

LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS

A CANTATA BY
JOSEPH M. MARTIN

SHAWNEE  PRESS





LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS

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FULL ORCHESTRATION BY BRANT ADAMS
CONSORT ORCHESTRATION BY STAN PETHEL

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Performance Time: Approx. 47 min.

- ① This symbol indicates a track number on the StudioTrax CD
(accompaniment only) or SplitTrax CD.

ISBN 978-1-4950-1679-0

SHAWNEE PRESS

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FOREWORD

In one great crescendo of purpose, the season of Christmas sweeps us into its arms with an unfettered flourish of festivity. The glare of this explosion of activity often overshadows the fragile light that is the spiritual center of this sacred time.

Simply, and with unexpected gentleness, Bethlehem's star flickers to life like a candle in the winter wind just when the night is longest. It kindles in the open heart a deep hope that warms and illuminates. It is by this dancing light of promise we discover the miracle of the season. Emboldened, we are drawn close to the manger. By this candle of faith we see the Child of God, wrapped in the simple, the Creator embraced and held by His own creation. It is this glorious impossible that proclaims,

Let there be SONG...as a young mother's lullaby becomes a symphony of praise that wakes the nations.

Let there be FAITH...as ancient scrolls unfurl to reveal the living Word of God.

Let there be HOPE...as the promise of a Redeemer opens like a sacred rose in the soul of the believer.

Let there be PEACE...as the Spirit descends like a Dove with healing in its wings.

Let there be LOVE...as the world feels the embrace of God's perfect light.

Let there be JOY...as our cup of worship overflows with thanksgiving.

Let there be WONDER...as each seeker's eyes reflect a glory that melts away doubt and reveals the treasure of belief.

Let there be GRACE...and discover the heart of God.

Let there be CHRISTMAS...and let the music of life begin and never end!

JOSEPH M. MARTIN

PROGRAM NOTES

LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS may be presented as a straight "stand and sing" cantata with scripture-based narration bridging the movements. If a director wishes to incorporate extra-musical elements, the notes on the following page may serve as a guide for other creative programming options. In each case, the suggested activity can be offered before, during, or immediately following the narration or anthem presentation. Placement or alteration of the activity is at the discretion of the music director or pastor. You are encouraged to adapt, alter, or add to any of these suggestions to reflect your individual worship practices and traditions.

“Christmas Overture and Processional”

The Overture is optional and the cantata may begin at measure 114.

Choirs may process if desired. The opening carol arrangement is designed to function as a “choral-only” presentation, or as a congregational participation moment. If sung with the congregation, it is recommended that the congregation stand, if able.

“The Advent Rose”

This anthem lends itself to a number of possible multi-sensory additions. Consider introducing a delicate rose incense as an enhancement to the anthem presentation. Scattering rose petals or broadcasting the incense in the traditional ways associated with liturgical worship can accomplish this.

A more subtle option would be to bring forward a white rose symbolizing faith, and place it on the altar at some point during the narration or at the close of the anthem.

“The Divine Expectation”

Light the advent candles at this point.

If this anthem is sung with the congregation, it is recommended that the congregation stand, if able.

“Concertato on O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Bring in banners inscribed with the dove symbol (representing peace). This is an opportunity for other groups (youth, children, liturgical dancers, etc.) to become involved with the presentation of the cantata. The procession of the banners into the sanctuary might lend itself to choreographed movements from these additional groups.

“Carols from a Quiet Manger”

Consider lighting candles representing Mary (light blue) and Joseph (royal blue), and a large, white candle for CHRIST. Place these candles in the center of the altar on a burlap or muslin fabric.

“Arise!”

Children may process into the sanctuary, walking quickly and waving white streamers, and surround the congregation. This is a powerful way to represent the host of angels. Use your imagination when timing this moment for maximum effect.

“Bleak Midwinter’s Gift”

At this point, it is recommended that a special offering for charity or other important missions outreach be collected. This act of worship mirrors the gifts of the visiting Magi, and, once collected, can be brought forward and placed on or around the nativity gathering.

“Let There Be Christmas”

Open the church Bible and read the selected passage, and then place the Bible on a special podium and table surrounded by candles representing the Light of the world.

“A Joyful Gathering of Carols”

When presented with congregational participation, it is recommended that the congregation stand, if able.

CHRISTMAS OVERTURE AND PROCESSIONAL*

Words by
JOHN FRANCIS WADE (1711-1786)

Incorporating tunes:
IN DULCI JUBILO, MENDELSSOHN,
SUSSEX CAROL, SCHULZ, IL EST NÉ,
GLORIA and ADESTE FIDELES

Arranged by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN (BMI)

1 Liltng joyfully (♩. = ca. 66)

ACCOMP. *p*

5

6

10 *mf*

14 *mp*

18 *mf*

21 *mp*

* The cantata may begin at measure 114, if desired.

** Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO, traditional German melody, 14th century

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LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS - SATB

22

mf

26

30

31

mp *mf*

34

mp

38

mf *mp*

42

f

Moderately, with confidence ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 96$)

46 *rit.* *mf*

50 *mp* (*p*)

54 56 *mf*

58 *f*

62

65 3 *rit.*

68 A little quicker, with lightness (♩ = ca. 112)

7

* Tune: SCHULZ, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747-1800

** Tune: IL EST NÉ, traditional French melody, 18th century

89

mf

92 *with sweeping expression*

f

95

ff

98

f *rit.*

102 *A little slower, with joy (♩ = ca. 110)*

mf

105

108

111

②

114 * Not too fast, with building intensity ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 104$)

mp *cresc. poco a poco*

116

119

122

* For a shorter version, start at m. 114.

LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS - SATB

10 *a tempo*
CHOIR and CONGREGATION*

125 SOPRANO *mf* 126

ALTO

TENOR *mf*

BASS

mf a tempo

126

129

um - phant. O come — ye, O come — ye to Beth - le -

129

129

134

f

hem. Come and — be - hold — Him,

f

134

133

hem. Come and — be - hold — Him,

f

134

133

134

f

* Part for congregation is on page 96.

** Tune: ADESTE FIDELES, John Francis Wade, 1711-1786
Words: Latin hymn, ascribed to John Francis Wade

136 *p* *mp*
 born the King of an - gels. O come, let us a - dore Him. O

136 *p* *mp*

140 *mf*
 come, let us a - dore Him. O come, let us a -

140 *mf*

143 *mp* ③ *mp*
 dore — Him, — Christ — the Lord.

143 *mp*

[147] CHOIR only

p

Sing, choirs of an - gels. Sing in ex - ul - ta - tion.
Glo - ri - a. Come, ye faith - ful and

p

[147]

p

151

mp

Sing all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a -

mp

Sing all ye cit - i - zens of heav - en a -

151

mp

[155]

mf

bove. Glo - ry to God; all glo - ry in the

mf

bove.

[155]

mf

158 *p* high - est. O come, let us a - dore Him. O
mp come, come, a - dore Him. *mp* O

158 *p*

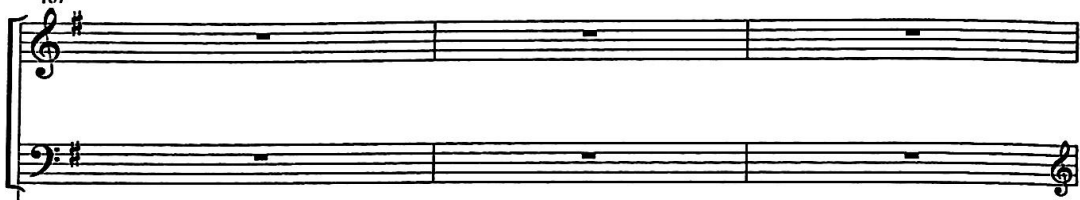
161 *mf* come, let us a - dore Him. O come, let us a -
mf come, a - dore Him.

161 *mp* *mf*

164 [166] dore Him, Christ the Lord.

164 [166] *cresc. poco a poco*

167



167



4

170

rit.
SOPRANO DESCANT (section or a few voices)

172

With majesty (♩ = ca. 88)
f unis.

Yea, Lord, we

CHOIR and CONGREGATION

f unis.

Yea, Lord, we

With majesty (♩ = ca. 88)
f

170

172



173



greet Thee; born this hap - py morn - ing.



greet Thee; born this hap - py morn - ing.

173



176

Je - sus, to Thee — be all glo - ry

Je - sus, to Thee — be all glo - ry

176

179

giv'n. Word of the Fa - ther,

giv'n. Word of the Fa - ther,

180

179

182

now in flesh — ap - pear - ing! O come! —

now in flesh ap - pear - ing! O come, let us a -

182

185 *mf* *f*

O come! O

dore Him. O come, let us a - dore Him. O

185 *mf* *f*

3 3

188

come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the

come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the

188

191 5 *ff*

Lord.

191 *ff*

Lord.

CHOIR only

193

S. *mf* *unis.**f*

A.

Come, all ye faith - ful.

Come, all ye faith - ful.

Let there be

T. *mf* *unis.**f*

B.

193

*mf**f*

196

ff

song!

Let there be

song!

