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A Christmas Celebration for SATB Choirs

Composed & Arranged by

Jeel Raney

Orchestrated by

Ed Hogan

HOPE Publishing Company
Since 1892

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Composed & Arranged by

Joel Rane

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FOREWORDSIShing Let there be peace on earth. Company

This has been the desire of humanity since the beginning of time. But peace isn't merely the absence of war. Peace represents tolerance and understanding between nations, ethnic groups, religions, and even neighborhoods. While our world often seems overrun with conflict, it's the Christmas season and God's promise of peace on earth that keeps us hopeful. Jesus came to offer the ultimate form of peace and to remind us that peace on earth begins in the hearts of individuals.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me!

This gospel-flavored musical for SATB choir reflects on the promise of peace delivered by the angels on the night of Jesus' birth. The iconic ballad "Let There Be Peace on Earth," by Jill Jackson-Miller and Sy Miller is used as musical bookends: its theme is stated briefly in the second movement ("Let Us Adore Him"), then returns in full-blown gospel style at the end to provide an emotional climax to the work. In between, the Christmas story is told through Bible verse narration and the inclusion of beloved songs such as "O Come, All Ye Faithful," "In Royal David's City," "Gentle Mary Laid Her Child," "Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella," and many more. The musical styles range from jazz to gospel to a peppy, upbeat calypso number entitled "Carry Me to Bethlehem."

The work is around 35 minutes long and can be performed with choir and piano only. For an enhanced experience, make it a special musical occasion with Ed Hogan's sparkling full orchestration. With this cantata, as with *Hope* and *Joy*, the two other cantatas in this series, a smaller rhythm packet is also available for choirs with more limited musical resources to augment the piano accompaniment. Whichever way it is performed, the uplifting message of peace will give your listeners something to calm their spirits throughout the Christmas season.

– Joel Raney

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A Prayer for Peace	2
Let Us Adore Him	3
Bring Us Peace Heavenly Peace	19
In Royal David's City	28
Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella	38
Carry Me to Bethlehem	49
Still, Still	60
Let There Be Peace on Earth	69
Let Us Adore Him (Reprise)	84
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A Prayer for Peace

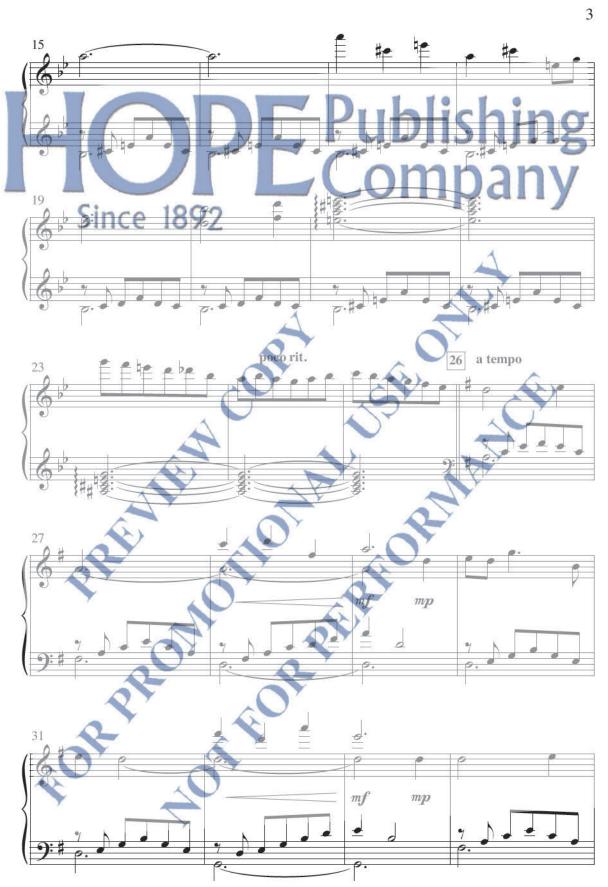
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(opt. Narration begins on cue at m. 42)

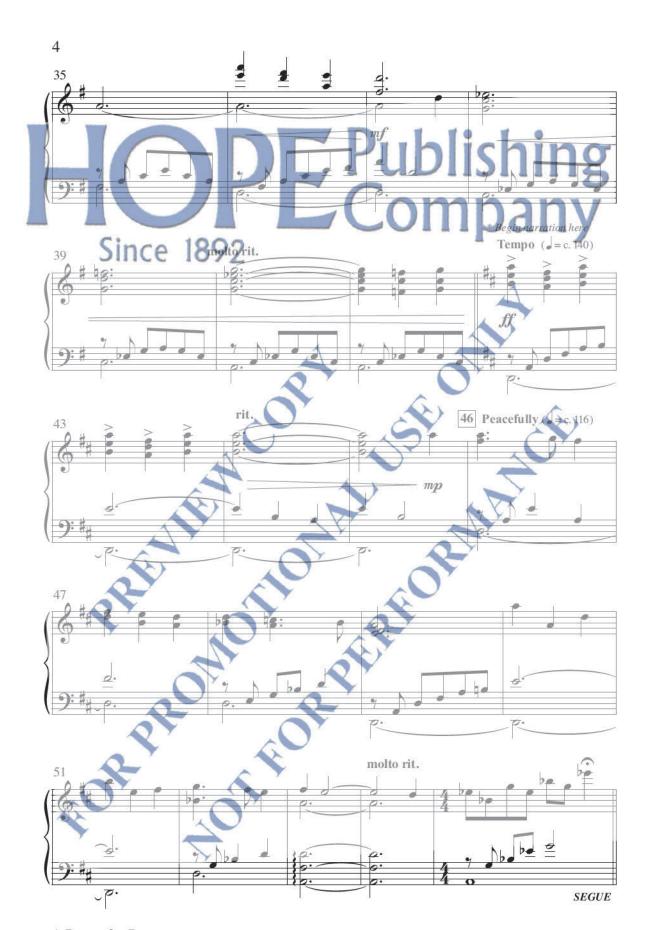
NARRATOR: Centuries before the birth of Christ, the prophet Isaiah foretold his coming. He said "a child will be born, a son will be given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Does the world long for anything more than it longs for peace?



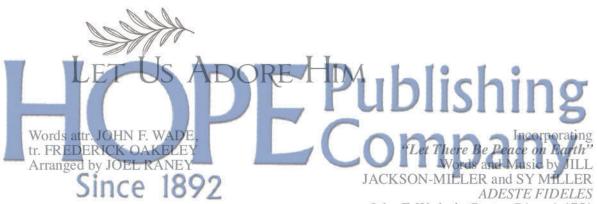
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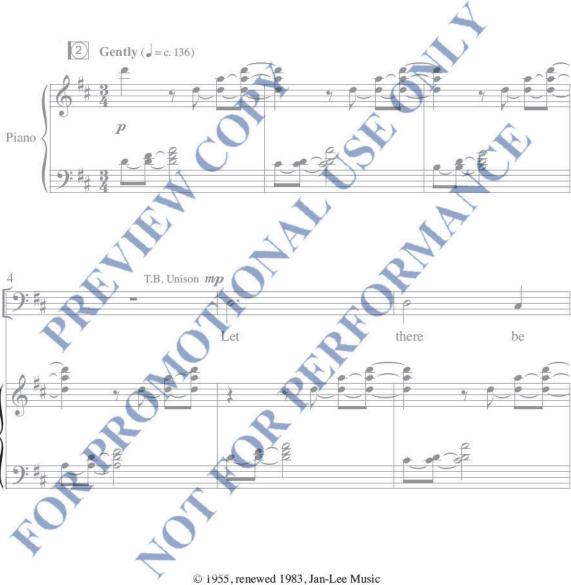
A Prayer for Peace



