

WHAT CHILD SHALL COME?

for S.A.B. voices, accompanied,
with optional flute*

New words and arrangement by
PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN

Based upon **UKRAINIAN BELL CAROL**
and **WHAT CHILD IS THIS?**

Smoothly, expressively (♩. = ca. 48-52)

FLUTE (optional) *mp*

ACCOMP *mp*

4 SOPRANO & ALTO Unison *mp*

BARITONE *mp* What

* Part for flute may be found on pages 11-12. Also available for S.A.T.B. voices, No. 16047, and 2-part voices, No. 16049.

7
child shall come — that lone - ly night — and bring God's love — for -
(this)

The first system of music consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major, starting with a circled '7'. The lyrics are 'child shall come — that lone - ly night — and bring God's love — for -'. A '(this)' is written below the word 'lone'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment with a treble clef, and the bottom staff is a bass line with a bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

10
ev - er! Will all be - hold — the shin - ing light — and

10

The second system of music consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major, starting with a circled '10'. The lyrics are 'ev - er! Will all be - hold — the shin - ing light — and'. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment with a treble clef, and the bottom staff is a bass line with a bass clef. The key signature has one sharp (F#).

13

sing — with joy — to - geth - er? *This, this — is

15 *mf*

13

15 *mf*

16

Christ the King, — whom shep - herds guard — and an - gels sing; —

dim. *mp poco rit.*

16

dim. *mp poco rit.*

* Words by WILLIAM C. DIX (1827-1898).

a tempo
 19 *mf* Haste, haste ___ to bring Him laud, ___ the babe, ___ the son ___ of
dim.

mf *dim.*

a tempo
mf *dim.*

19 *a tempo*
mf *dim.*

22 *mp* Ma - ry!
 (24) *unis.* Sing we no - el, sing we no-el,

mp

22 *mp* (24)

25

sing we no-el, sing we no-el, sing we no-el, — sing we no-el, —

mf

What child shall come — to set us free, — the

25

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It begins at measure 25 with the lyrics 'sing we no-el, sing we no-el, sing we no-el, — sing we no-el, —'. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef, starting with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. It features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a bass line with some rests in the left hand. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

28

sing we no-el, — sing we no-el! — And — bring for all — e -

mf

mp

prom - ise of — sal - va - tion? Sing we no-el, —

28

Detailed description: This system contains the next two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef, starting at measure 28 with the lyrics 'sing we no-el, — sing we no-el! — And — bring for all — e -'. It includes a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef, starting with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. It continues the accompaniment from the previous system. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

31 *cresc.* *f*
ter - ni - ty — God's peace — to all cre - a - tion? Em -
cresc. *f*
sing we no - el! — God's peace — to all cre - a - tion?

31 *cresc.* *f*
cresc. *f*

34
man - u - el, the Lord and - King! Em -

34

36

man - u - el, re - jice and - sing!

36

38 *sub. mp*

Sing we no-el! _____

mp

Sing we no-el! _____

38

sub. mp

poco rit.

41 *a tempo* *mp unis.*

What child shall come that
(this)



a tempo
mp

41 *a tempo*



44

night?

mp

Come to dwell? Sing we no-el! — What child shall come that
(this)



44



47 *molto rit.* *dim.* *(7)* *Slowly, freely*

Come to __ dwell? Sing we no-el! __ The Lord, Em-man - u -

night? Sing we no-el! __

molto rit. *dim.* *(7)* *Slowly, freely*

47 *molto rit.* *dim.* *Slowly, freely*

50 *Tempo I* *p dim.* *poco rit.* *pp*

el. __

p dim. *pp*

Tempo I *p dim.* *poco rit.* *pp*

50 *Tempo I* *p dim.* *poco rit.* *pp*

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FLUTE

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mp

mf *dim* *mp* *poco rit.*

a tempo *mf* *dim.* *mp*

cresc.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins at measure 40 with a rest, followed by a circled measure number 41. Above the staff, the tempo marking *a tempo* is written. Below the staff, the dynamics *poco rit.* and *mp* are indicated. The second staff starts at measure 44 and continues the melodic line. The third staff starts at measure 48, marked *molto rit.* Below it, the tempo marking *Tempo I* is written above the staff, and the dynamic *p dim.* is written below. The piece concludes with a *poco rit.* marking and a *pp* dynamic.

What Child Shall Come? is an ingenious blend of the *Ukrainian Bell Carol* and *What Child Is This?*, with a new text for Advent and Christmas Eve. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include Isaiah 12: 2-6, Zephaniah 3: 14-20, Luke 2: 1-20 and 3: 11-18, and Philippians 4: 4-9. One basic homiletical theme is preparing for the coming of the Christ Child, whose birth brings salvation and peace to all.

In rehearsal, strive for beautifully flowing four-measure phrases imbued with a strong sense of the inner pulse. This anthem should be performed with a feeling of two pulses per measure, being careful not to slow down in the dotted eighth-sixteenth note figures. Speak the text in tempo, listening to the natural word stresses, then sing the text with artful declamation. Avoid accenting the unaccented syllables that occur at the ends of phrases, such as “er” of “forever” in m. 10.

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