

# When I Asked the Cherry Tree

Inspired by "Cherry Blossoms"  
by Matsuo Basho, 1644-1694

Jack Miffleton  
Keyboard accompaniment by Janet Vogt

**INTRO** *Gently* (♩ = ca. 132)

**Keyboard**

When I asked the cher - ry tree to speak of  
God to me, when I asked the cher - ry tree

When I asked the cher - ry tree to speak of  
God to me, when I asked the cher - ry tree

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WHEN I ASKED THE CHERRY TREE, cont. (2)

D Em7 Am7 D

to speak of God to me,

to speak of God to me,

Musical notation for piano accompaniment, including treble and bass staves.

G D Em

sud - den - ly the cher - ry tree blos - somed for

sud - den - ly the cher - ry tree blos - somed for

Musical notation for piano accompaniment, including treble and bass staves.

A6 1, 3 Bm 2, Final D 1st time: *D.S. Fine*

all to see. see.

all to see. see.

Musical notation for piano accompaniment, including treble and bass staves.

1, 3 2, Final 1st time: *D.S. Fine*

# Composer Notes

## **When I Asked the Cherry Tree**

The earth speaks to us of God's presence and continuing creation. This brief song has a punch line that shows a child how God is alive in the world and communicates in many wonderful and surprising ways. This song inspired some of my upper level students to write short poems with a similar message. Here is one of my favorites, using a Haiku style (5-7-5):

"Snow, God's frozen tears  
Children play, happy laughter  
Sunshine, God laughs too!"

—*Andre Prine, age 12*

SAMPLE

# Assembly Edition

## WHEN I ASKED THE CHERRY TREE

Jack Miffleton

When I asked the cher-ry tree to speak of God to  
me, when I asked the cher-ry tree to  
speak of God to me, sud-den-ly the  
cher-ry tree blos-somed for all to see.

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**SAME**