

# ADVENT GIFT

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

Words by  
**PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN**

Based on a melody from *La Rédemption*  
by **CHARLES GOUNOD (1818-1893)**  
and *Ihr Kinderlein, kommet*  
by **JOHANN SCHULTZ (1747-1800)**  
Arranged by **PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN**

Smoothly, expressively (♩ = ca. 108)

FLUTE

mp

ACCOMP.

mp

4

7 SOPRANO & ALTO Unison

9

mp

O ho - ly child,

\* Flute part may be found on pages 11-12.

11  
come to the man - ger; Lord, come in peace and love, your



Piano accompaniment for measures 11-14, featuring a treble and bass clef with various rhythmic patterns.

15 17  
gift from God a - bove; Lord, come in peace and love, your



Piano accompaniment for measures 15-18, continuing the musical accompaniment.

19  
gift from God a - bove.



Piano accompaniment for measures 19-22, including a *mp* dynamic marking and a melodic line in the upper register.

23 SOPRANO 24 *mp cresc.* *mf*

ALTO

TENOR *mp cresc.* *mf*

BASS

O light of God, ho - ly re -

23 24 *cresc.* *mf*

27

deem - er, come shine up - on my life and free me from all

27

31 *mp* 32

strife; come shine up - on my life and free me from all

31 *mp* 32 *mp*

35 *p* *poco rit.* *mf unis.*

strife. Lord,

*cresc.* *poco rit.*

35 *cresc.* *poco rit.* *mf*

39

*a tempo*

come to the man - ger, I wait for your

*a tempo*

*mf*

39

*a tempo*

42

birth now come Sav - ior Je - sus and

*mf unis.*

42

45

47

ble<sup>s</sup>s all the earth; the heav - ens re -

45

47

48

*cresc.*

joice for your com - ing is nigh; all

*cresc.*

48

*cresc.*

51 *poco a poco*

glo - ry and hon - or to You,

*poco a poco*

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 two sharps (F# and C#). It begins with a whole note chord, followed by a half note, and ends with a whole note. The lyrics "glo - ry and hon - or to You," are written below the notes. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef, starting with a whole note chord and continuing with a series of chords. The tempo marking "poco a poco" appears above the first measure and below the second measure.

*poco a poco*

51

*poco a poco*

Detailed description: This system contains the next two staves of music. The top staff is a piano accompaniment in treble clef, featuring a melodic line with a slur over the first four measures. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef, providing harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The tempo marking "poco a poco" is present above the first measure and below the second measure. The measure number "51" is written at the beginning of the system.

54 *f* *rit.*

Lord most high.

*f* *rit.*

Detailed description: This system contains the next two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef, with the lyrics "Lord most high." written below. It features a whole note chord followed by a whole rest. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef, with a whole note chord followed by a whole rest. The dynamic marking "f" (forte) is placed above the first measure, and "rit." (ritardando) is placed above the second measure. The measure number "54" is written at the beginning of the system.

54 *f* *rit.*

*f* *rit.*

Detailed description: This system contains the final two staves of music. The top staff is a piano accompaniment in treble clef, featuring a melodic line with a slur over the first two measures. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef, providing harmonic support. The dynamic marking "f" (forte) is placed above the first measure, and "rit." (ritardando) is placed above the second measure. The measure number "54" is written at the beginning of the system.

58

59 *a tempo*

O ho - ly child, come to the

*a tempo*

58

59 *a tempo*

62

man - ger; Lord, come in peace and love, your gift from God a -

62



66 *mf* *sub. mp* 67 *dim.*

bove; Lord, come in peace and love, your gift from

*mf* *sub. mp* *dim.*

*mf* *sub. mp*

66 67

*mf* *sub. mp*

70 *molto rit.* *pp*

God a - bove

*pp*

*dim.* *molto rit.* *pp*

70 *dim.* *molto rit.* *pp*

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FLUTE

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5

9

17

24

21

32

37

39

41

45

47

49

53

*mp*

*mp*

*cresc.*

*poco rit.*

*a tempo*

*mf*

*f*

*rit.*

*cresc. poco a poco*

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58 59 *a tempo*

*f*

62

66 *mf* *sub. mp*

70 *dim.* *molto rit.* *pp*

**Advent Gift** is an inspired pairing of the beloved carol tune *Ihr Kinderlein, kommet* (*O Come, Little Children*) with a charming melody by Charles Gounod. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include Psalm 80: 1-7, Isaiah 63: 16-19 and 64: 1-8, Mark 13: 32-37, and 1 Corinthians 1: 3-9. One basic homiletical theme is preparing for the coming of the Redeemer who brings peace and love to humankind.

This anthem is best served by gently flowing four-measure phrases highlighted by subtle dynamic shading. Introduce the anthem by rehearsing all voices in unison in m. 9-20 until uniform pitch, tone, and phrasing are achieved. To ensure rhythmic precision, sing the anthem softly on "noo" pulsing a constant eighth note pattern, matching it with the underlying eighth notes in the accompaniment. Add text without sacrificing uniformity of choir and accompaniment. A basic pulse of two beats per measure and sensitive text declamation will further enhance performances of this gentle Advent anthem.

**Patrick M. Liebergen** is Director of Choral Activities at the University of Wisconsin (Stout) and Director of the Chancel Choir at United Methodist Church, Menomonie, Wisconsin. With music degrees from St. Norbert College in DePere, Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin (Madison), and the University of Colorado (Boulder), Dr. Liebergen frequently appears throughout the country as an adjudicator and clinician. His choral editions, arrangements and original works are widely published. Dr. Liebergen was the 1988 winner of the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association Composition Competition and the 1990 winner of the Anthem Contest sponsored by the Twin Cities Church Musicians Association.