A Prayer for Peace



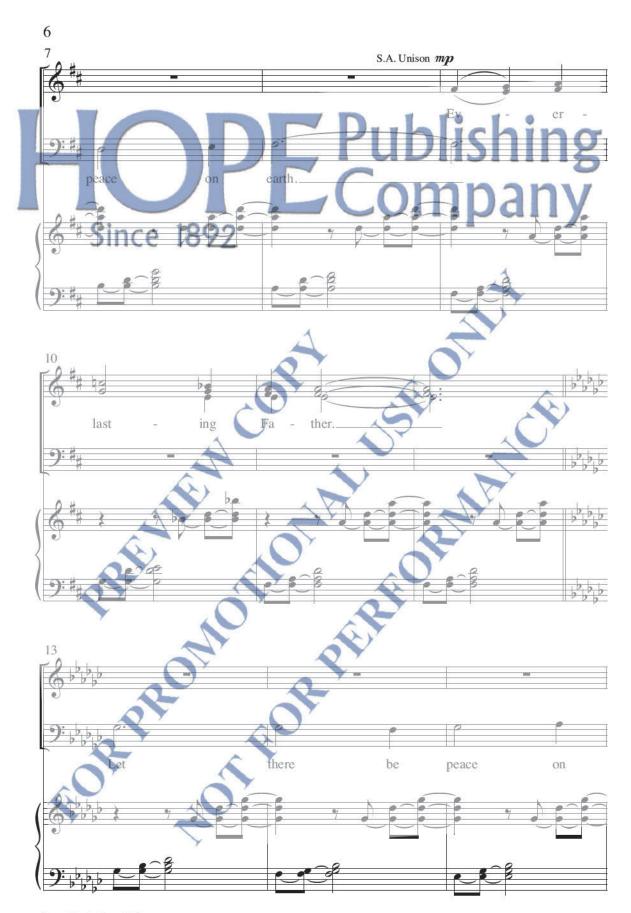
John F. Wades's Cantus Diversi, 1751



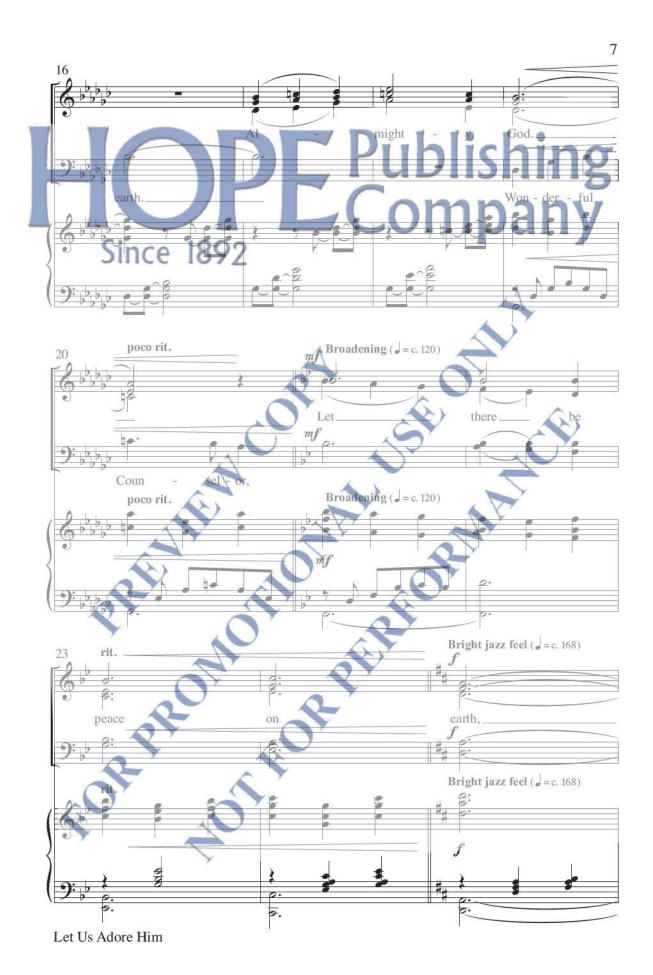
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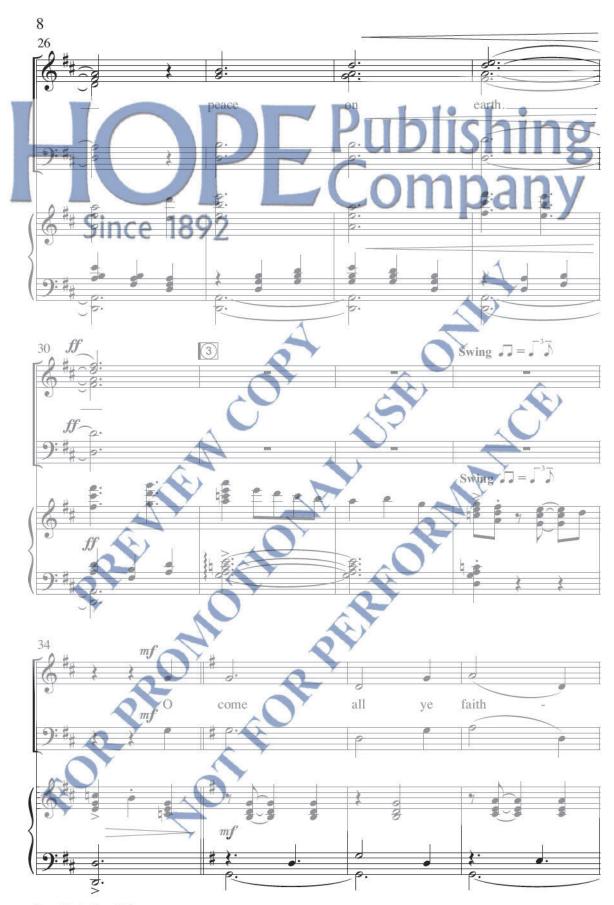
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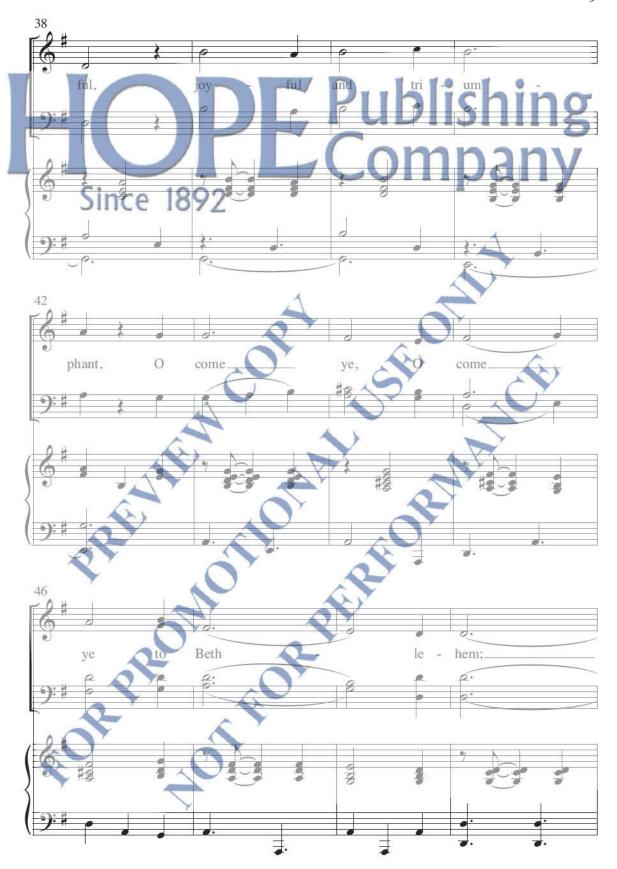


Let Us Adore Him

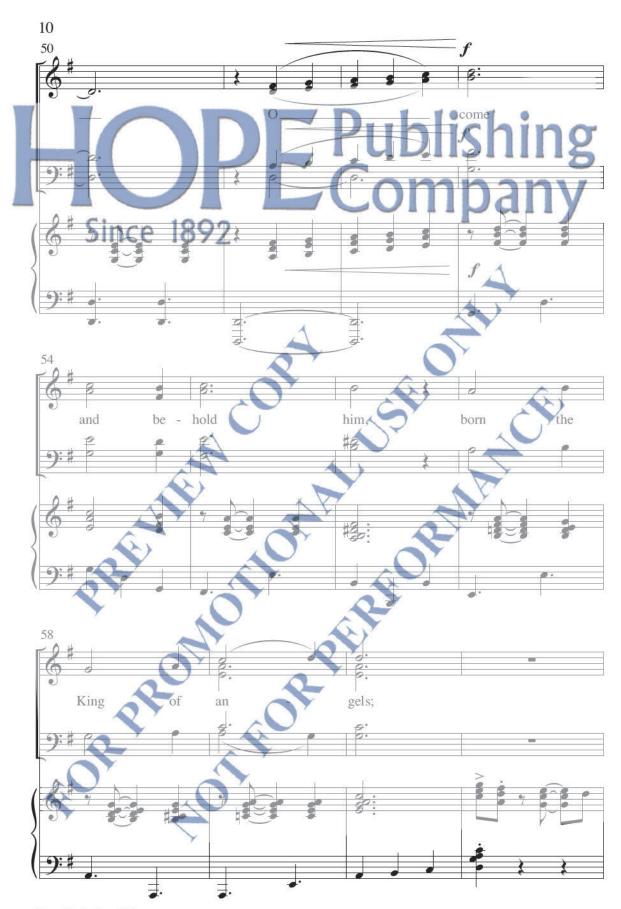




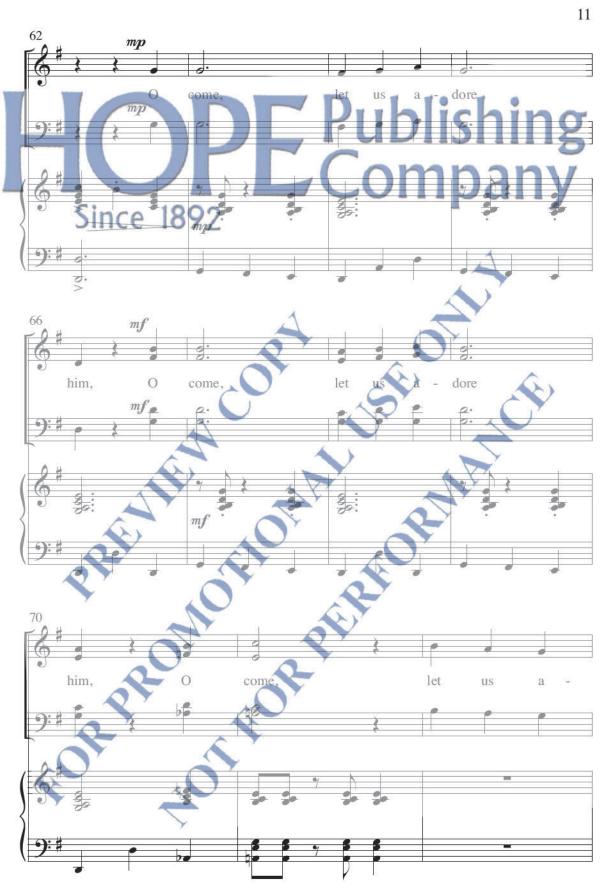
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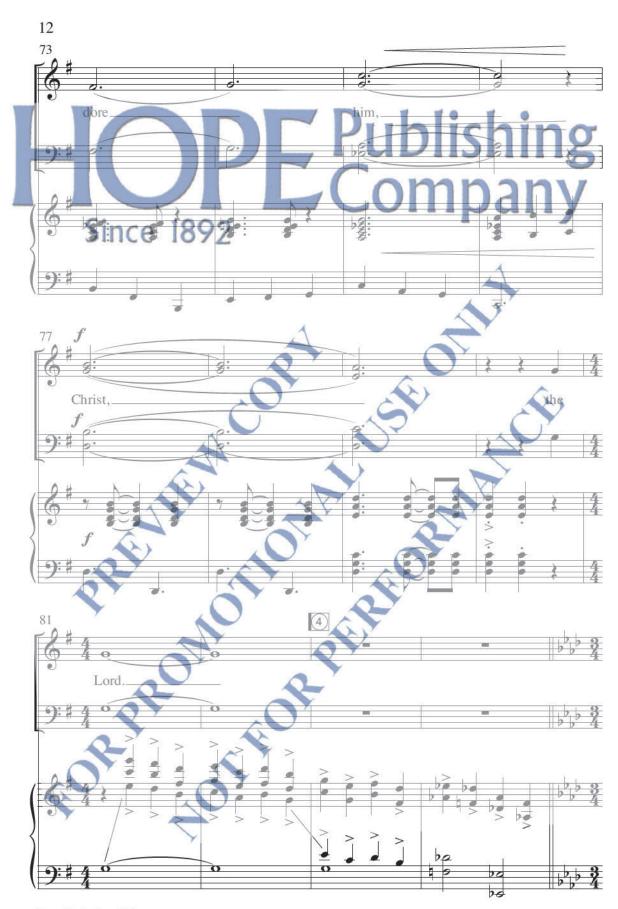
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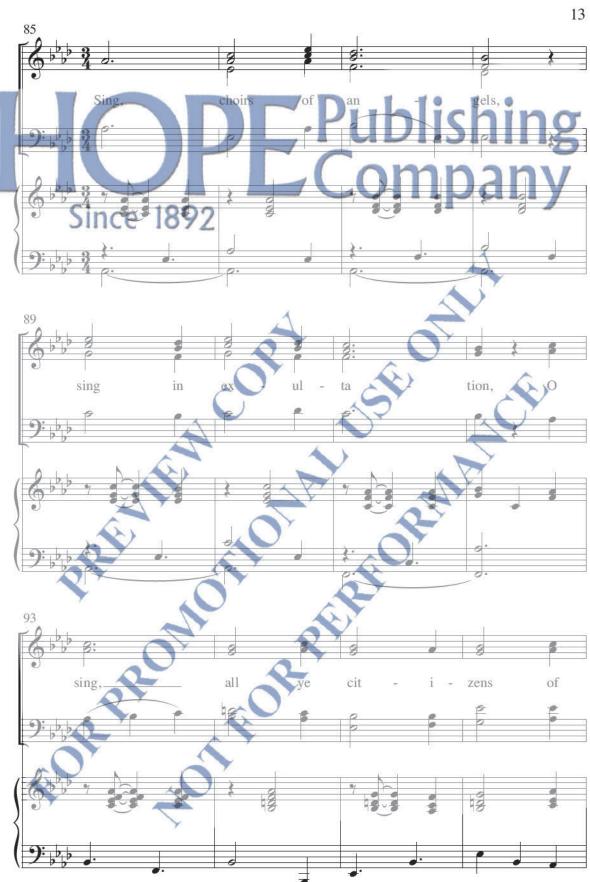


