

78. Christmas Night

Melody from Arbeau's
Orchésographie (1588)

Words by
JOHN RUTTER

arranged by JOHN RUTTER

VERSE 1: SOPRANOS (and ALTOS)

VERSE 2: TENORS and BASSES

Andante tranquillo (♩ = 48) *dolce*

VOICES

ORGAN

p 1. Soft - ly through the win - ter's
mp 2. Shep - herds kneel in ad - o -

Man. Ped.

8(34)

dark - ness shines a light, Clear and still in Beth - le - hem on Christ - mas
- ra - tion by his bed; Se - ra - phim in glo - ry hov - er round his

16(42)

Night Round the sta - ble where a vir - gin mo - ther mild
head. Wise men, gui - ded by the lead - ing of a star, *dim.*

Man. *(dim.) v.2*

23(49)

Watch - es ov - er Je - sus Christ the ho - ly child.
p Bring him gifts of pre - cious trea - sure from a -

1st time

Ped.

2nd time

8 -far.

mp

61

S. A. *mp*

(Organ)

3. Choirs of an - gels sing to greet his won - drous birth: Christ our

T. B. *mp*

(Choir unaccompanied)

p

68

f

Lord in hu - man form comes down to earth. 'Glo - ry to God in

f

75

p

high - est heav'n' their joy - ful strain: 'Peace on earth, good - will to

p

82

4. Lul - la - by! the

men' the glad re - frain.

Man.

p

A. } Hum
T. }
B. }

90

child lies sleep - ing: sing lul - la - by! Safe in Ma - ry's ten - der

(hum)

97

keep - ing: sing lul - la - by! (S.A.) Hum

(hum)

(T.) Guard - ian an - gels keep their watch till

(B.) Hum

104

(hum) break of day: Lul - la - by! sweet Je - sus sleeps a - mong the hay.

(hum)

pp

S. }
A. }
B. }

(hum)

pp

CHOIR I

f unis.

5. Al - le - lu - ia! let the earth re - joice to - day!

CHOIR II

mf

5. Al - le - lu - ia! let the earth re - joice to -

mf

mf

Ped.

più f

Christ is born to take our sins and guilt a - way. Praise the

- day! Born to take our guilt a - way.

f

Lord who sent him down from heav'n a - bove: Ho - ly

Praise the Lord who sent him down from heav'n a - bove:

f *dim.* *p*

f *dim.* *p*

f *dim.* *p*

in - fant, born of God the Fa - ther's love.

In - fant, born of God the Fa - ther's love.

pp *pp*

rit. *a tempo*

rit. *a tempo*

pp *p*

Ped.

rall.

pp