

**This Peaceful Night** incorporates the beloved carol, “Silent Night, Holy Night.” An outstanding selection for school holiday concerts, it is also appropriate for Christmas worship.

For performance by church choirs, suggested corresponding scripture readings include Luke 2: 1–20, Matthew 1: 18–25 and Matthew 2: 1–12. One basic homiletical theme is the inspiration for worship and source of peace that are found in the birth of the Prince of Peace.

**Don Besig** is the Director of Music at Perinton Presbyterian Church in Fairport, New York. He has over 30 years of experience teaching vocal music in the public schools of western New York. **Nancy Price** holds B.M. and M.M. degrees in music from Ithaca College. She began singing in elementary school choirs directed by Don Besig and in her senior year of college first worked with him as a lyricist. Since 1980 they have collaborated on over 250 compositions for school and church. Both Besig and Price have received several ASCAP Special Awards.

**Preview**  
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# THIS PEACEFUL NIGHT

2-part any combination,\* accompanied,  
with optional descant or C-instrument\*\*

Words by  
DON BESIG  
and NANCY PRICE (ASCAP)

Music by  
DON BESIG (ASCAP)

Moderately (♩ = ca. 69–76)

ACCOMP. *mp*

5

TREBLE VOICES UNISON

*mp*

Shad - ows fell, the air grew cold

9

on that night long a - go.

\*Also available for S.A.T.B. voices, No. 7788, S.A.B. voices, No. 7789, and unison or 2-part voices, No. 20014.

\*\*Part for C-instrument may be found on page 11.

13

In a sta - ble dark and bare

Musical score for measures 13-16. The vocal line is in G major with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and a more active melody in the right hand.

17

sat a maid - en pure and fair.

Musical score for measures 17-20. The vocal line continues with a similar melodic pattern. The piano accompaniment maintains its rhythmic accompaniment.

21

All the world was still that night;

Musical score for measures 21-24. The vocal line has a slight melodic rise. The piano accompaniment continues with its characteristic eighth-note bass line.

25

all was still that night.

Musical score for measures 25-28. The vocal line concludes with a long note. The piano accompaniment features a final chord in the right hand and a descending bass line in the left hand.

29

Piano accompaniment for measures 29-32. The music is in a key with two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The right hand features a melody with eighth and quarter notes, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment with quarter and eighth notes.

33

PART I

*mp*

Vocal line for Part I, measures 33-36. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes.

Qui - et - ly the gift did come;

PART II

*mf*

Vocal line for Part II, measures 33-36. The melody is identical to Part I.

Qui - et - ly the gift did come;

Piano accompaniment for measures 33-36. The right hand has a melody with eighth and quarter notes, and the left hand has a bass line with quarter and eighth notes.

37

Vocal line for Part I, measures 37-40. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes.

He was born, God's true Son.

Vocal line for Part II, measures 37-40. The melody is identical to Part I.

He was born, God's true Son.

Piano accompaniment for measures 37-40. The right hand has a melody with eighth and quarter notes, and the left hand has a bass line with quarter and eighth notes.

41

*mf*

In a man - ger stall He lay

45

*(mf)*

on a bed of new - mown hay.

Love came down to the world that night;

Love came down to the world that night;

53

love — came down that — night. —

love — came down that night. —

*mp*

This system contains measures 53 through 56. It features two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal lines are in a B-flat major key signature and contain the lyrics "love — came down that — night. —". The piano accompaniment includes a dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) in measure 55.

57

This system contains measures 57 through 60. It features two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal staves contain whole rests, indicating a vocal rest. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines in the bass and treble clefs.

61

*mf*

This system contains measures 61 through 64. It features two vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal staves contain whole rests. The piano accompaniment begins with a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) in measure 61 and continues with musical notation in both hands.

65 SILENT NIGHT, by Franz Gruber (1818)

SOLO \*

*mf*

Ah (or oo throughout) \_\_\_\_\_

ALL VOICES UNISON

*mp*

To the sta - ble come once more.

*mp*

69

Ah \_\_\_\_\_

Gath - er 'round; keep Him warm.

\* Solo may be performed by a few treble voices and/or C-instrument.

73

Ah \_\_\_\_\_

Wor - ship now this ti - ny King.

This system contains three staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line with a long note on 'Ah' followed by a melodic line for 'Wor - ship now this ti - ny King.'. The middle staff is a vocal line with lyrics 'Wor - ship now this ti - ny King.'. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment with two staves (treble and bass clef) showing chords and moving lines.

77

Ah \_\_\_\_\_

Share the love and joy He brings.

This system contains three staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line with a long note on 'Ah' followed by a melodic line for 'Share the love and joy He brings.'. The middle staff is a vocal line with lyrics 'Share the love and joy He brings.'. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment with two staves (treble and bass clef) showing chords and moving lines.



81

*rall.* **Freely**

Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_

Peace has come to the world this night; peace has

*rall.* **Freely**

86

*a tempo* *dim. poco a poco*

*dim. poco a poco*

come this night.

*a tempo*

# THIS PEACEFUL NIGHT

C-instrument  
(optional)

Music by  
DON BESIG

Moderately ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 69-76$ )

4 5 8 13 8 21 8

29 4 33 8 41 8 49 8

57 4 61 4 65 \* mf

69

73 77

81 rall.

85 Freely a tempo mp dim. poco a poco

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