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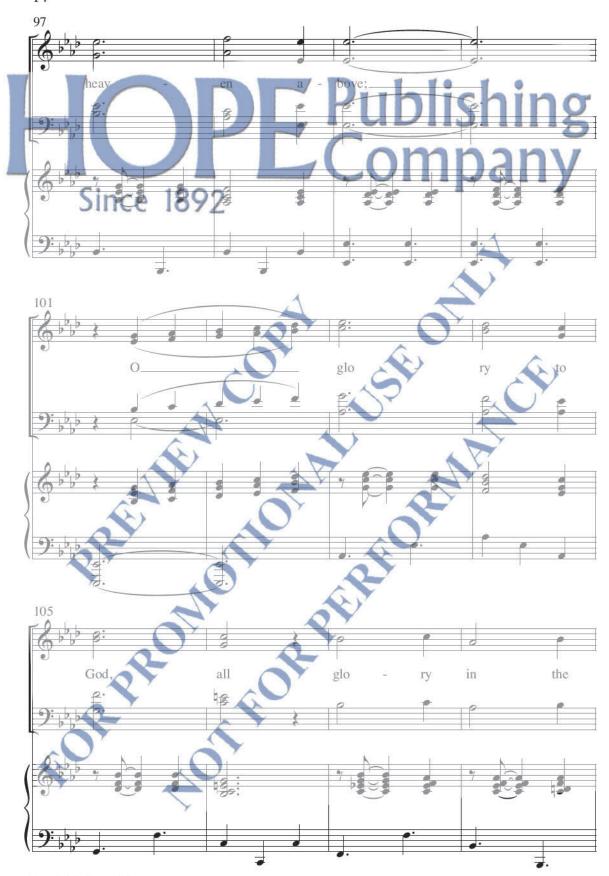


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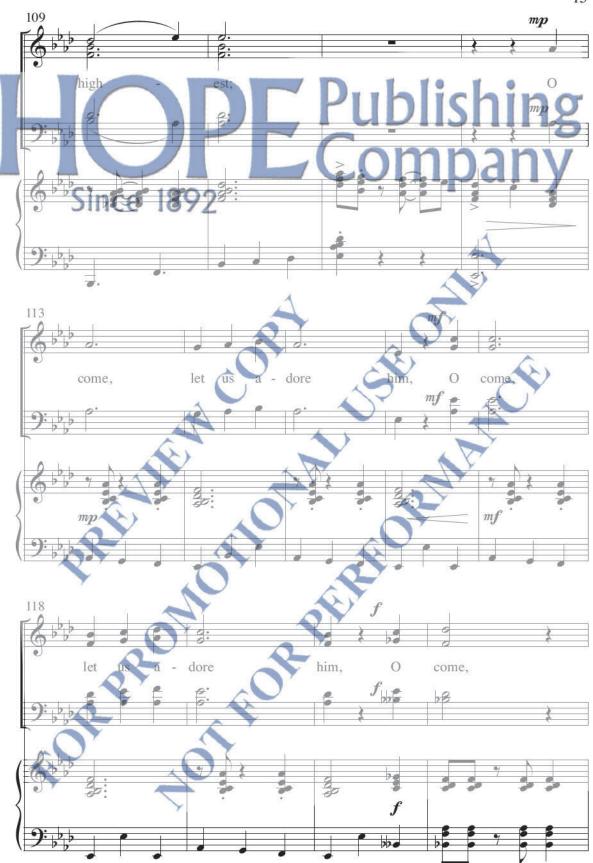




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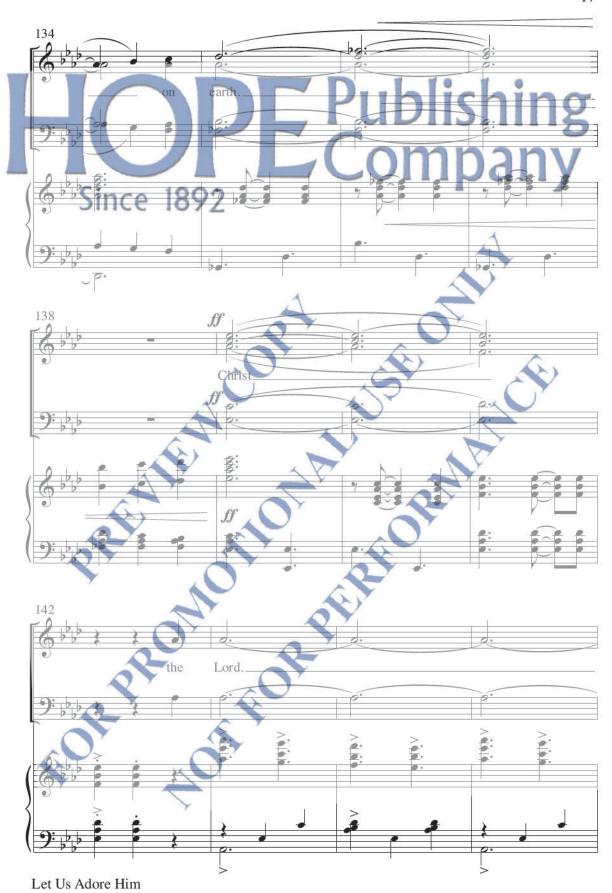


Let Us Adore Him



Let Us Adore Him



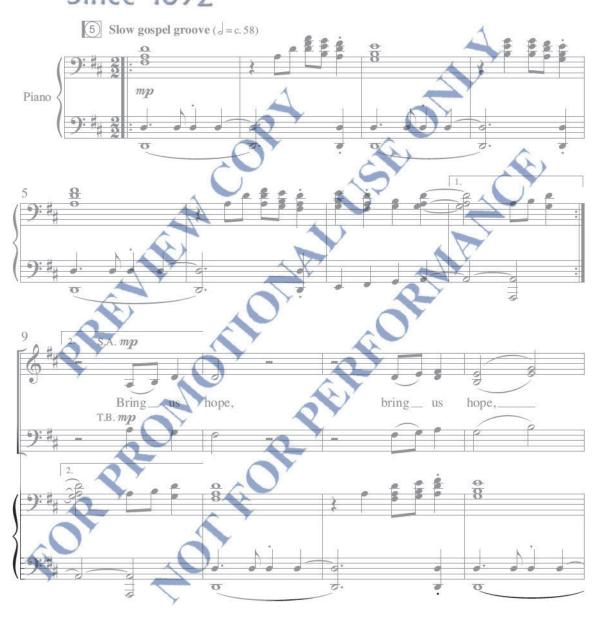




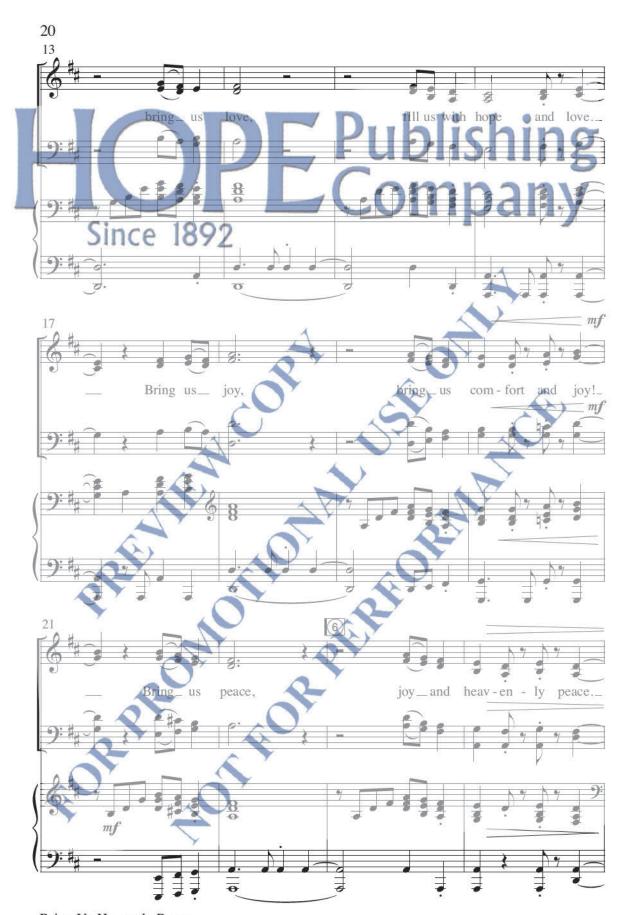
Bring Us Heavenly Peace

NARRATOR. Of the promised Messiah, Isaiah wrote, "Here is my servant, my chosen one

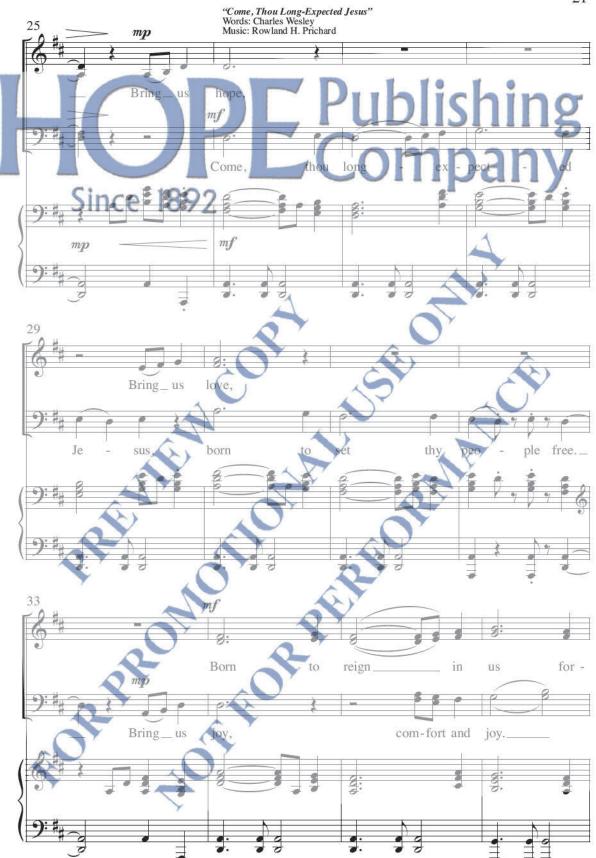
NARRATOR: Of the provised Messiah, Isaiah wrote, "Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching, the lands will put their hope," (Isaiah 42) [-4]:



