

What Strangers Are These?

TTBB

arranged by Dan Forrest

Preview copy - Not for performance

TTBB revoicing commissioned by the Savannah Men's Chorale (Dr. Justin L. Addington, Conductor)
in honor of their performance at the 2025 Georgia ACDA Conference

What Strangers Are These?

For TTBB Choir with Piano and optional flute and/or guitar*

Old Scottish Carol

Scottish folk song (*adapted*)
Arranged by DAN FORREST (ASCAP)

Gently, freely ♩ = c. 60-63

poco rit.

a tempo

1 *mp* *with pedal* 2 *mp* 3 *mf*

The piano introduction consists of two systems. The first system (measures 1-2) features a treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. The bass clef part starts with a whole note chord (F#, C#, G#) and a half note bass line (F#, C#). The second system (measures 3-4) continues the bass line and adds a treble clef part with a half note chord (F#, C#, G#) and a half note bass line (F#, C#). Dynamics are marked *mp* and *mf*.

4 *mp* 5 6 7 *dolce espressivo* Basses *mp*

What _ stran - gers are these that

The piano accompaniment continues in the same key and time signature. Measures 4-7 show the bass line and treble accompaniment. The basses' vocal entry begins in measure 6 with the lyrics "What _ stran - gers are these that". Dynamics include *mp* and *dolce espressivo*.

8 *dolce espressivo* Tenors *mp* 9 10

Hush, 'tis Jo - seph and wear - y Ma - ry.

wan - der through the town? And _

The piano accompaniment continues. Measures 8-10 show the tenors' vocal entry with the lyrics "Hush, 'tis Jo - seph and wear - y Ma - ry." and "wan - der through the town? And _". A triplet of eighth notes is marked in measure 10. Dynamics include *mp* and *dolce espressivo*.

*Also available: Score and parts for Flute and Guitar (BP2418A)

Part-dominant rehearsal tracks for BP2418 available only at beckenhorstpress.com.

© Copyright 2026 by Beckenhorst Press, Inc. All rights reserved.

He is seek - ing shel - ter_ for
 what does he seek so hope - less and in vain?

mf molto legato
 Mar - y. For she is the blest and cho - sen of the Lord, Who will
mf molto legato

bear to us a good - ly King.
 And who is this King of

mp

Know ye not the Christ, Je-sus the Sav -

whom ye proud-ly sing? Know ye not the Christ, Je-sus the Sav

20 21 22

moving forward *pulling back*

ior?

ior?

mp *moving forward* *pulling back*

23 24 25 26

a tempo *p tenderly*

What _ wee child* is this that

p tenderly

a tempo *p*

27 28 29 30

*original: "bairn" (Scottish)

in a man-ger lies? Hush, 'tis Je - sus Christ, Son of Mar - y. Say what

31 32 33

fair maid is this whose joy is mixed with awe. O 'tis Mar - y, moth - er of

34 35 36

Je - sus. O these are the shep-herds and these the ma-gi kings Who have

37 38 39

brought Him their gifts of gold and myrrh. But why kneel in hom - age

sub. p

40 41 42

here be-fore a babe? They a - dore their King, Je-sus the Sav -

43 44 45

f *rit.* *f with confidence* Poco più mosso ♩ = c. 66

ior. Who are these that march from

f with confidence

f with confidence *rit.* Poco più mosso ♩ = c. 66

46 47 48

death un-to life? These are they who love Je-sus the Christ Child. And

This system contains the first two staves of music. The vocal line (treble clef) has a key signature of three flats and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "death un-to life? These are they who love Je-sus the Christ Child. And". The piano accompaniment (grand staff) features a bass line with a triplet of eighth notes and a treble line with chords. Measure numbers 49, 50, and 51 are indicated at the bottom of the piano part.

how do they triumph o'er the gates of hell? Through the grace of Him, Je-sus the

This system contains the second two staves of music. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "how do they triumph o'er the gates of hell? Through the grace of Him, Je-sus the". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line. Measure numbers 52, 53, and 54 are indicated at the bottom of the piano part.

Sav - ior. He is born to re-deem man-kind from sin and strife, To bring

This system contains the final two staves of music. The vocal line concludes with the lyrics: "Sav - ior. He is born to re-deem man-kind from sin and strife, To bring". The piano accompaniment features a more active bass line with a forte (*f*) dynamic marking. Measure numbers 55, 56, and 57 are indicated at the bottom of the piano part.

8

rit. *p* innocently

peace, joy, love and broth-er - hood. O

rit. *pp*

58 59 60

where shall I find Him? Where shall I seek? He is here and now, Je-sus your

p

61 62 63

Sav - ior.

rit.

tenderly *p*

rit.

64 65 66 67