the staff, the lyrics "rad - iant light, O Sun di - vine, of" are written. Above the staff, the following chords are indicated: F-7, G-7, A^bΔ7, G-7, F-7, G-7, A^bΔ7, G-7.

Musical notation for the third line of the lead sheet sample. The melody continues with a quarter note on A3, followed by a quarter note on G3, and then a quarter note on F3. The line ends with a double bar line. Below the staff, the lyrics "God the Fa - ther's death less face, O" are written. Above the staff, the following chords are indicated: F-7, G-7, A^bΔ7, G-7, F-7, G-7, A^bΔ7, F7+.