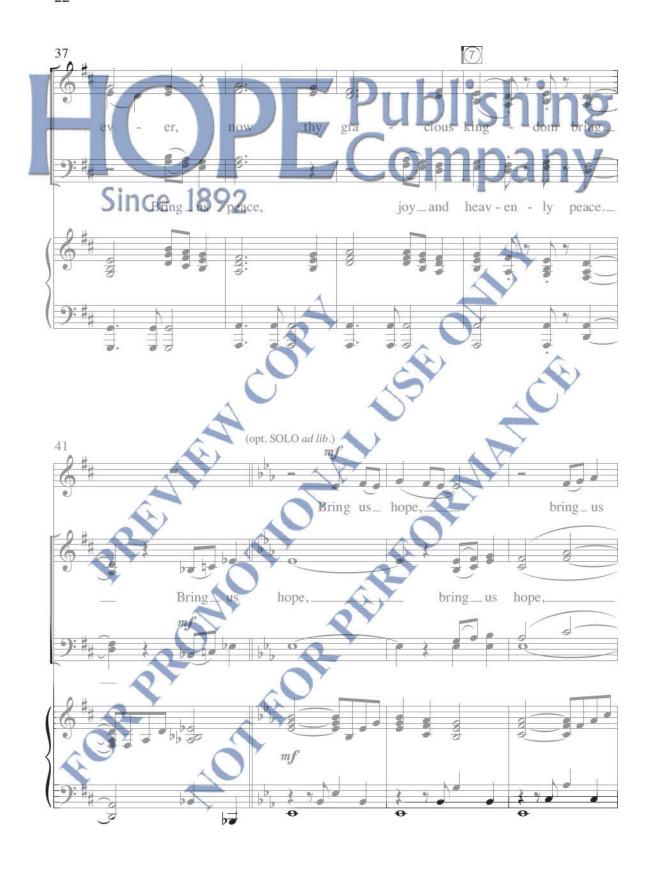
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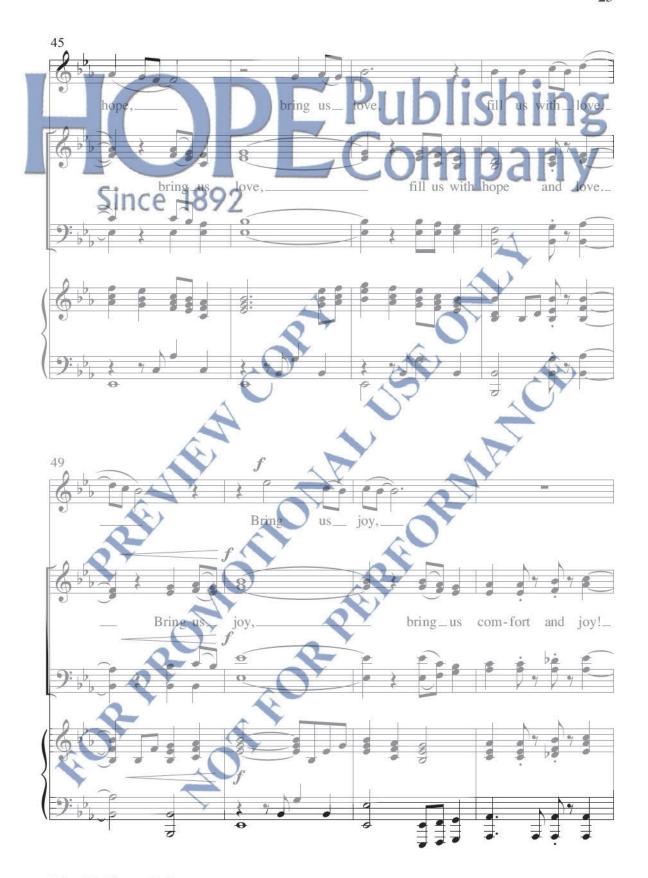
Bring Us Heavenly Peace



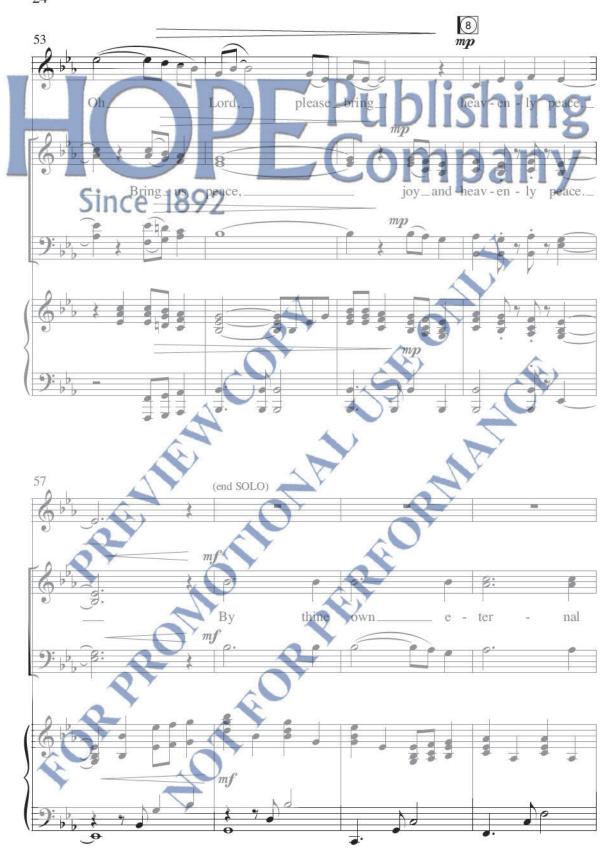
Bring Us Heavenly Peace



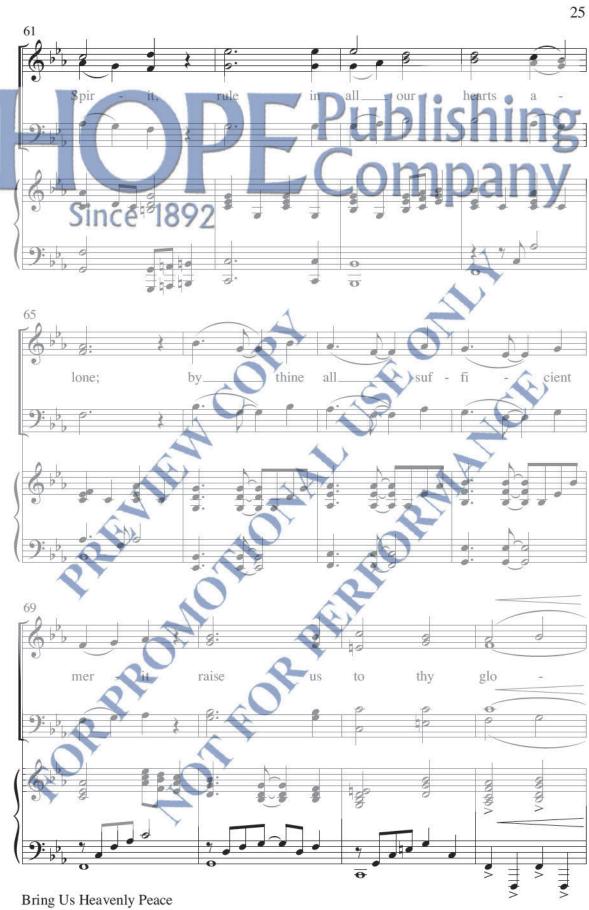
Bring Us Heavenly Peace

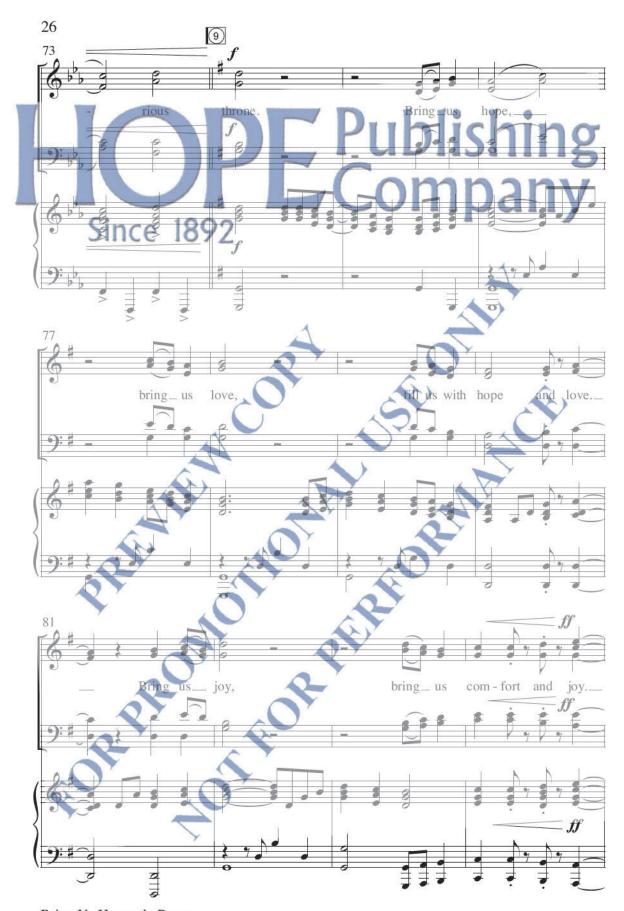


Bring Us Heavenly Peace



Bring Us Heavenly Peace





Bring Us Heavenly Peace



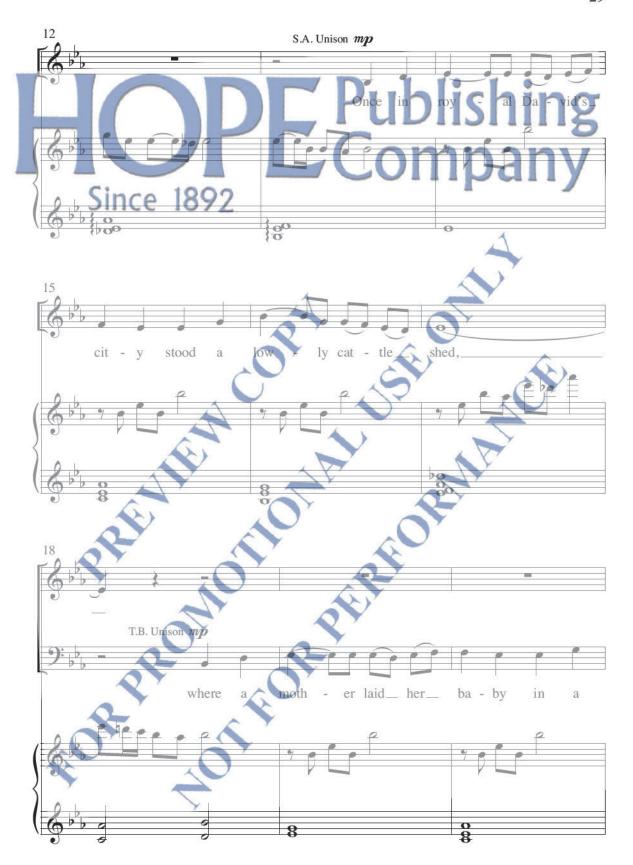
Bring Us Heavenly Peace

IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY Words by CECIL F. ALEXANDER (Music begins) CONDAINTETT Arranged by CMusic begins)

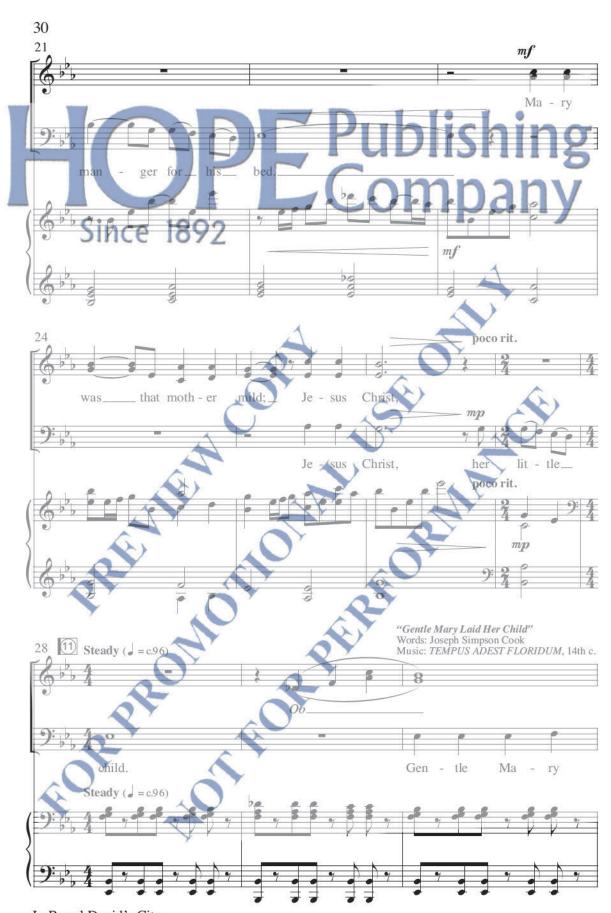
NARRATOR. In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken, and everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph went to Bethlehem to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them at the inn. (from Luke 2)