Let there be

ff

196

ff

198

song!

198

fff

NARRATION:

Let there be FAITH.

Who has believed our message, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

For He shall grow up like a tender plant, and like a root out of parched ground; this shoot will spring from the stump of Jesse, from his roots a branch will bear much fruit. *(Isaiah 53:1-2; 11:1 paraphrased)*

This is what the Lord Almighty says, "Here is My Servant whose name is 'THE BRANCH,' and from this place, He will build My church."
(Zechariah 6:12 paraphrased)

THE ADVENT ROSE

19

Words by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN (BMI)

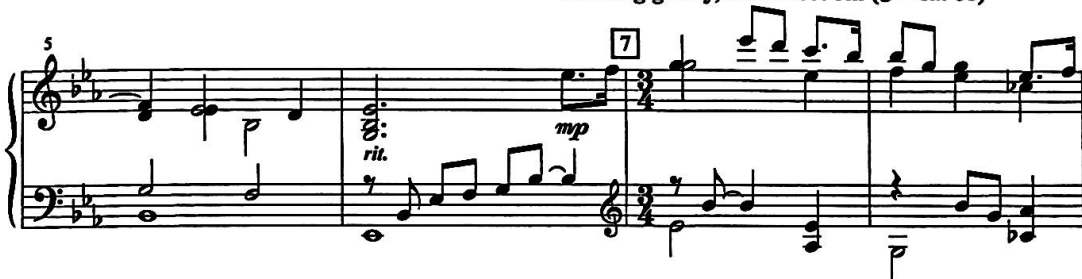
Traditional Irish Folk Song
Arranged by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN

6 Slowly, tenderly ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 69$)

ACCOMP.



Flowing gently, with freedom ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 66$)



9 SOPRANO or TENOR SOLO

mp

12

Like a rose bloom-ing in the



13 win-ter,— like a can - dle burn-ing bright, like a star shin-ing in the



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LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS - SATB

17

shad-ows, — like a love song — in the night, hope comes

20

soft - ly. Hope comes gen - tly like a prom - ise o - ver

23

all; $\underline{\underline{3}}$ fall - ing grace - ful as a

26

snow-flake — from the lov - ing heart of God. 7 solo tacet

30 SOPRANO *mp* [32]

ALTO

TENOR *mp*

BASS

Like a lark sing-ing to the si-lence,— like a

34

fra - grance in the air, like a wind mov-ing through the

37 *p*

for - est,— like the whis - per of a prayer, peace comes *p*

40

soft - ly. Peace comes gen - tly, bring-ing mer - cy, bring-ing

p

40

p

43

mp

grace; heav-en's blan - ket of as - sur-ance, — warm-ing

mp

43

mp

mp

46

47

touch — of love's em-brace.

46

47

mf

8

*allargando**f*

Let the

*f**allargando**a tempo*
with confidence

53

unis.

val - leys ring with mu - sic. Let the de - sert bloom and

unis.

53

*with confidence**f a tempo**unis.*

thrive; for a Rose o - pens in the moon - light, bring-ing

unis.

56

59 61

hope — and joy and life; bring-ing love to heal the

59 61

62

na - tions, bring-ing com - fort to the soul, bring-ing truth — to light the

62

66 9 SOLO

dark - ness, bring-ing grace — to make us whole. — Like a

66 molto rit.

mf *molto rit.* *p*

70

Slower (♩ = ca. 60)

rose bloom - ing in the win - ter, _____ bring - ing

73

poco accel.

grace _____ to make us whole. _____

poco accel.

76

*rit.**pp*

S. *p* *rit.* *mp* *pp*
A. Grace to make us whole.

T. *p* *mp* *pp*
B. Grace to make us whole.

76

*rit.**pp*

NARRATION:

Let there be HOPE.

O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with God there is steadfast love, and with Him is abundant redemption. Be strong and be of good courage, all you who wait upon the Lord! (*Psalm 130:7; 31:24 paraphrased*)

For they who wait, shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings like eagles. They shall run and not be weary. They shall walk and not faint. (*Isaiah 40:31 paraphrased*)

THE DIVINE EXPECTATION

27

Words by
CHARLES WESLEY (1707-1788)
with additional words by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN (BMI)

Based on tunes:
BRING A TORCH
Traditional French Melody
and **HYFRYDOL**
by ROWLAND H. PRICHARD (1811-1887)
Arranged by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN

⑩ Gracefully dancing, not too fast (♩ = ca. 64)

ACCOMP.

9

13

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LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS - SATB

17

S. *mf* *unis.*

A.

Come, Thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set Thy peo - ple free.

T. *mf* *unis.*

B.

