



A song for the seasons

George James Webb
(1803-1887)

George James Webb (1803-1887) was born at Rushmore Lodge, near Salisbury in Wiltshire, England. He trained early in England and was an organist in Falmouth, England. He emigrated to Boston, Massachusetts, in 1830. He was organist at the Old South Church in Boston for nearly 40 years and was organist at the Boston Church of the New Jerusalem. With Lowell Mason, he founded the Boston Academy of Music. He was president of the Handel and Haydn Society. In 1871, he left Boston, taught in New York from 1876-1885, and retired to Orange, New Jersey. He was an editor for the journals "The Music Library" and "The Music Cabinet." He published the books "Vocal Techniques" and "Voice Culture," and was editor and arranger of the collections "Young Ladies' Vocal Class Book," "The Glee Hive," "The New Odeon," "The Vocalist," the "Little Songster," and "Cantica Laudis." He composed organ music, choral music, songs, and hymns. His most well-known composition is his part-song "'Tis Dawn, the Lark is Singing." The original song was well received and later adapted as a hymn with the addition of sacred words "Stand up, stand up for Jesus."

When the merry lark doth gild
With his song the summer hou
And their nests the swallows build
In the roofs and tops of towers;
And the golden broom-flower burns
All about the waste,
And the maiden May returns
With a pretty haste—
*Then, how merry are the times,
The Summer times! the Spring times!*

Now, from off his ashy stone
While the midnight cricket crieth,
And all merry birds are flown,
And our dream of pleasure dieth;
Now the once blue laughing sky
Saddens into gray,
And the frozen rivers sigh,
Pining all away!
*Now, how solemn are the times!
The Winter times! the Night times!*

Yet be merry: all around
Is through one vast change revolving:
Even Night, who lately frowned,
Is in paler dawn dissolving:
Earth will burst her fetters strange,
And in spring grow free:
All things in the world will change,
Save— my love to thee!
*Sing then, hopeful are all times!
Winter, Summer, Spring times!*

Bryan Waller Procter (1787-1874)
(under pseud. Barry Cornwall)

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G. J. Webb

Vivace

S
When the mer - ry lark doth gild _____ With his song the sum - mer

A
When the mer - ry lark doth gild _____ With his song the sum - mer

T
When the mer - ry lark doth gild _____ With his song the sum - mer

B
When the mer - ry lark doth gild _____ With his song the sum - mer

S
4
hours, _____ And their nests the swal - lows build _____ In the roofs and tops of

A
hours, _____ And their nests the swal - lows build _____ In the roofs and tops of

T
hours, _____ And their nests the swal - lows build _____ In the roofs and tops of

B
hours, _____ And their nests the swal - lows build _____ In the roofs and tops of

A song for the seasons

8

S tow'rs; _____ And the gold - en broom - flow'r burns _____ All a - bout the

A tow'rs; _____ And the gold - en broom - flow'r burns _____ All a - bout the

T tow'rs; _____ And the gold - en broom - flow'r burns _____ All a - bout the

B tow'rs; _____ And the gold - en broom - flow'r burns _____ All a - bout the

12

S waste, _____ And the maid - en May re - turns _____ With a pret - ty

A waste, _____ And the maid - en May re - turns _____ With a pret - ty

T waste, _____ And the maid - en May re - turns _____ With a pret - ty

B waste, _____ And the maid - en May re - turns _____ With a pret - ty

16

S haste _____ Then, how mer - ry are the times, _____ The Sum - mer times! the

A haste _____ Then, how mer - ry are the times, _____ The Sum - mer times! the

T haste _____ Then, how mer - ry are the times, _____ The Sum - mer times! the

B haste _____ Then, how mer - ry are the times, _____ The Sum - mer times! the

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20

S Spring times! Then, how mer - ry are the times, The Sum - mer times! the

A Spring times! Then, how mer - ry are the times, The Sum - mer times! the

T Spring times! Then, how mer - ry are the times, The Sum - mer times! the

B Spring times! Then, how mer - ry are the times, The Sum - mer times! the

24

S Spring times! The Sum - mer times! the Spring times! The Sum - mer times! the

A Spring times! The Sum - mer times! the Spring times! The Sum - mer times! the

T Spring times! The Sum - mer times! the Spring times! The Sum - mer times! the

B Spring times! The Sum - mer times! the Spring times! The Sum - mer times! the

28

S Spring times! The Sum - mer times! the Spring times!

A Spring times! The Sum - mer times! the Spring times!

T Spring times! The Sum - mer times! the Spring times!

B Spring times! The Sum - mer times! the Spring times!

A song for the seasons

S Now, from off his ash - y stone _____ While the mid - night crick - et

A Now, from off his ash - y stone _____ While the mid - night crick - et

T Now, from off his ash - y stone _____ While the mid - night crick - et

B Now, from off his ash - y stone _____ While the mid - night crick - et

34 S crieth, _____ And all mer - ry birds are flown, _____ And our dream of pleas - ure

A crieth, _____ And all mer - ry birds are flown, _____ And our dream of pleas - ure

T crieth, _____ And all mer - ry birds are flown, _____ And our dream of pleas - ure

B crieth, _____ And all mer - ry birds are flown, _____ And our dream of pleas - ure

38 S dieth; _____ Now the once blue laugh - ing sky _____ Sad - dens in - to

A dieth; _____ Now the once blue laugh - ing sky _____ Sad - dens in - to

T dieth; _____ Now the once blue laugh - ing sky _____ Sad - dens in - to

B dieth; _____ Now the once blue laugh - ing sky _____ Sad - dens in - to

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42

S
A
T
B

gray, _____ And the fro - zen riv - ers sigh, _____ Pin - ing all a -

46

S
A
T
B

way! _____ Now, how sol - emn are the times! _____ The Win - ter times! the

50

S
A
T
B

Night times! Now, how sol - emn are the times! _____ The Win - ter times! the

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54

S Night _____ times! The Win - ter times! the Night times! The Win - ter times! the

A Night times! The Win - ter times! the Night times! The Win - ter times! the

T Night times! The Win - ter times! the Night times! The Win - ter times! the

B Night times! The Win - ter times! the Night times! The Win - ter times! the

58

S Night _____ times! The Win - ter times! _____ the Night _____ times!

