



It's Good!

by Kathleen Hart Brumm
Accompaniments arranged by Barbara J. Rogers

Unison voices with keyboard and optional percussion

The Genesis story of the Creation is told through this delightful musical. Suited for almost any age group, it can easily be incorporated into a worship service as a musical interpretation of Genesis 1:1-2:4. Performance time is approximately 20 minutes.

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Also available:
Demonstration Cassette – code CGCT28
Director's Kit (containing score and demo cassette) – code CGK15

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Cast

(in order of appearance)

Angel Choir

God

Michael the Angel

Gabriel the Angel

Cosmic Choir

Diver

Animal Choir

Fish(es)

Bird(s)

Tiger(s)

Adam

Eve

Chorus

Music Performance Notes

If possible, it is suggested that the children be divided into three groups: the Angel Choir, Cosmic Choir and Animal Choir. If the group is too small to divide, the children may change costumes and serve as singers for all three of the above choirs. “Chorus” indicates all choirs.

The “Salzburg Stomp,” used in *It’s Good* and *Make a Joyful Noise*, comes from Carl Orff’s body percussion. It is accomplished by standing in an upright position, keeping one leg and foot stationary while bending the other back at the knee, and bringing the calf and foot forward in a kicking movement, stopping the motion near the stationary foot on which one is standing. This action can be done quickly. (Try to avoid the “Bug Stomp,” in which the whole leg is lifted from the hip and brought down—sometimes on the bodies of unfortunate insects!—with great force.)

Production Suggestions: Stage and Sets

Divide the stage into two sections: Heaven and the void. If possible, elevate the heavens in the back of the stage, and have the void below it in front.

Production Suggestions: Props

Beach balls, kickballs, tennis balls, etc. can be painted to resemble planets, moons, suns, etc. Children may instead be costumed as planets wearing sandwich boards: cardboard shapes of suns, moons, stars, comets, asteroids, etc.

Fish bowl or large glass or clear plastic container (filled with water and sand)

Snorkel, fins, and diving mask (for diver)

Potted plants

Production Suggestions: Costumes

It is strongly recommended (especially for smaller groups who will use the same children interchangeably for the Angel Choir, Cosmic Choir, and Animal Choir) that costumes be kept simple. Be creative and use what works best for your group. The following are some suggestions:

Angels can be clothed in oversized white T-shirts and shorts, with the requisite wings made of cardboard or wire coat hangers and tulle (netting). Angel halos can be made from chenille pipe cleaners.

For animal costumes, the children may wear painters’ hats or baseball caps with the appropriate animal on them. Oversized, solid-colored T-shirts, or simple tunics with animals appliquéd in felt may also serve.

Adam and Eve can appear in T-shirts and sweat pants with added fig leaves in the appropriate places to add a little whimsy!

Scene 1: The Void

In the Beginning

Michael, Gabriel, God and Angel Choir

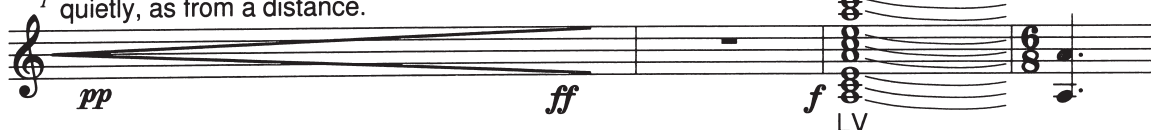
Handbells used: 3 octaves (16 bells)



Kathleen Hart Brumm

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Accompaniment arr. by Barbara J. Rogers

Bells ring at random for twenty seconds or more, quietly, as from a distance.



(At the director's signal, the Angel Choir intones:)



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It's Good!

Angel Choir

Kathleen Hart Brumm

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Accompaniment arr. by Barbara J. Rogers

× = clap ♩ = Salzburg stomp

44 ♩ = 90

First system of the musical score. The vocal line (treble clef) begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note G4. The piano accompaniment (grand staff) starts with a forte (ff) dynamic, featuring a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes in the right hand and a steady bass line in the left hand. The tempo is marked as 44 ♩ = 90. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

mf

It's good!

It's

♩ = 90

ff

mf

Second system of the musical score. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "good! God said it's good! It's good! It's". The piano accompaniment maintains its rhythmic pattern. The tempo remains 44 ♩ = 90.

good!

God said

it's

good!

It's good!

It's

Third system of the musical score. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "good! God said it's good! The bright-ness and the". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. The tempo remains 44 ♩ = 90.

good!

God said

it's

good!

The bright-ness and the

mp più legato

mp più legato

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Scene 2: Luminaries in the Heavens

MICHAEL: Now that we have dark and light, where do we put them?
GOD: I was thinking of putting little centers of light all around the universe, so they could send light all over.
MICHAEL: Suppose we surround each one with darkness, so they can share their brightness.
GOD: Splendid! Light, divide into many small lights, and scatter yourselves all around my universe. Dark, gather up little bits of yourself to dance around each glint of light.

(The COSMIC CHOIR enters with, or as, suns, moons, stars, comets, asteroids, etc. as the introduction plays.)

All You Lights

Cosmic Choir

Kathleen Hart Brumm

Kathleen Hart Brumm
Accompaniment arr. by Barbara J. Rogers

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 84 and a dynamic of *f* (forte). The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The score is divided into systems. The first system covers measures 71 to 74. The second system covers measures 74 to 78. The third system starts at measure 78 with a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has the lyrics "All you lights in — the heav - ens, shine your beams!". The piano accompaniment has a dynamic of *mf* (mezzo-forte). The score ends with a section labeled "8ba".