17

21

From our fears_ and sins_ re-lease_ us. Let_ us find our rest in Thee.

21

25

Come. Come. Come, Lord Je - sus. Come to - day. Come.

25

28

(11)

Ve - ni Em-man - u - el!

28

32

33

unis.

Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the

unis.

Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le -

32

33

36

earth, Thou art.

Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry

lu - ia.

36

40 41

long - ing heart. Come. Come. Come, - Lord Je - sus. Come to -

43

day. Come. Ve - ni Ern - man - u - el!

46 7

LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS - SATB

49 12 51

mp unis.

Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er,

49 *relaxing slightly* 51

mf *mp*

53 *mp unis.*

Come, Al-might - y, to de - liv - er.

born a Child, and yet a King.

53

56

Let us all Thy grace re - ceive.

56

59



Born to reign_ in us_ for - ev - er, now Thy gra - cious king - dom

62

unis.

Sud - den - ly_ re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more Thy tem - ples

bring.

62



65

67

leave.

mf

By Thine own_ e - ter - nal Spir - it,

65

67

mf


69

13

rule in all__ our hearts__ a - lone.

69

72

mf unis.

By Thine all__ suf - fi - cient mer - it, raise us to__ Thy glo - rious

72

77

75

throne.

Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing,

75

77

79

joy of heav'n_ to earth_ come down, fix in us Thy

79

82

hum - ble dwell - ing. All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.

82

mf

86

(14)

86

cresc. poco a poco

90 *with great rejoicing*
f unis.

Come to us, — O Child — of won - der. Come and sing — re -

90 *with great rejoicing*
f

93 demp - tion's song. Come, — O come, and break — our bonds — a - sun - der.

96

98

Come — and bring a glo - rious dawn. — Come. Come.

96

98

99

15

Come, - Lord Je - sus. Come - to - day. Come. Ve - ni Em-man - u -

102

driving with power to the end **ff**

el! Come, Em-man - u - el! Come, Em-man - u -

102

driving with power to the end **ff**

Al - le - lu - ia!

106

el! Come, Em-man - u - el!

106

Al - le - lu - ia!

NARRATION:

Let there be PEACE.

Unto you, Bethlehem, though you are small among the tribes of Judah, out of you will come one who will rule over all Israel. He will stand and shepherd His flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord; and they will live securely, and His greatness will reach the ends of the earth. And He will be our peace. (*Micah 5:2-5 paraphrased*)

Concertato on O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

Words by
PHILLIPS BROOKS (1835-1893)

Time: FOREST GREEN
Traditional English Melody
Arranged by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN (BMI)

16 With confidence (♩ = ca. 100)

ACCOMP.

10 S.A.T.B. CHOIR and CONGREGATION *mf unis.*

1. O

* Part for Congregation is on page 97.

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LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS - SATB

13

lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee
Christ is born of Ma - ry, and gath - ered all a -

16

lie! A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep, the
bove, while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their

19

si - lent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets -
watch of won - d'ring love. O morn - ing stars to -

22

shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light. The
geth - er, pro - claim the ho - ly birth; and.

25 (17)

hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to -
 prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to all the

28 1 *mp* (opt. women) *mf* unis. 2 *mp*

night. 2. For earth!

1 *mp* *mf* *mp* *dim. poco a poco*

31 (18) 3. How Sop. *p*

CHOIR only

(opt. a cappella)*

35 S. si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won-drous Gift is giv'n. So
 A. *pp*
 Oo
 T. *pp*
 B.

* Accompanist may double voices, if desired.

39 God im-parts to hu-man hearts the bless-ings of His heav'n.

Oo

No

43

mp

ear may hear His com-ing, but in this world of

No ear may hear His

mp

43

(play) *mp*

46

sin, where meek souls will re-ceive Him, still the

46

49 50

dear Christ_ en - ters in.

