



In the Bleak Midwinter

SSA

arranged by Dan Forrest

Preview copy - Not for performance

Commissioned for Dr. James M. Meaders by Alex –
with Laura C., Laura F., Richard, Becca and Hannah

In the Bleak Midwinter

For SSA Choir and Piano

Christina Rossetti
c. 1872, London

CRANHAM
Gustav Holst, 1906
Arranged by DAN FORREST
(ASCAP)

Picture Christina Rossetti in London, imagining the first Christmas happening right where she is. With her, we see Christ incarnate in every corner of our world, coming not just into Bethlehem, but into our own time and place, and into our own hearts.

Unhurried ♩ = ca. 72

Piano

mp *pp* *mp*

1 2 3 4

(feel in 4)

Vocalizing on neutral syllables should always be ethereal, in the distant background

Sopranos

p

Oo

Altos

p

Oo

gently glittering

p *mp*

5 6 7

roll LH chords if needed, ad lib., throughout

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unis. *poco rit.* *a tempo*

Oo

poco rit. *a tempo*

poco rit. e dim. *a tempo*

8 9 10

mm. 11-35 may be sung by two sections of mixed S/A if helpful for balance

p

Oh

mp

In the bleak mid - win ter,

mp

11 12 13

Oh

frost y wind made moan,

14 15 16

Oh

earth stood hard as i - ron,

17 18 19

Oh

wa - ter like a stone:

20 21 22

unis.

mf

Snow had fall - en, snow on snow,

mp

Oh Oh

mf

23 24 25

snow on snow,

Snow on snow,

(LH over)

26 27 28

p

Oo

mp

In the bleak mid - win ter,

p

29 30 31

p

Long a -

mp

long a - go.

(LH over)

32 33 34

go.

8va

mp *pp* *mp*

35 36 37

rit. **Più mosso**
Sopranos *mf* 2

An-gels and arch - an - gels

rit. **Più mosso**
Soprano II *mf* 2

An-gels and arch - an - gels

rit. **Più mosso**
Altos *mf* 2

An-gels and arch - an - gels

(8va) 1 **Più mosso**
rit. *mf*

38 39 40

may have gath - ered there,

may have gath - ered there,

may have gath - ered there, an - gels throug - the

41 42

cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim throug - the

cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim throug the

air, cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim throug - the

43 44 45

Meno mosso

sub. p

air, but on - ly His

air, but on ly His

air, but on - ly His

Meno mosso

46 47 2 2 2 48

Più mosso

moth - er, Ah

moth - er, Ah His moth - er

moth - er, in her maid - en bliss, moth - er

Più mosso

49 50 51 2 2

Sopranos 2

wor - shiped the Be - lov - ed with a

Altos 2

wor - shiped the Be - lov - ed with a

52 53 54

rit. with *a*

rit.

a tempo kiss.

a tempo kiss.

f a tempo

55 56 57

rit. *unis. mp* *a tempo*

Oo

rit. *mp* *a tempo*

Oo

freely *rit.* *mp* *a tempo pp*

58 59 60 61

Slower, dream-like ♩ = ca. 66-69

p molto semplice

What can I

p

Slower, dream-like ♩ = ca. 66-69

What can I

8va *loco*

p

62 63 64 65

give Him, poor as I am?

give Him, poor as I am?

66 67 68

If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a

If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a

69 70 71

p
 lamb; if I were a wise man,
p
 lamb. if I were a wise man,

72 73 74

mf
 I would do my part; yet
mf
 I would do my part; yet

75 76 77

rit.
 what I can, I give him:
f rit.
 what I can, I give him:

mf *f rit.*

78 79 80



unis. mp rit.

81 82 83

give my heart.

give my

mp rit.

mp rit.

Tempo I

heart.

Tempo I

8va

84 85 86

mp pp mp

give my heart.

give my heart.

give my heart.

(8va)

8va

87 88 89 90

rit. p