

# 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)

SA

Oo \_\_\_\_\_ Oo \_\_\_\_\_

*p cresc.* *dim.*

TB

Oo \_\_\_\_\_

*p cresc.* *dim.*

ORGAN (optional)

*p*

1 Man. 2 3

Oo \_\_\_\_\_ Oo \_\_\_\_\_

4 5 6 7

+Ped.

\*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.

Ped. ad lib.

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

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

glo - ry shone a - round. Oo Oo

*rit.* *mp a tempo* *mp a tempo*

17 18 19

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

*unis.*

you and all man - kind.

*unis.*

Oo

*p*

Poco meno mosso ♩ = ca. 69

*dim.*

*p*

Poco meno mosso ♩ = ca. 69

30 31 32

*mp*

Oh

*mf unis.*

3. "To you, in Beth - le -

*mp*

Man.

33 34 35

Oh

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

Oh

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

sign, and this shall be the sign, the

Ah

+Ped.

BP2252-6

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

9

*f*

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.”

cease.”

*mp* *a tempo*

*mp* *a tempo*

*p* *a tempo*

70 71 72 73

Man.

*dim. e rit.*

*dim. e rit.*

*dim. e rit.*

*p*

*p*

*p*

74 75 76 77 78

+Ped.

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\* Orchestration accompaniment available