49 50

cresc. poco a poco

52

3

55 SOPRANOS (a few voices) 19 *rit.* *f*

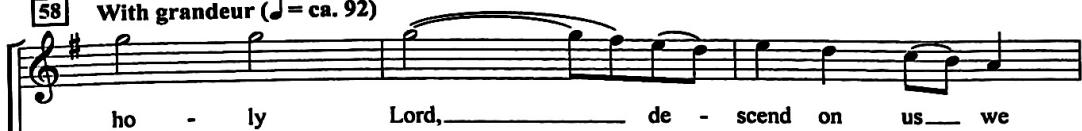
4. O

CHOIR and CONGREGATION *f unis.*

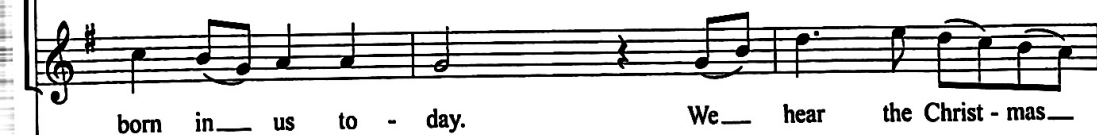
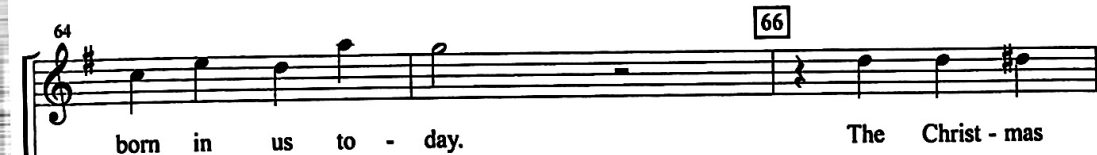
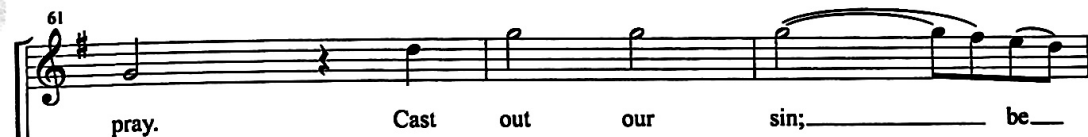
4. O

55 *f* 3 *rit.*

[58] With grandeur (♩ = ca. 92)



[58] With grandeur (♩ = ca. 92)



67

an - gels, the great glad ti - dings tell. O

an - gels, the great glad ti - dings tell. O

70

come to us, _____ our Lord, Em-man - u - el, **CHOIR only**
S. **ff**
A. our
T. **ff**
B.

come to us; a - bide with us, our Lord, Em-man - u - el,

74

Lord, Em - man - u - el. *rit.* *a tempo*

74

ff *rit.* *a tempo*

NARRATION:

Let there be LOVE.

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph; but before he knew her, she was found to be with Child through the Holy Spirit. Because Joseph was a righteous man and did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a Son; and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will be with Child and will give birth to a Son, and they will call Him Immanuel" - which means, "God with us." When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. But he had no union with her until she gave birth to a Son. And he gave Him the name Jesus.
(Matthew 1:18-25 paraphrased)

CAROLS FROM A QUIET MANGER

Words by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN (BMI)

Based on tunes:
STILL, STILL, STILL
Traditional Austrian Melody
CRUSADER'S HYMN
Schlesische Volkslieder, 1842
Arranged by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN

20 Slowly, with tender expression (♩ = ca. 72)

ACCOMP.

8 Gently flowing (♩ = ca. 76)

9

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

Still, — still, — still, — come —

* Tune: STILLE NACHT, Franz Grüber, 1787-1863

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LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS - SATB

12

see the Child so still. As Ma - ry gen - tly

12

15

rocks her Ba - by, an - gels soft - ly sing His prais - es.

15

18

Still, still, come see the Child so

18

21

still.

(21)

21

24

Still, still, still, can you hear the fall - ing

p

Still, still, still, hear the fall - ing

24

p

27

snow? *unis.*

snow? For all is hushed, the world is sleep - ing;

p unis.

27

30 32

ho - ly — star its vig - il — keep - ing. Still, still,

mp

30 32

mp

33 p

still, can you hear the — fall - ing — snow?

mp *p*

33 p

p

36 (22) 38

Fair - est Lord Je - sus,

p *p*

36 38

mp

(Accompanist may double voices, if desired.)

40 *mp*

born in a man - ger, — God with us, — Em -

mp

44 46

man - u - el. — Hope of the na - tions,

48

Joy of cre - a - tion, You — are my glo - ry and my —

52

King.

52 *(play) mp cresc. mf*

56 *(like a cradle song)* 23

mp p

60 *p*

Sleep, — sleep, — sleep. Close Your eyes, my — love and —

S. *p*
A. *p*
Oo —
T. *p*
B. *p*

Oo —

60

60

63 *mp*

dream. No cry - ing — as I gen - tly — hold You.

63

63 *mp*

63

66 68

Let my ten - der arms en - fold You. Sleep, sleep,

mp

Oo

mp unis.

66 68

69 24 *rit.*

sleep. Close Your eyes, my Love, and dream.

rit.