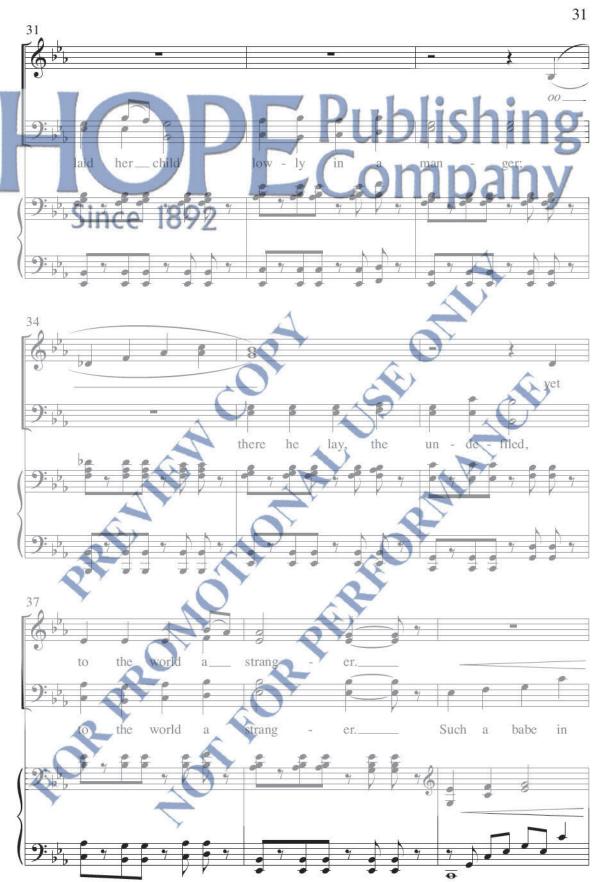
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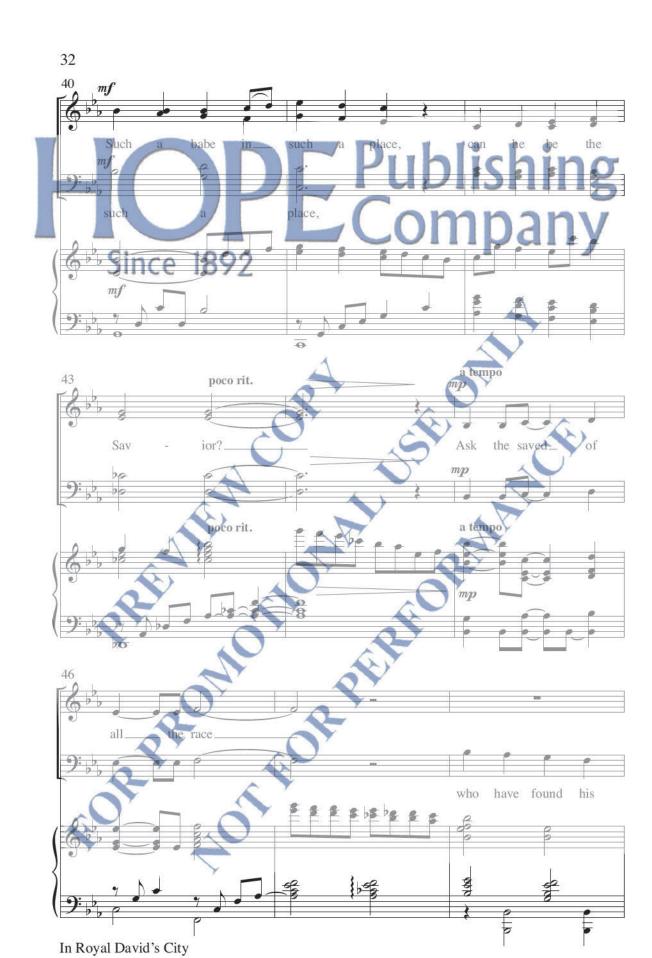
In Royal David's City



