#### THE HURON CAROL, by St. Jean Brebeuf (1593-1649)

Jean Brebeuf was a French Jesuit priest, who was assigned to convert the Native American Huron tribe to Christianity, The Hurons occupied territory around Lake Huron, in what is now Ontario, Canada.

He arrived in North America in 1625 and had limited success in converting some Hurons. He learned their language, made a Huron dictionary, and wrote songs to assist his ministry.

In 1649 the fort of Saint Louis was attacked and destroyed by the Iroquois tribe. Brebeuf and another priest, Gabriel Lalemant, were captured and tortured to death by the Iroquois.

Jean Brebeuf and Gabriel Lalemant were canonized by the Catholic church in 1930.

The lyrics of the Huron Carol, written by Brebeuf and as translated by George Middleton, are:

'Twas in the moon of winter time when all the birds had fled, The Mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angel choirs instead. Before their light the stars grew dim and wandering hunters heard the hymn Jesus your king is born, Jesus is born. In excelsis Gloria.

Within a lodge of broken bark the tender babe was found A ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round. But as the hunter braves drew nigh the angel song rang loud and high, Jesus your king is born, Jesus is born. In excelsis Gloria.

The earliest moon of winter time is not so round and fair As was the ring of glory on the helpless infant there. The chiefs from far before Him knelt with gifts of fox and beaver pelt Jesus your king is born, Jesus is born. In excelsis Gloria.

Oh children of the forest free oh sons of Manitou The Holy child of heaven and earth is born this day for you. Come kneel before the radiant boy who brings you beauty peace and joy. Jesus your king is born, Jesus is born. In excelsis Gloria.

This arrangement for saxophone quartet is adapted from a choral arrangement by Michael J. Oczko (1953-2010), a Canadian composer who later moved to Poland.

Bruce Evans, 2023

Soprano Sax

# **THE HURON CAROL**

"Twas in the moon of wintertime"

St. Jean de Brebeuf

Arr. Michael J. Oczko

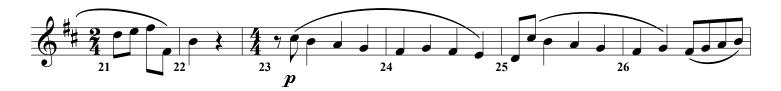
Adapted for Sax Quartet by Bruce Evans















**V7** 

**Alto Sax** 

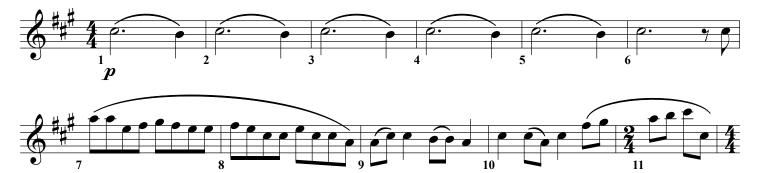
# THE HURON CAROL

"Twas in the moon of wintertime"

St. Jean de Brebeuf

Arr. Michael J. Oczko

Adapted for Sax Quartet by Bruce Evans













**V7** 

**Tenor Sax** 

# **THE HURON CAROL**

"Twas in the moon of wintertime"

St. Jean de Brebeuf

Arr. Michael J. Oczko

Adapted for Sax Quartet by Bruce Evans













**Baritone Sax** 

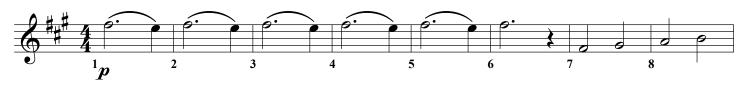
## **THE HURON CAROL**

"Twas in the moon of wintertime"

St. Jean de Brebeuf

Arr. Michael J. Oczko

Adapted for Sax Quartet by Bruce Evans













Alto Sax 1 for Soprano

#### **THE HURON CAROL**

"Twas in the moon of wintertime"

St. Jean de Brebeuf

Arr. Michael J. Oczko

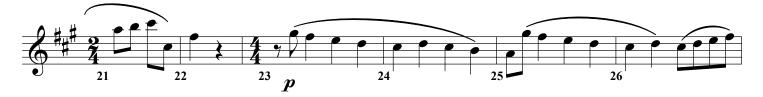
Adapted for Sax Quartet by Bruce Evans















**V7**