69 *rit.*

72 Slower, with expression ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 72$)

rit. *p* calmly to the end

Sleep, — sleep, —

p *rit.* calmly to the end

Close Your eyes, — my — Love, and — sleep,

p

72 Slower, with expression ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 72$)

p *rit.* calmly to the end

76

molto rit. *a tempo* *pp*

sleep. — Sleep, Ba - by, sleep. —

molto rit. *a tempo* *pp*

sleep, sleep, sleep. —

pp

76

molto rit. *a tempo* *pp* l.h.

NARRATION:

Let there be JOY.



And there were shepherds, living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them; and the glory of the Lord shone around them; and they were very terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today, in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you. He is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a Baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel; praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom His favor rests." When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." *(Luke 2:8-15 paraphrased)*

ARISE!

(Hodie Christus natus est)

55

Words by
MARY FOIL
and STEPHEN MARTIN

Music by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN (BMI)

(25) With a joyful lilt (♩. = ca. 63)

ACCOMP.

4 SOPRANO *mf* unis. 5 lightly

ALTO

A - rise, ye sleep-ers. A - wake from the night. Come and

TENOR

mf unis. lightly

BASS

see the Sav - ior's ev-er-last - ing light. The Child who in a

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LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS - SATB

10 *cresc.*

man - ger lay, has wak-ened the dawn to a glo - ri - ous day!

cresc.

10 *cresc.*

13 *f*

Ho - di - e Chri - stus na - tus est. Ho - di - e

f

13 Ho - di - e. _____

f

16 *unis.* (26) *mf*

Chri - stus na - tus est. A -

mf

16 *mf*

19

rise, ye sleep-ers. A - wake from your rest. Come and see the Child_ who

mf *sub. p*

19

Ho - di - e. _____

sub. p

22

ev-er-more will bless. Through_ Him, the bat - tle of sin will be won. A -

sub. mf *sub. mf*

22

sub. mf

25

wake from the dark-ness. Your Light now has come! Ho - di - e Chri-stus

cresc. *f*

25

Ho - di -

cresc. *f*

28

na - tus est. Ho - di - e Chri - stus na - tus

c. _____

28

31 *mf* *f* 33

est. A - rise, sleep - ers; a -

31 *mf* *f* 33

34

wake. This is the day the Christ_ is born. A -

34

37

rise, sleep-ers; a - wake. Lift high your praise this glo - ri - ous

37

40 *ff* (27)

morn.

ff *f unis.*

A -

40 *ff*

43 *f unis.*

Ho - di - e. Come and see the Sav - ior's

43 rise, ye sleep-ers. A - wake from the night.

43 *f*

46

ev-er-last - ing light. The Child who in a man - ger lay has

49

cresc.

wak-ened the dawn to a glo - ri - ous day!

ff 51

Ho - di - e Chri - stus

cresc.

ff

49

cresc.

Ho - di -

ff 51

52

na - tus est. Ho - di - e Chri - stus na - tus

c. _____

52

55

est. Ho - di - e Chri - stus na - tus est.

Ho - di - e.

f *ff*

58

Ho - di - e Chri - stus na - tus est. Ho - di -

mf *cresc. al fine*

mf *cresc. al fine*

mf *cresc. al fine*

61

e. Ho - di - e. Ho - di - e!

(f) *ff*

(f) *ff*

NARRATION:

Let there be WONDER.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

(Matthew 2:1-2 NKJV)*

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BLEAK MIDWINTER'S GIFT

63

Words by
CHRISTINA ROSSETTI (1830-1894)

Incorporating tunes:
DARKE,
SCOTTISH FOLK TUNE,
and CRANHAM
Arranged by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN (BMI)

28 Unhurried, with tranquility (♩ = ca. 82)

ACCOMP.

5 S. *p unis.

A. In the bleak mid - win - ter, frost - y wind made moan.

T. p.

5 B.

9 Earth stood hard as i - ron, wa - ter like a stone.

p

* Tune: DARKE, Harold Darke, 1888-1976

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LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS - SATB

64

13

Snow had fall - en snow on snow, snow on

13

16

snow; _____ in _____ the bleak mid - win - ter, _____
(the)

16

19

mp

long a - go.
mp *p*

19

*mp**p**cresc. poco a poco*

22

29

mf

25 SOPRANO

ALTO

26 * *p* *unis.*

Heav - en can - not hold Him;

28

nor earth sus - tain. — Heav'n and earth shall

31

flee a - way when He comes to reign. —

34

S. *mp*

A. In the bleak mid - win - ter, a sta - ble place suf -

T. *mp*

34

B.

mp

37

mf

ficed — the Lord God in - car - nate,

mf

37

7

mf

mf

40

Je

sus

Christ.