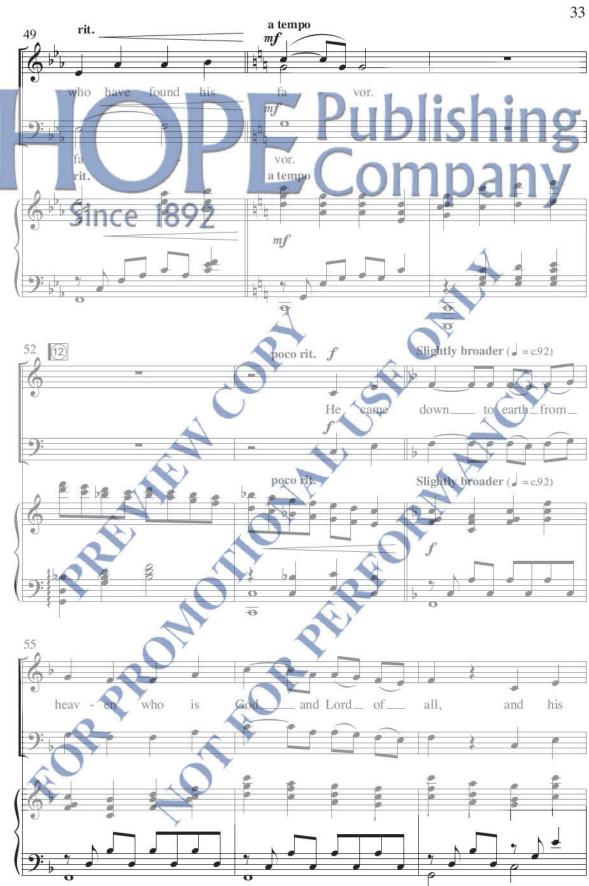
In Royal David's City



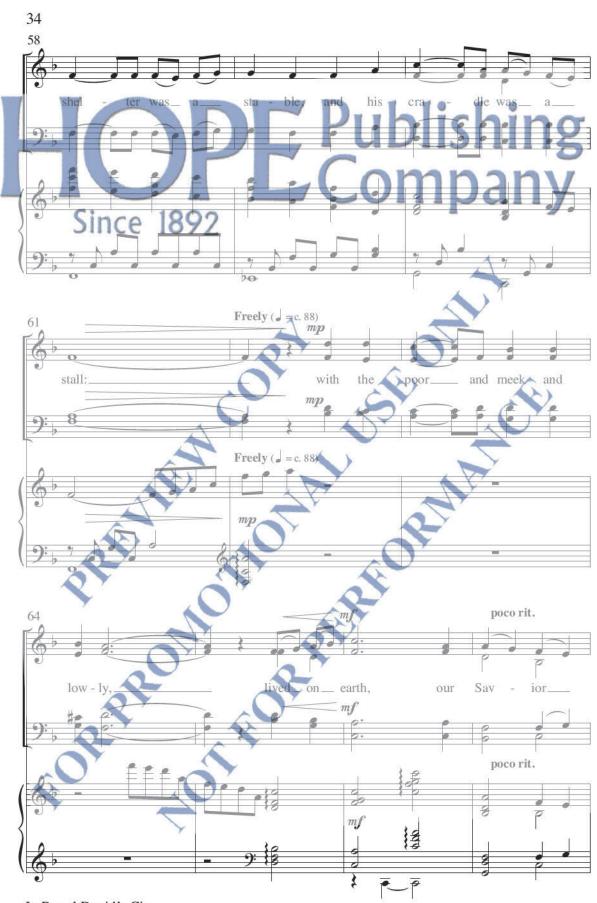
In Royal David's City



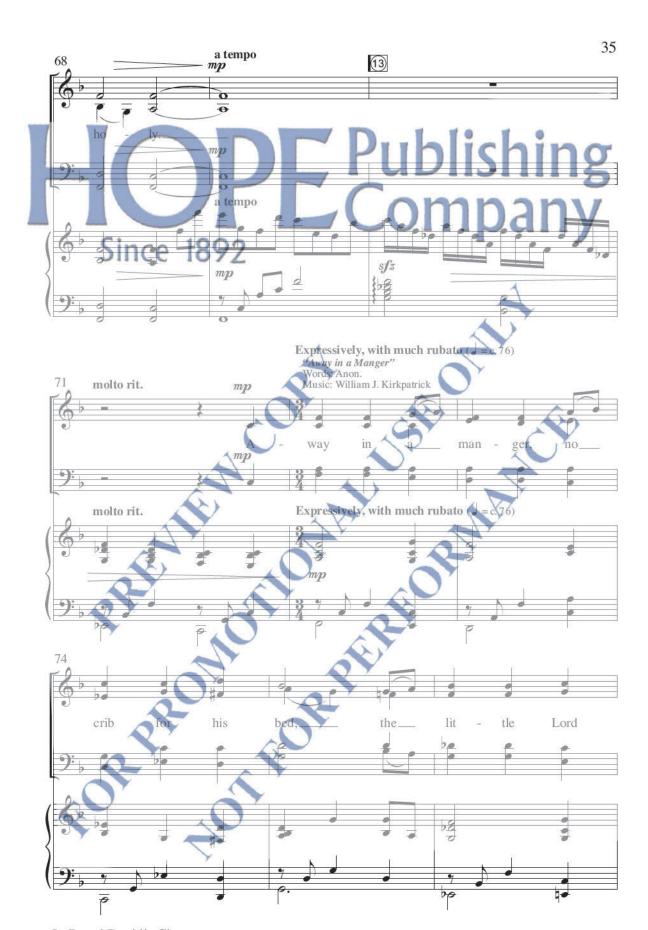




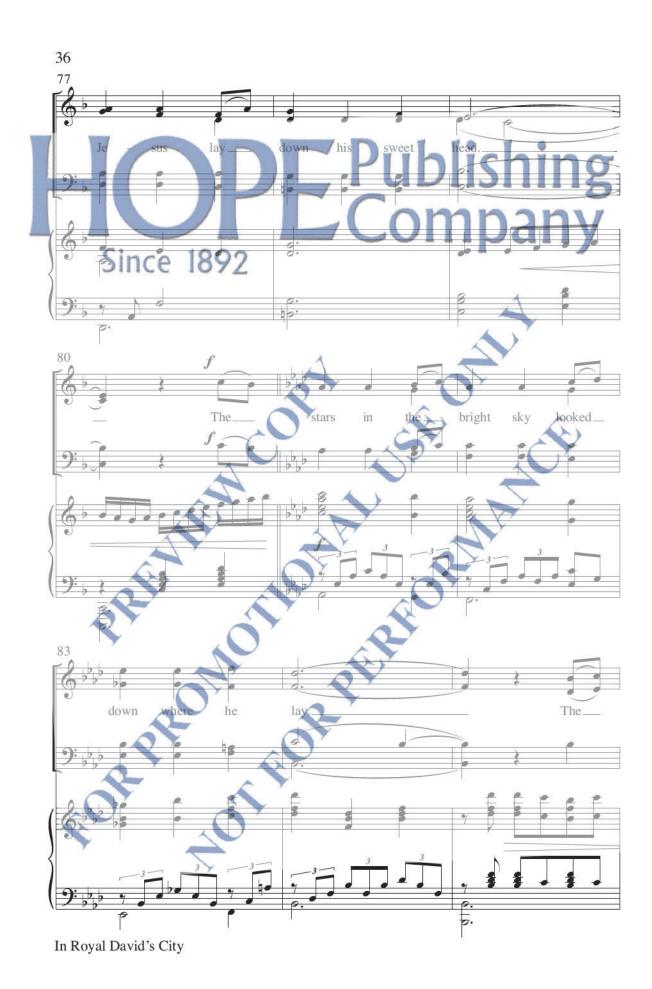
In Royal David's City

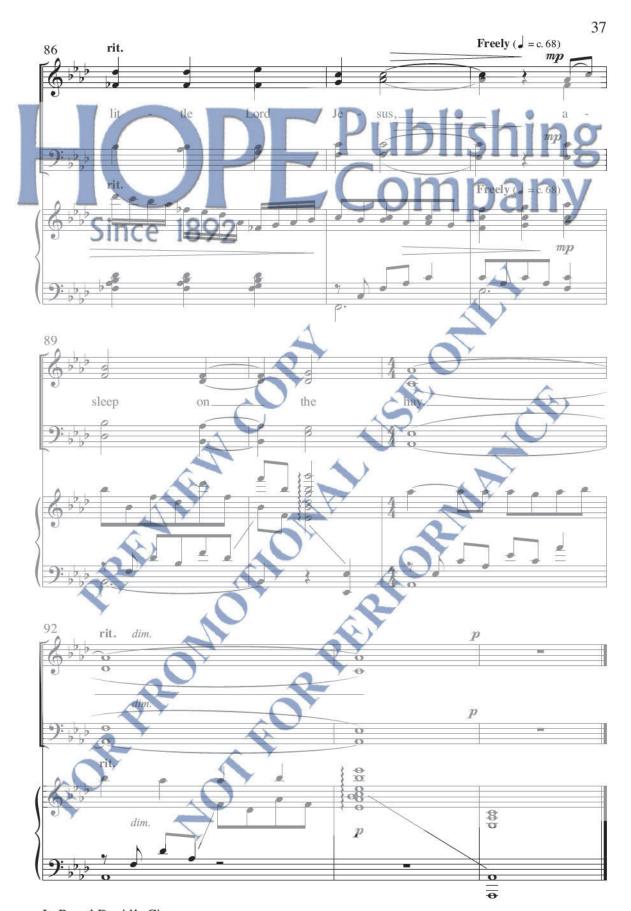


In Royal David's City



In Royal David's City





In Royal David's City

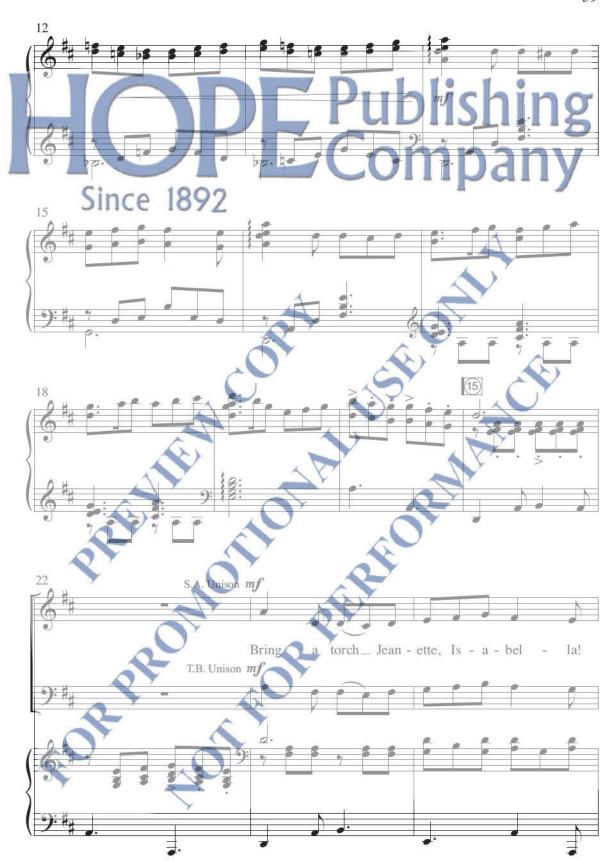
BRING A TORCH, JEANETTE, ISABELLA PUD S French Sarol Arranged by JOEL RANEY

NARRATOR: And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and said, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born; he is the Messiah, the Lord. Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host joined the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace and goodwill to all." (Luke 2: 8-14)



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Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

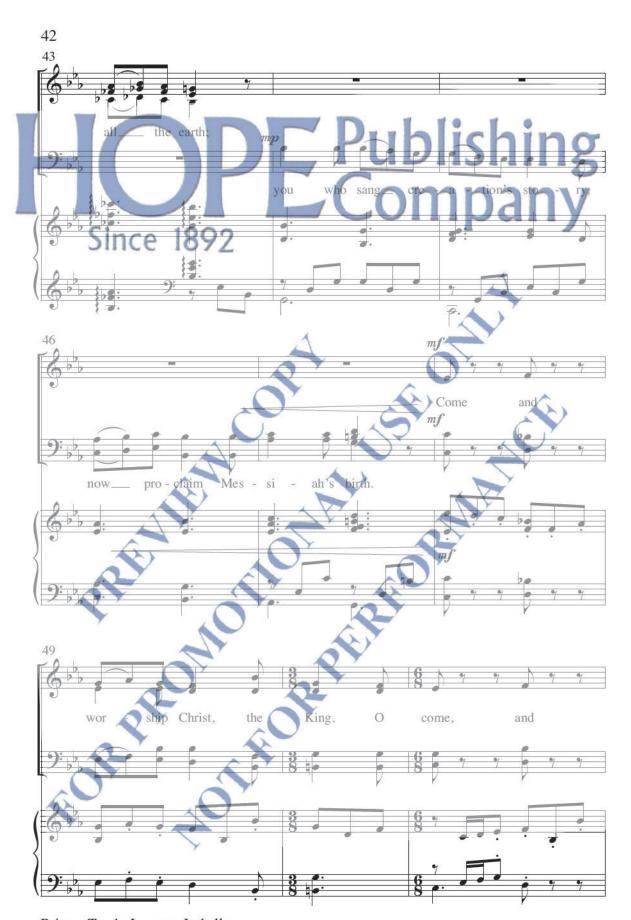


Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

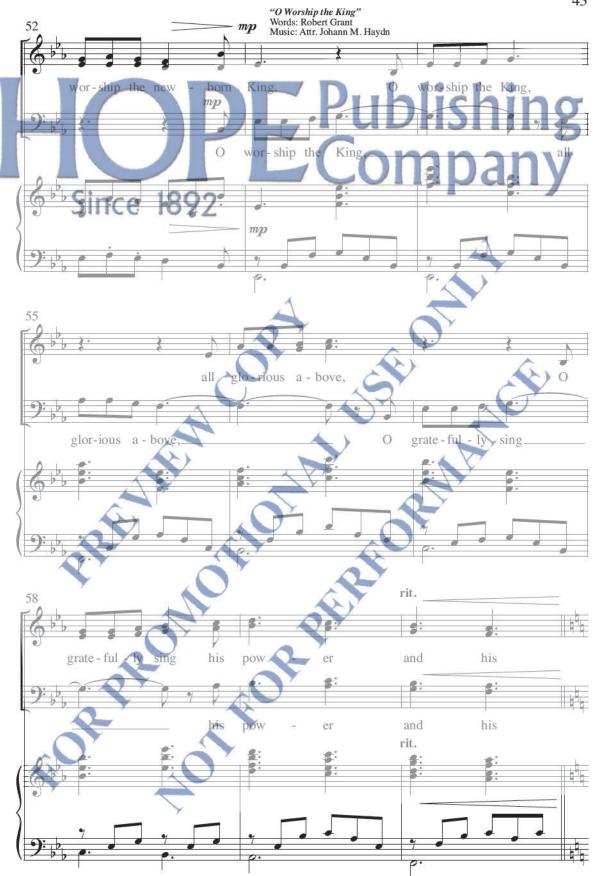




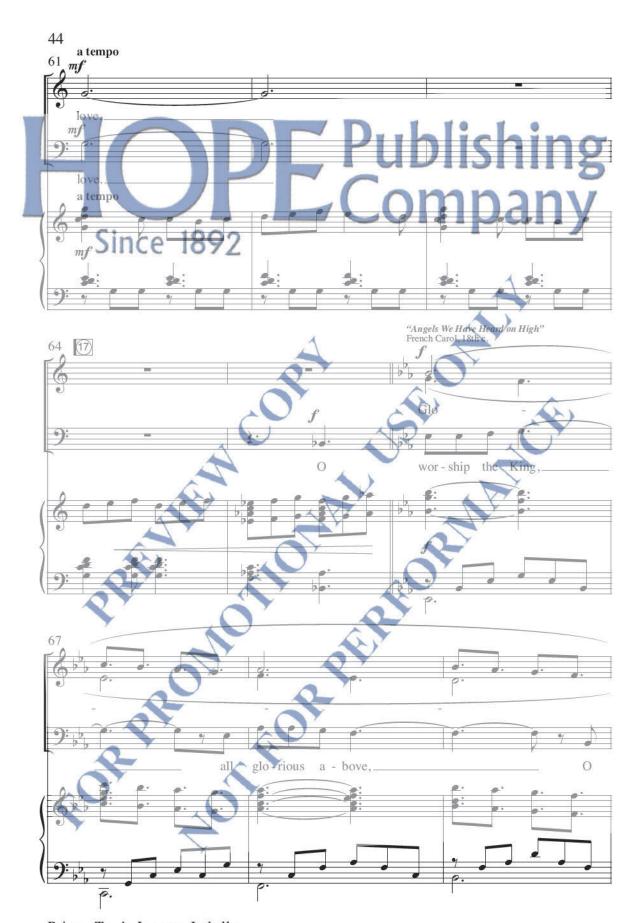
Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella



Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella

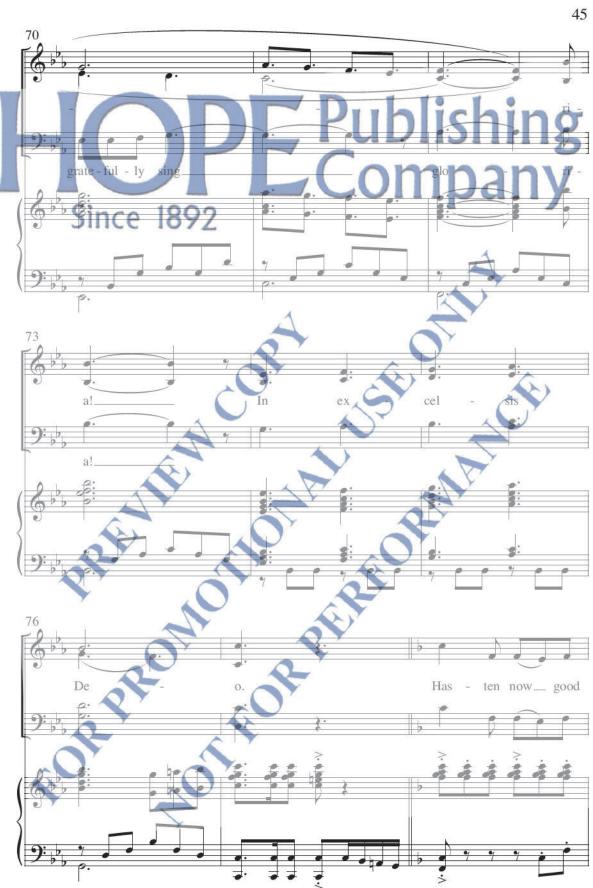


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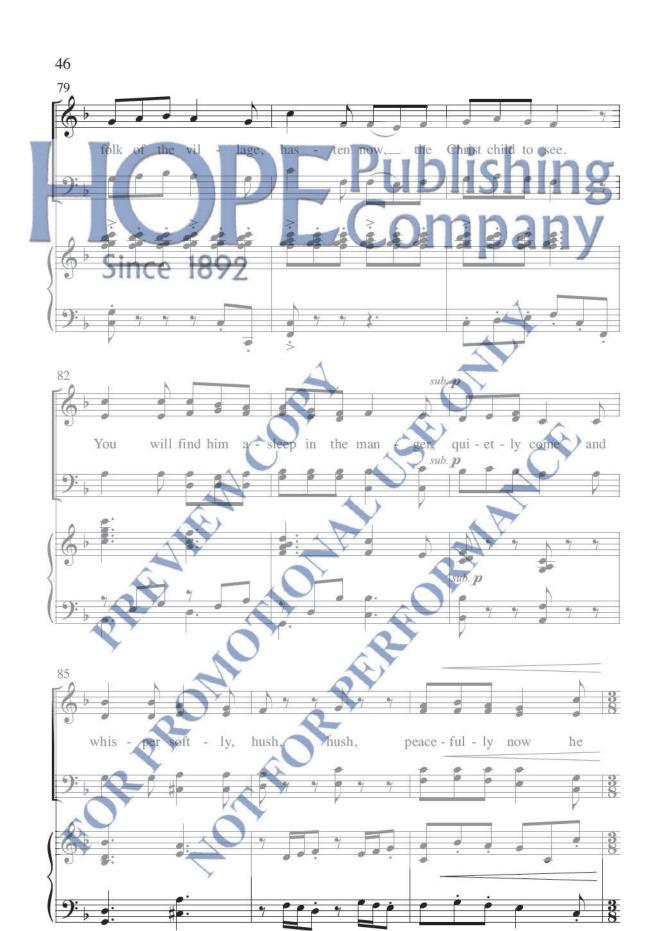


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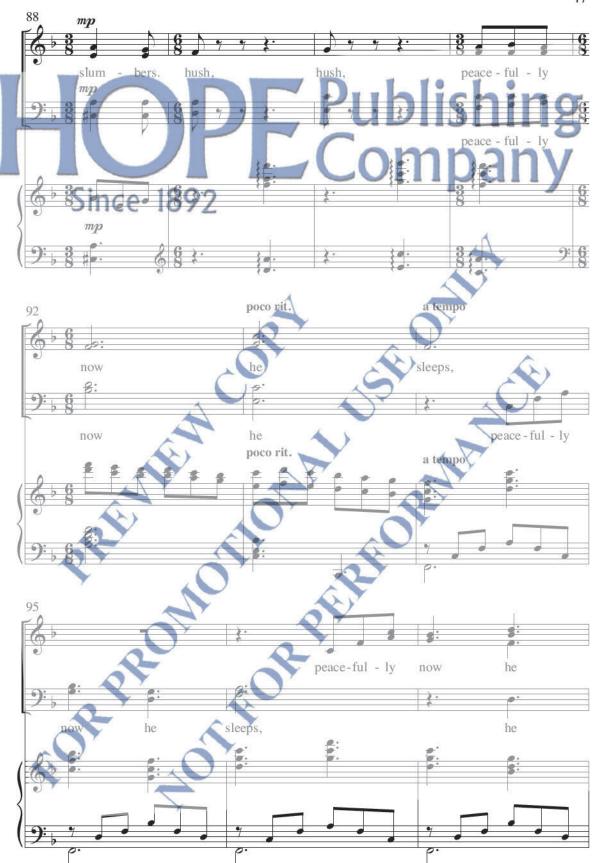




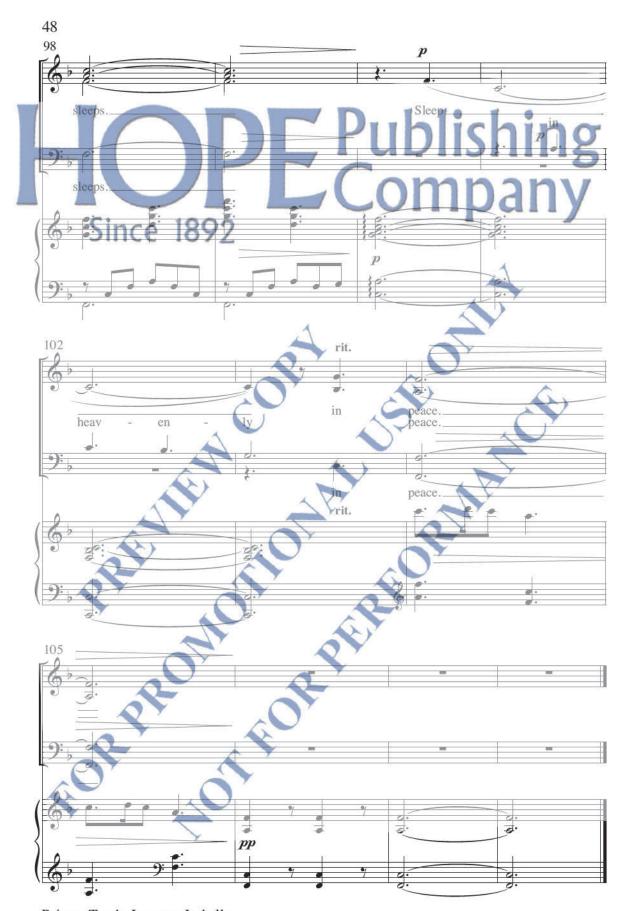
Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella



Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella



Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella



Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella



Arranged by JOEL RANEY

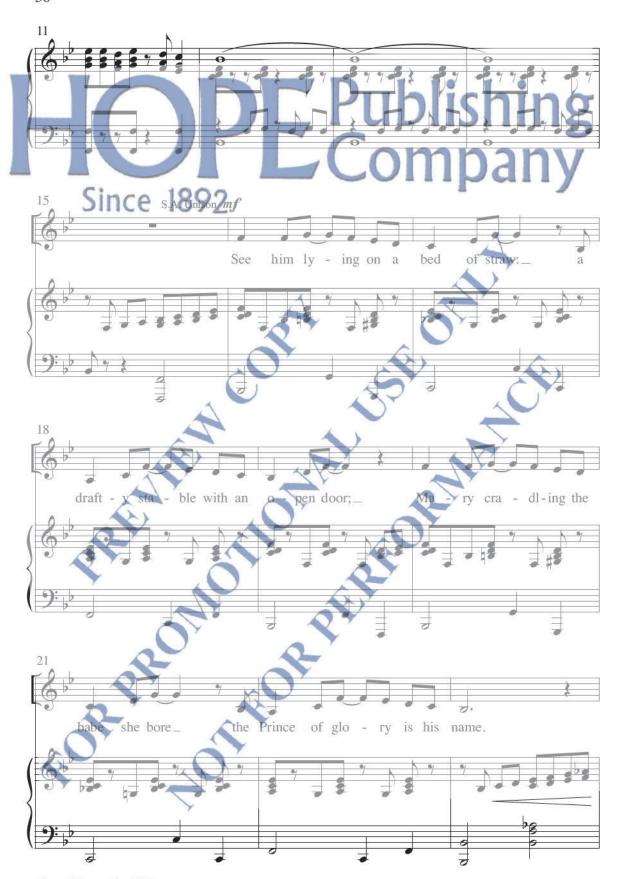
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Words and Music by
MICHAEL PERRY

NARRATOR: When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. (Luke 2: 15-16)