* The alternate notes may be used if your choir is too young to reach the other notes comfortably.

It's Good! - Reprise I

Gabriel, God and Chorus

Kathleen Hart Brumm

Accompaniment arr. by Barbara J. Rogers

Kathleen Hart Brumm

✕ = clap ♩ = Salzburg stomp

119 ♩ = 90

mf

It's good! It's

ff

mf

122

good! God said it's good! It's good! It's

126

good! God said it's good! The cos - mos and the

mp più legato

mp più legato

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Scene 3: Earth and Water

- MICHAEL: *(Bringing in a fishbowl full of water and sand)* What IS this stuff?
- GOD: A sample from the third planet from that sun over there. Interesting, isn't it?
- GABRIEL: *(With hand in the fishbowl)* This feels . . . wet.
- GOD: Oh yes, that's water. Powerful stuff when used in quantity.
- GABRIEL: *(Feeling the sand)* What's this?
- GOD: That's earth, or at least one kind of it.
- MICHAEL: I don't see any of it down there.
- GOD: That's because it's all under water. But, if we keep the water in some kind of boundary on the earth . . .
- GABRIEL: What will happen?
- GOD: We'll have dry land and seas. So be it! Waves, draw back and stay within the boundaries I set for you. Land, be dry and keep the water in its pools.
- (The DIVER enters, dressed in swim suit, and fins, snorkel and mask, if possible.)*
- DIVER: Who turned off the water?
- ALL: What?
- DIVER: Somebody must have pulled the plug! I was swimming down on the earth, and all of a sudden I was flat on my back, looking up.
- GOD: I'm sorry. I wanted some dry land on that planet.
- DIVER: Can I still swim there?
- GOD: Of course. Just find a place where there's plenty of water. I promise I won't move it this time.
- DIVER: All right. 'Bye.
- GOD: We'll see you later. *(The DIVER walks off, practicing swimming technique.)*
That's enough for today.

(Curtain. GOD and the rest of the cast move from the heavens down to the earth.)

Scene 4: Life on Earth

Life on Earth

God and Angel Choir

Kathleen Hart Brumm

Kathleen Hart Brumm
Accompaniment arr. by Barbara J. Rogers

146 ♩ = 72

GOD: *p molto legato*

It's

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149

qui - et and the wres - tling waves _____ seem still - er now. The

152

hol - low in my heart of hearts _____ is not ap - peased, I can't tell how to

155

ANGEL CHOIR: *p*

quell it. _____ O God, who made the skies and seas, _____ please hear our

158

voice. The beau - ty of your plan - et earth _____ is not com -

When discussing the text with the children, the following definitions may be helpful:
 appeased - calmed, satisfied; quell - to subdue, to overcome

GOD: Now for the plants of the land.

(The procedure is the same for the land plants.)

GOD: Our earth is full of good things: trees that bear fruit and give shade, grass and shrubs and flowers, all kinds of things. It is good.

GABRIEL: But they have to stay in the same place all the time.

GOD: That's true. Let's make creatures that can move all by themselves.

(ANIMAL CHORUS begins. The fish enters.)

Scene 5: Animal Life

Animals' Chorus

Fish(es), Bird(s), Tiger(s) and Animal Choir

Kathleen Hart Brumm

Kathleen Hart Brumm
Accompaniment arr. by Barbara J. Rogers

182 $\text{♩} = 130$ *mf*

*FISH(es): And what am
*BIRD(s): And what am
*TIGER(s): And what am

f *mf*

186

I?
I?
I?

I have fins and mouth and gills. I
I can soar be - yond the sea. A
I prow! in the for - est dark.

* Can be sung by soloists or small groups if desired.

It's Good! - Reprise II

Michael, Gabriel and Chorus

Kathleen Hart Brumm

Kathleen Hart Brumm
Accompaniment arr. by Barbara J. Rogers

✕ = clap ♩ = Salzburg stomp

208 ♩ = 90

mf

It's good! It's

ff *mf*

211

good! God said it's good! It's good! It's

215

good! God said it's good! The liv - ing things God

mp *più legato*

mp *più legato*

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Scene 6: Human Life

What Next?

God and Angel Choir

Kathleen Hart Brumm

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235 $\text{♩} = 126$

238

ANGELS: *mp*

GOD: *mf*

God looked a-round and then ____ said: "This all is ver - y

242

nice! I made the stars and then _ the earth and nev - er had to think

246

ANGELS: *mp*

GOD: *mf*

twice." But then, God looked a - round a - gain and said: "I'm lone - ly

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EVE: Hi.
 ADAM: Hi.
 GOD: You belong to each other, so be gentle. The earth, all its plants, animals and minerals are yours. Take good care of it.
 ADAM: Thanks, God. We'll do our best.
 EVE: This is so good, we could just burst into song!

Make a Joyful Noise

All

Kathleen Hart Brumm

Kathleen Hart Brumm
 Accompaniment arr. by Barbara J. Rogers

✕ = clap ♩ = Salzburg stomp

285 ♩ = 112

288

ff ✕

Make a joy - ful noise to the Lord, all you, God's crea - tures!

f

291

✕

Make a joy - ful noise, for God gives you life.

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