8

40

mp cresc. poco a poco

mp cresc. poco a poco

44 (30)

mf

47 * *f unis.*

What — can I give Him, poor — as I am?

f unis.

47

f

51

If I were a Shep - herd, I would bring a

51

54 55

lamb. If I were a wise man,

57 55

I would do my part. — Yet what I can, I —

60

give Him: — give — my — heart.

60 *mf*

64 (31)

mp

I
mp

67

mf *mp*

give my heart; give my heart,

mf *mp*

67

mp *mf* *mp*

72

rit. *pp*

my heart.

pp

72

rit. *pp*

NARRATION:

Let there be GRACE.

In the beginning was the Word; and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him; and without Him was not any thing made that was made. In Him was life; and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own people did not receive Him. But to all who did receive Him, who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

(John 1:1-5, 9-13 ESV)*

* Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS

Words and Music by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN (BMI)

Moderately, with tenderness (♩ = ca. 96)

ACCOMP. *pp*

32 *8va*

9 SOLO (opt. all women or unison choir)

p

Let there be mu - sic. Let there be praise.

p

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LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS - SATB

13

Let there be sing-ing — to fill ev - 'ry space.

17

Let there be star - shine, daz - zling and white.

21 *mp*

Let there be wor - ship. Let there be Christ - mas to -

25

33

night.

[29]

S. *mf* unis.

A. Let there be car - ols. Let there be song.

T. *mf* unis.

B. Let there be car - ols. Let there be

[29]

mf

33

unis.

Let there be an - gels — to sing loud and strong.

an - gels to sing loud and strong. —

33

[37]

Let there be can - dles, gen - tle and bright.

[37]

41 *f*

Let there be wor - ship. — Let there be Christ - mas to -

41 *f*

45 (34) *poco accel.* [47] *mp* A little motion ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 100$)

night. — Christ - mas, come now, and

45 [47] *poco accel.* *mp* A little motion ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 100$)

49

fill us with love. Bring your spir - it of

49

53 55 *unis.*

grace from a - bove. Christ - mas, come let our

unis.

57 *cresc. poco a poco*

hope be re - stored. — Bring us news that a

cresc. poco a poco

61 *mf cresc. poco a poco*

Sav - ior is born! Christ, the

mf cresc. poco a poco

61 *mf cresc. poco a poco*

64 35 *rit.*

Sav - ior, is born!

64 *rit.*

a tempo

67 *f* Oh, let there be peace.

Let there be glo - ry. Let there be peace.

f Oh, let there be peace.

67 Let there be glo - ry. Let there be peace.

a tempo *f*

71 Let there be prom-ise. Let jus - tice in - crease.

71

75

Heav - en has spok - en, "Let there be Light!"

75

79

Come, all ye faith - ful. Let there be Christ - mas to -

79

85 Slower (♩ = ca. 88)

night.

Let there be mu - sic.

83

85 Slower (♩ = ca. 88)

87 *mp* Let there be wor - ship.

mp Let there be sing - ing.

87 *mp*

91 SOLO (or a few voices) 93 *p*

Let there be Christ - mas to - night.

S. *p*

A. Come to the man - ger.

T. *p*

B. *p*

91 93 *p*

95 *rit.* *slowly, freely*

O let there be Christ - mas to -

rit.

Kneel and a - dore Him.

95 *rit.*

[99] Flowing gently (♩ = ca. 74)

poco rit.

night.

Flowing gently (♩ = ca. 74)

pp *poco rit.*

Si - lent night.

pp

[99] Flowing gently (♩ = ca. 74)

pp *poco rit.* *ppp*

NARRATION:

Let there be LIFE.



Now may the faith of the prophets,
the hope of the Scripture,
the peace of the Christ Child,
the love of His parents,
the joy of the shepherds,
the wonder of the wise men,
the grace of the season,
and the life everlasting
be yours this Christmas.

May the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

A JOYFUL GATHERING OF CAROLS

81

Arranged by
JOSEPH M. MARTIN (BMI)

Incorporating tunes:
REGENT SQUARE,
ANTIOCH,
W ZLOBIE LEZY,
STILLE NACHT,
THE FIRST NOEL,
and MENDELSSOHN

37 Moderately, with increasing intensity ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 96$)

ACCOMP.

The piano accompaniment is written for a grand piano in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The score is divided into five systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system (measures 37-42) begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and includes a crescendo hairpin. The second system (measures 43-48) features a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The third system (measures 49-54) continues with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The fourth system (measures 55-60) includes a forte (*f*) dynamic. The fifth system (measures 61-66) returns to a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piece concludes with a final chord in the bass staff.