A Night times! The Win - ter times! the Night _____ times!

T Night times! The Win - ter times! the Night times!

B Night times! The Win - ter times! the Night times!

61

S Yet be mer - ry: all a - round _____ Is thro' one vast change re -

A Yet be mer - ry: all a - round _____ Is thro' one vast change re -

T Yet be mer - ry: all a - round _____ Is thro' one vast change re -

B Yet be mer - ry: all a - round _____ Is thro' one vast change re -

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65

S
A
T
B

volv - ing: E-ven Night, who late - ly frown'd, — Is in pal - er dawn dis -

69

S
A
T
B

solv - ing: Earth will burst her fet - ters strange, — And in spring grow

73

S
A
T
B

free: — All things in the world will change, — Save— my love to

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77

S thee! _____ Sing then, hope - ful are all times! _____ The Win - ter, Sum - mer,

A thee! _____ Sing then, hope - ful are all times! _____ The Win - ter, Sum - mer,

T thee! _____ Sing then, hope - ful are all times! _____ The Win - ter, Sum - mer,

B thee! _____ Sing then, hope - ful are all times! _____ The Win - ter, Sum - mer,

81

S Spring times! Sing then, hope - ful are all times! _____ The Win - ter, Sum - mer,

A Spring times! Sing then, hope - ful are all times! _____ The Win - ter, Sum - mer,

T Spring times! Sing then, hope - ful are all times! _____ The Win - ter, Sum - mer,

B Spring times! Sing then, hope - ful are all times! _____ The Win - ter, Sum - mer,

85

S Spring _____ times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer, Spring times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer,

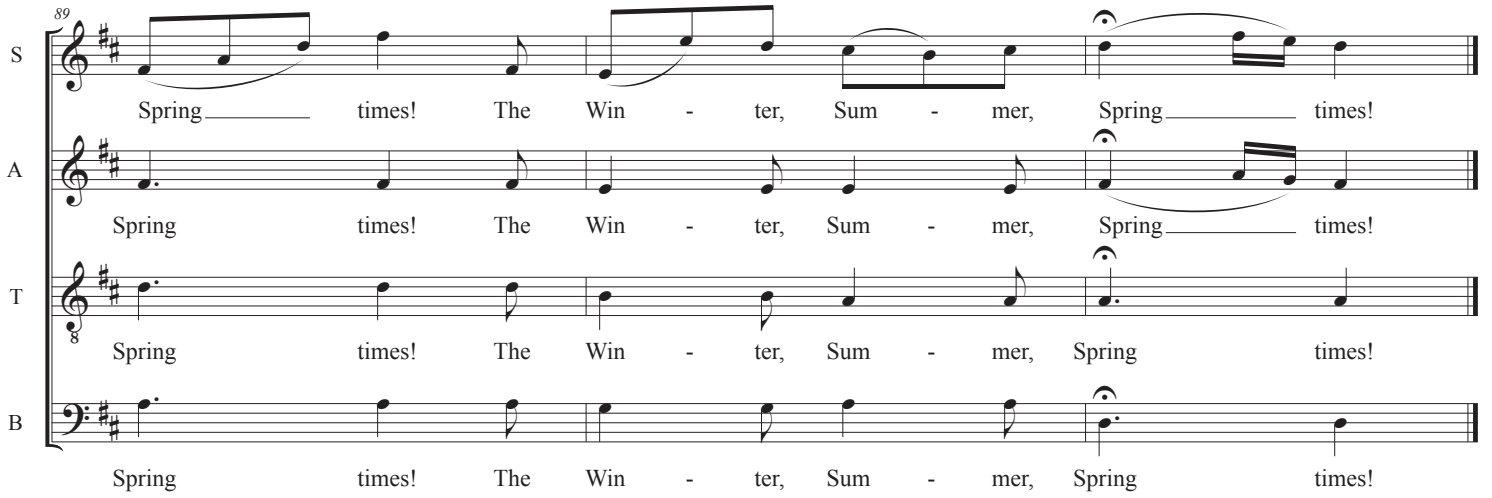
A Spring times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer, Spring times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer,

T Spring times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer, Spring times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer,

B Spring times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer, Spring times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer,

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89



S
Spring times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer, Spring times!

A
Spring times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer, Spring times!

T
Spring times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer, Spring times!

B
Spring times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer, Spring times!

Detailed description: This is a four-part vocal score for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The music is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Spring times! The Win - ter, Sum - mer, Spring times!". The Soprano part features a melodic line with a long note on "Spring" and a flourish on the final "Spring". The Alto part has a similar melody but with a different phrasing for the final "Spring". The Tenor and Bass parts provide harmonic support with a steady, rhythmic accompaniment. The score is numbered 89 at the beginning.

Wilkins, Carter, & Co.
(1847)

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