

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night

arranged by Dan Forrest



Lovingly dedicated to the glory of God and in honor and recognition of Charlotte Harvey
for over 25 years of faithful service to the Music Ministry of The First United Methodist Church, Newnan, Georgia.

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks By Night

For SATB Choir with optional organ or piano, and optional string quartet/quintet or string orchestra*

Nahum Tate (1700)

CHRISTMAS
Arranged by DAN FORREST
(ASCAP)

Andante semplice; very freely ♩ = 72-76

(3-way equal SA splits are recommended for all divisi passages)

The musical score is arranged for SATB choir, organ/piano, and string quartet/quintet/orchestra. It features a 4/4 time signature and a tempo of Andante semplice; very freely (♩ = 72-76). The score is divided into three systems. The first system includes parts for Soprano Alto (SA) and Tenor Bass (TB), both starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a crescendo (*cresc.*) leading to a decrescendo (*dim.*). The second system includes an optional Organ/Piano part, also starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The third system continues the vocal and organ/piano parts, with measures 4 through 7. The organ/piano part includes a pedal instruction (+Ped.) at the beginning of measure 4. The score is marked with a large diagonal watermark: 'Preview Copy - Not For Performance'.

*This work may be sung a cappella or accompanied by organ or piano (adapt as needed). Keyboard should play if string quartet (BP2252A) is used, but is optional with string quintet (also BP2252A) or orchestra (BP2252B).

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mp sempre semplice ma espressivo

unis.

1. While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, all

mp sempre semplice ma espressivo *unis.*

mp

Ped. ad lib.

seat - ed on the ground, the an - gel of the

Lord came down, and glo - ry shone a - round, and

rit. glo - ry shone a - round. *mp a tempo* Oo ,

rit. *mp a tempo*

rit. *a tempo mp*

17 18 19

poco rit. *a tempo mf*

2. "Fear not," said he, for might - y dread had

poco rit. *a tempo mf*

poco rit. *a tempo mf*

20 21 22 23

+Ped.

seized their trou - bled minds, "Glad tid - ings of great

cresc. *cresc.*

cresc.

24 25 26

joy I bring to you and all man - kind, to

dim.

27 28 29

you and all man - kind. Oo.

unis.

p

Poco meno mosso ♩ = ca. 69

30 31 32

Oh

mf unis.

3. "To you, in Beth - le -

mp

33 34 35

Man.

Oh

unis.

hem, this day is born of Da - vid's line, a

36 37 38

Oh

Sav - ior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the

39 40 41

cresc. *rit.* *dim.*

Ah

cresc. *rit.* *dim.*

sign, and this shall be the sign, the

cresc. *rit.* *dim.*

42 43 44

+Ped.

SOLO *a tempo* *mf* *tenderly* *semplice ma espressivo*

4. "The heav'n - ly babe there

a tempo *p* *tenderly*

TENORS *a tempo* *p* *tenderly*

sign: _____

Oo _____

a tempo *p* (cue sized notes may be omitted)

Man. _____

you shall find, to hu - man view dis - played, all

Oo _____

Oo _____

Oo _____

Oo _____

Oo _____

p

sim - ply wrapped in swad - dling clothes, and in a man - ger

pp

Oo

pp

Oo

51 52 53

(rejoin section) *rit.*

laid, _____

mf rit. cresc.

and in a man - ger laid." Ah _____
 in a man - ger laid." Ah _____

mf rit. cresc.

BASSES Oo in a man - ger laid." _____

(resume) *mp*

mf rit.

54 55 56 +Ped.

Maestoso ♩ = ca. 63

5. "All glo - ry be to God on high and

Ah

Maestoso ♩ = ca. 63

57 58 59

to the earth be peace; to those on whom His

60 61 62

rit. e cresc. good -

fa - vor rests, good - will shall nev - er cease, good -

rit. e cresc.

rit. e cresc.

63 64 65

Broadly

will shall nev - er cease. *poco a poco rit. e dim.*

will shall nev er cease, be - gin and nev - er

poco a poco rit. e dim.

cease, good - will, nev - er

Broadly

poco a poco rit. *dim.*

66 67 68 69

cease.”

mp *a tempo*

cease.”

mp *a tempo*

p *a tempo*

70 71 Man. 72 73

dim. e rit.

p

dim. e rit.

p

dim. e rit.

p

74 +Ped. 75 76 77 78



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