* Tune: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

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LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS - SATB

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come. Let earth re-ceive her
 2. Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns. Let all their songs em -

King, Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare Him room; and
 play; while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains re -

heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture sing,
 peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing joy, and re -
 and heav'n and na - ture sing,
 re - peat the sound-ing joy, re -

and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing

* Part for congregation is on page 98.

** Tune: ANTIOCH, George Frederick Handel, 1685-1759; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

Words: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

23 (38)

heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.

sing,
joy,

1 2

mf

26

3

rit.

[30] A little slower, with expressive emotion ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 84$)

p cresc. poco a poco

34 S.A.T.B. CHOIR and CONGREGATION* (39)

*** mp unis.*

In - fant

mf mp

* Part for congregation is on page 99.

** Tune: W ZLOBIE LEZY, traditional Polish melody

Words: traditional Polish carol

LET THERE BE CHRISTMAS - SATB

ho - ly, In - fant low - ly, for His bed, a cat - tle stall; ox - en

low - ing, lit - tle know - ing, Christ the Babe is Lord of all. Swift are

cresc. poco a poco

wing - ing, an - gels sing - ing, no - els ring - ing, ti - dings bring - ing: "Christ the

cresc. poco a poco

50 *mf*

Babe is Lord of all."

mf *mp* *dim. poco a poco* *8va*

54

40

58 DESCANT (a few sopranos - second verse only)
a tempo - peacefully flowing

S.A.T.B. CHOIR and CONGREGATION*
a tempo - peacefully flowing

2. Si - lent

1. Si - lent night,
2. Si - lent night,

58 peacefully flowing

p a tempo

62

night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake

ho - ly night! All is calm,
ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake

62

* Part for congregation is on page 100.

** Tune: STILLE NACHT, Franz Grüber, 1787-1863

Words: Joseph Mohr, 1792-1848

66 68 *mp*

at the sight. Glo - ries stream _____ from

mp

all is bright round yon vir - gin
at the sight. Glo - ries stream _____ from

mp

66 68 *mp*

70

heav - en _____ a - far. Heav'n - ly hosts _____ sing,

moth - er and Child. Ho - ly In - fant, so
heav - en a - far. Heav'n - ly hosts _____ sing,

70

74 76 *mf*

"Al - le - lu - ia! _____

ten - der and mild, sleep Christ in the heav - en - ly
 "Al - le - lu - ia! the Sav - ior is

74 76 *mf*

78 *mp*

Christ is born! Christ the Sav - ior is

peace. _____ Sleep _____ in heav - en - ly
 born! _____ Christ _____ the Sav - ior is

78 *mp*

82 1 *p*

peace.

p

86 2 *p*

born!"

born!"

p

86 2

p cresc. poco a poco

91

rit.

f

relaxing

95

(42)

rit.

** mf

The

mf

95

mf a tempo

rit.

mp

mf

99 Moving ahead, with confidence (♩ = ca. 96)

first No - el, the an - gel did say, was to

99 Moving ahead, with confidence (♩ = ca. 96)

103

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields where they lay; in

103

* Part for congregation is on page 101.

** Tune: THE FIRST NOEL, traditional English melody

Words: traditional English carol

107

fields — where — they — lay — keep - ing their — sheep, on a

107

111

cold win - ter's night — that was — so deep. No -

111

115

el, — No - el, No - el, — No - el, —

poco rit. **ff**

115

poco rit. **ff**

*a tempo**rit.*

born is the King — of Is - ra - el.

*a tempo**rit.***123** Quicker, with triumphant joy ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 104$)*mf*

126

f

(43)

129

132 *mf*

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, — "Glo - ry to the

mf

132 *mf*

135

new - born King; peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, —

135

138 **140**

God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!" Joy - ful, all ye

138 **140**

* Part for congregation is on page 102.

** Tune: MENDELSSOHN, Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847

Words: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

141

na - tions rise. — Join the tri - umph of the skies. —

141

144

With th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is — born in

144

148

Beth - le - hem!"

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing,

147

148

CHOIR only

150

"Glo - ry — to the new - born King!" "Glo - ry — to the

rit.

150

3

rit.

(44)

154 With power to the end ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 96$)

153

new - born King!"

154 With power to the end ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 96$)

153

156

unis.

Let there be hope! Let there be love! _____

unis.

156

Let there be peace! Let there be

158

Let there be mu - sic! Let there be

joy!

Let there be mu - sic!

158

160

sing - ing! Let there be

Let there be sing - ing!

160

a tempo - no rit. to the end

162

Christ - mas!

Christ - mas!

162

a tempo - no rit. to the end