

Commissioned by alumni, colleagues, and friends of Billy Talley
in honor of his 38 years of dedicated service to choral music education in Texas

O Little Town of Bethlehem

For SATB Choir, Piano, and optional Soprano Saxophone (or B♭ Clarinet, or Oboe) *
with optional String Quartet ** or Orchestra ***

Phillips Brooks (1868)

ST LOUIS (Redner), alt.
Arranged by DAN FORREST
(ASCAP)

*But thou, Bethlehem..., though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall come forth
for me one who is to be ruler in Israel; whose coming forth is from old, from ancient days. (Micah 5:2)*

Very freely, with feeling ♩ = ca. 76
(gently, dreamy tone throughout; always very nuanced and expressive)

Soprano Sax,
B♭ Clarinet,
or Oboe

Very freely, with feeling ♩ = ca. 76

mp

Still freely, expressive ♩ = ca. 84 - 88
gently

p

Still freely, expressive ♩ = ca. 84 - 88
(gentle 3+3+2 feel)

mp

6 7 8 9

Red. Red. Red. Red. Red. Red.

hold down upper RH notes (i.e. C-F in mm. 7-8) across
mid-measure pedal changes, for more resonant harmonies

* Optional Soprano Saxophone (or B♭ Clarinet or Oboe) (BP2120A) is available for purchase.

** Score and Parts for String Quartet and Soprano Saxophone (or B♭ Clarinet or Oboe) (BP2120B) are available for purchase.

*** Score and Parts for Orchestral Accompaniment and Soprano Saxophone (or B♭ Clarinet or Oboe) (BP2120C)
are available for purchase.

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BP2120-2

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10 *ped.*

11 *ped. simile*

12

mp

Sopranos and Alto I
p

O lit - tle town of

13

14

15

16 *mp*

ped. ped. ped.

(as before, with *finger pedaling")

Beth - le - hem, ————— how still we — see thee lie.

Measures 17, 18, 19, and 20 are marked with *Red.* below the bass staff.

A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep ————— the

Measures 21, 22, 23, and 24 are marked with *Red.* below the bass staff.

Additional markings include *unis.* above the vocal staff in measure 23 and *p* above the vocal staff in measure 24.

moving forward...

si - lent - stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets

Tenors, gently

8va

p *mf*

25 26 27 28

Red. *Red.* *Red. simile, harmonically*

shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;

29 30 31 32

Red.

mp

the hopes and fears of all the years are

mp

R.H.

33 34 35 36

And. simile, harmonically

molto rit.

met in thee to - night.

molto rit.

unis. *a tempo*

p

molto rit. *a tempo*

mp *a tempo*

37 38 39 40

Tenors and Bases *mf*

For

p

41 42 43

Moving forward ♩ = ca. 88-92

Christ is born of Ma - ry, and

mp *cresc. poco a poco* *unis.*

Moving forward ♩ = ca. 88 - 92

mf (L.H. over)

44 45 46

mp

While mor - tals sleep,

gath - ered all a - bove, the

47 48 49

Ah

unis.

an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.

mf

deliberately

50 51 52

musical score for measures 53-56. The score is written for a vocal soloist (bass clef) and piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 2/4. The vocal line begins with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic and includes a *unis.* (unison) instruction. The lyrics are: "O morn - ing stars to - geth - er, pro - claim the ho - ly". Measure numbers 53, 54, 55, and 56 are indicated at the bottom of the piano part.

musical score for measures 57-59. The score is written for a vocal soloist (bass clef) and piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 2/4. The vocal line continues the lyrics: "birth, and prais - es sing to God the King,". Measure numbers 57, 58, and 59 are indicated at the bottom of the piano part.

molto rit. *p* *A tempo, but very freely*

How si-lent-ly, how si-lent-ly, —

mp *molto rit.* *p*

— and peace to all the earth. How si-lent-ly, —

molto rit. *dolce, espressivo* *pp*

8va — — — — —

mp *molto rit.* *A tempo, but very freely*

60 61 62 63 64

gift is

the wond-'rous gift is giv'n! So God im-parts to

the gift is giv'n So God, to

p

pp

65 66 67 68

hu - man hearts the bless - ing of His heav'n.

hu - man hearts the bless - ing of His heav'n.

69 70 71 72

moving forward... *...pulling back*

No ear may hear His com - ing, but in this world of

73 74 75 76

moving forward...
mp

sin, — where meek souls will re - ceive Him still, — the

mp *unis.*

moving forward... *...pulling back*

p *cresc. poco a poco*

moving forward... *...pulling back*

p *cresc. poco a poco*

77 78 79 80

f **Moving forward ♩ = ca. 92 - 96**

dear Christ en - ters in.

f

dear Christ en - ters in.

f **Moving forward ♩ = ca. 92 - 96**

f **Moving forward ♩ = ca. 92 - 96**

81 82 83

f Broadly ♩ = 84 - 88

O Ho - ly Child of

Broadly ♩ = 84 - 88

Broadly ♩ = 84 - 88

91 92 93

unis. Beth - le - hem, *div.* de - scend to us, we

f

94 95 96

prayer! Cast out our sin and enter in; be

97 98 99

This system contains measures 97, 98, and 99. It features a vocal melody in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staves. The lyrics are "prayer! Cast out our sin and enter in; be". The piano part includes triplet figures in both hands.

born to - day. _____
born in us to - day. We _____

100 101 102

This system contains measures 100, 101, and 102. The lyrics are "born to - day. _____", "born in us to - day.", and "We _____". The piano accompaniment continues with triplet figures in the lower staves.

hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell! _____

rit.

rit.

f

103 104 105 106

Detailed description: This system contains measures 103 to 106. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The piano part has a treble and bass staff. Measure 103 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The tempo marking 'rit.' appears above the vocal line and below the piano bass staff. A dynamic marking 'f' (forte) is present in measure 106. The measures are numbered 103, 104, 105, and 106 at the bottom.

rit.

rit.

3
rit.

8va

rit.

107 108 109

Detailed description: This system contains measures 107 to 109. It continues the musical score with piano accompaniment. The piano part has a treble and bass staff. Measure 107 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The tempo marking 'rit.' appears above the vocal line and below the piano bass staff. A dynamic marking 'f' (forte) is present in measure 106. The measures are numbered 107, 108, and 109 at the bottom. An '8va' marking is present above the piano treble staff in measure 109.

Like the beginning

O

Like the beginning

110 111 112 113

mp

come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord, Em -

mp

114 115 116 117

musical score for measures 118-121. The score is written for voice and piano. The voice part has lyrics: "man - u - el." The tempo markings are *poco rit.*, *a tempo*, and *poco rit.*. The piano part includes dynamics *p* and *mp*. The measures are numbered 118, 119, 120, and 121.

musical score for measures 122-124. The score is written for voice and piano. The tempo markings are *a tempo* and *molto rit.*. The piano part includes dynamics *pp*. The measures are numbered 122, 123, and 124.