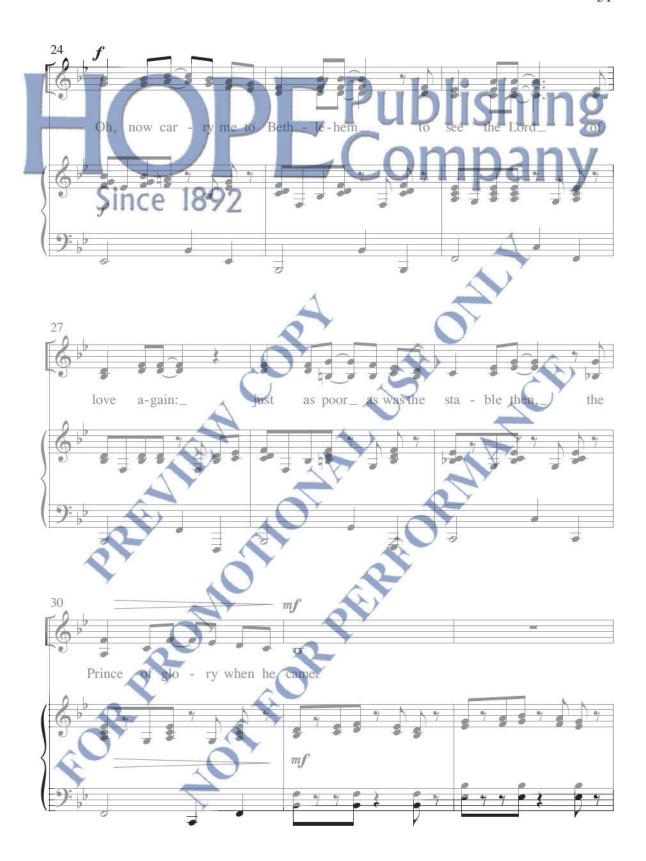


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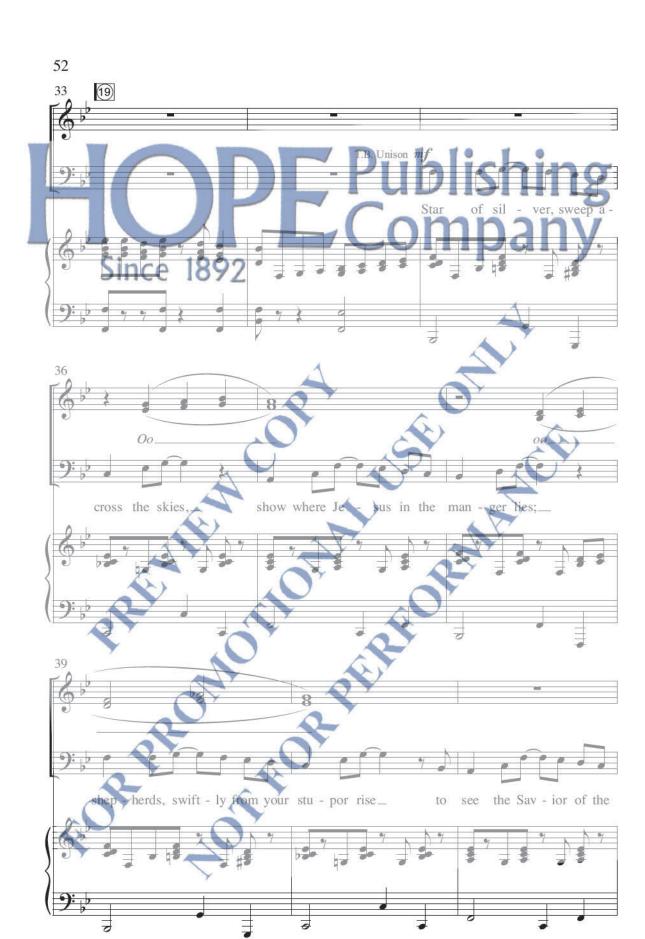
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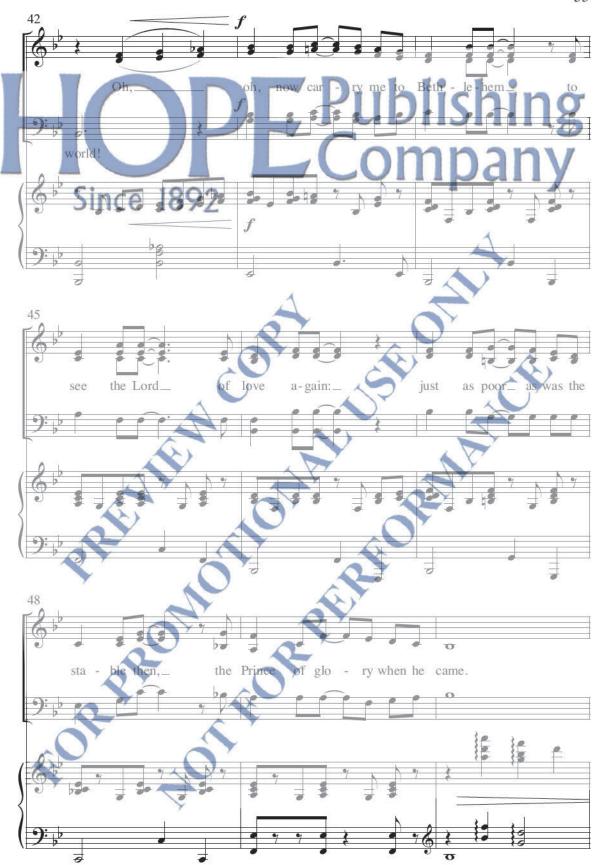
Carry Me to Bethlehem



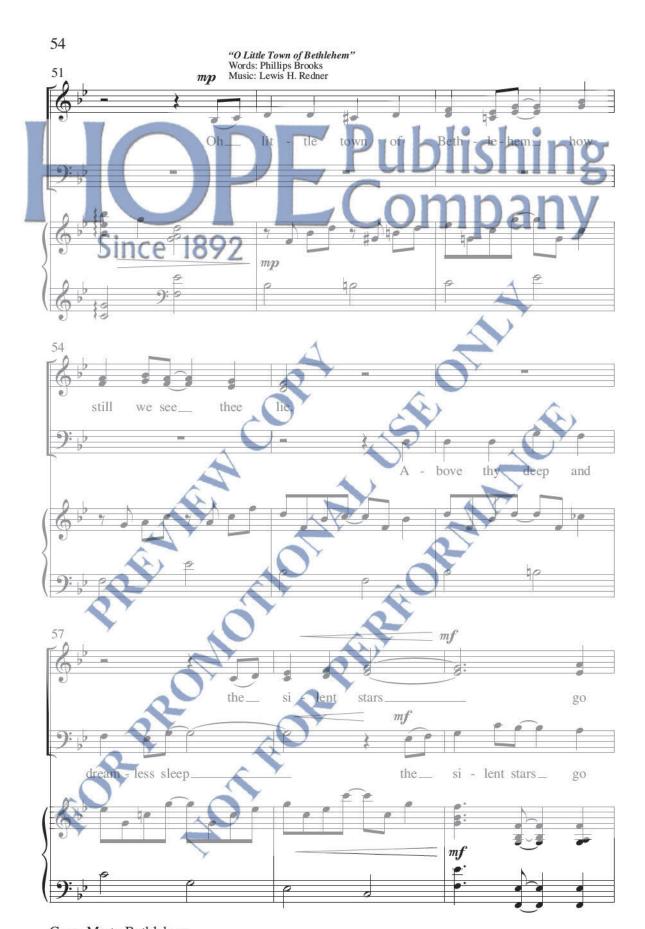
Carry Me to Bethlehem



Carry Me to Bethlehem

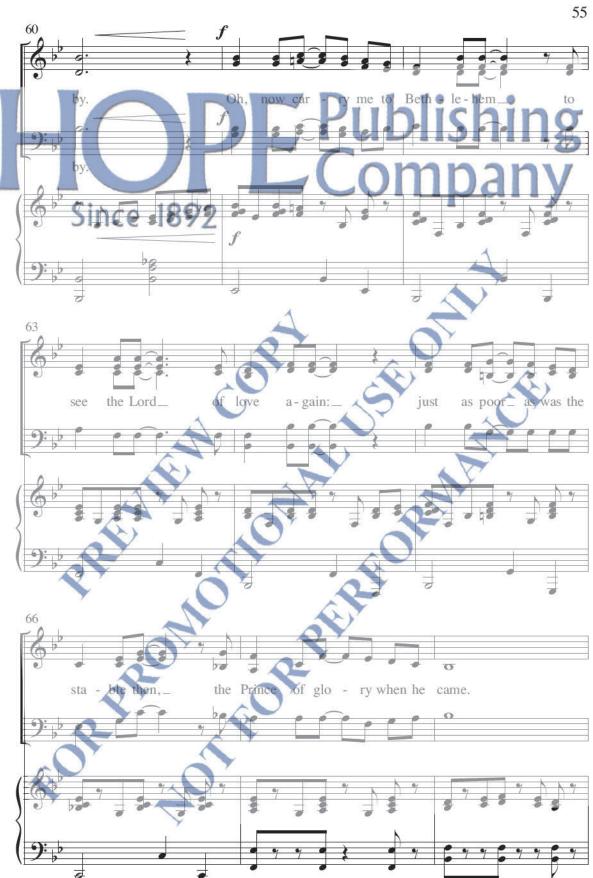


Carry Me to Bethlehem



Carry Me to Bethlehem



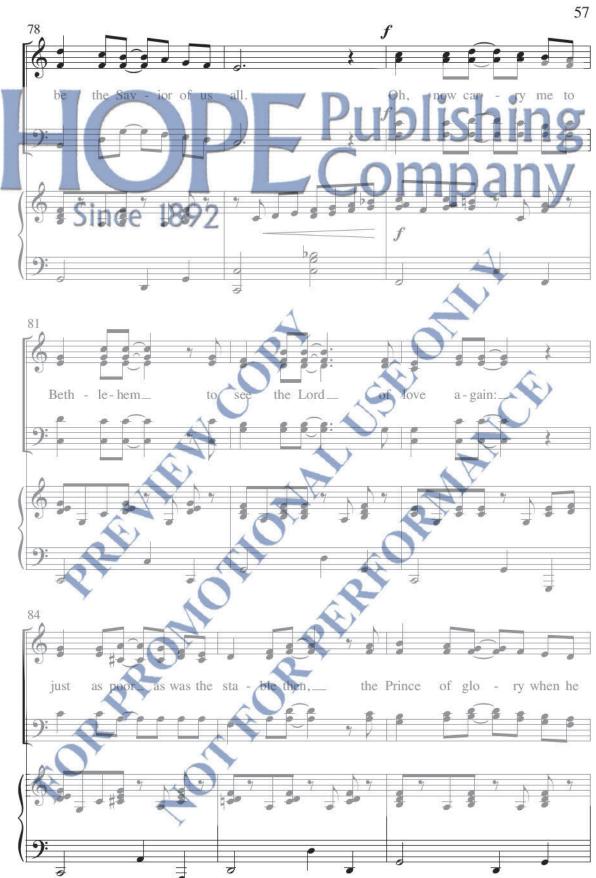


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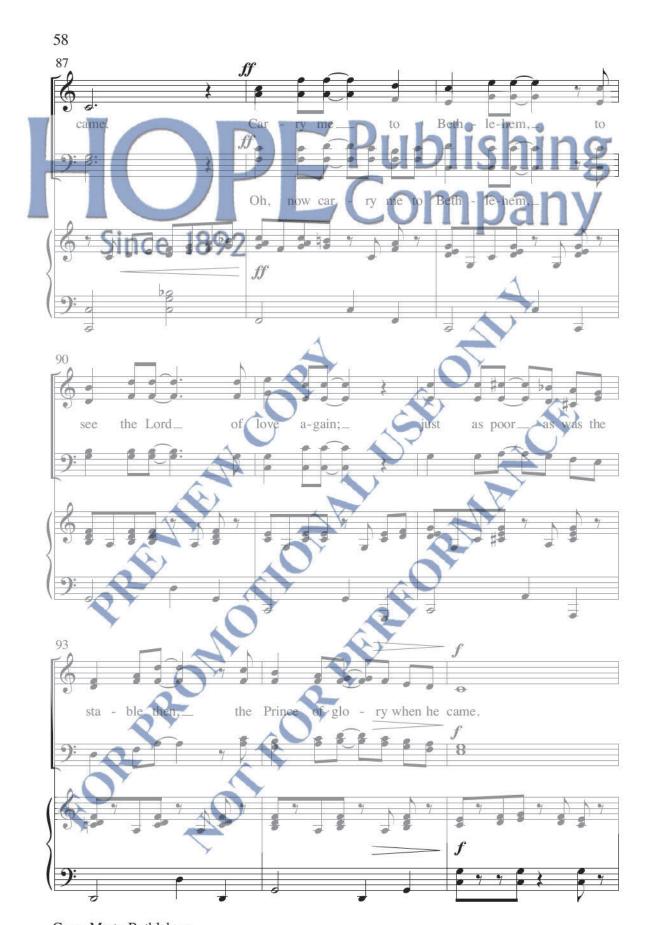


Carry Me to Bethlehem



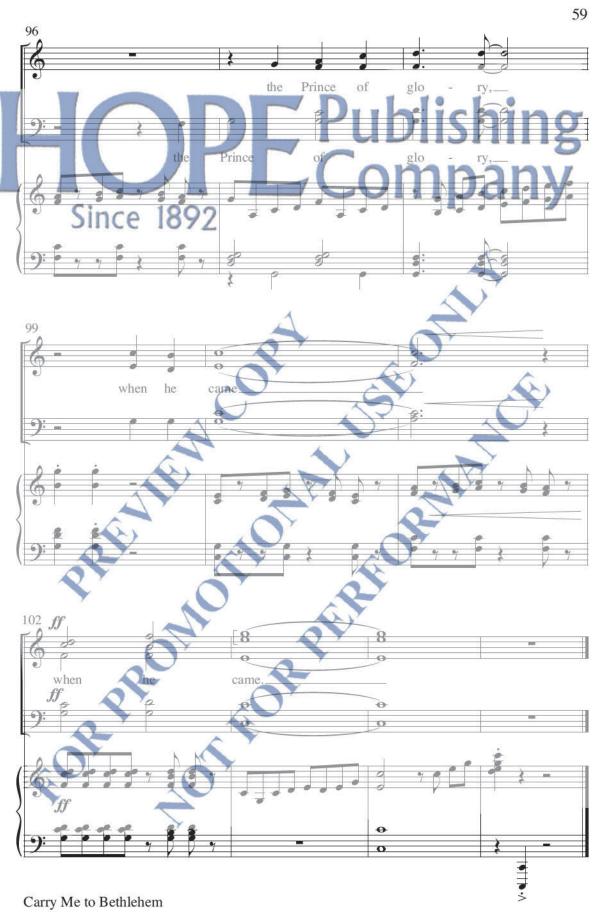


Carry Me to Bethlehem



Carry Me to Bethlehem





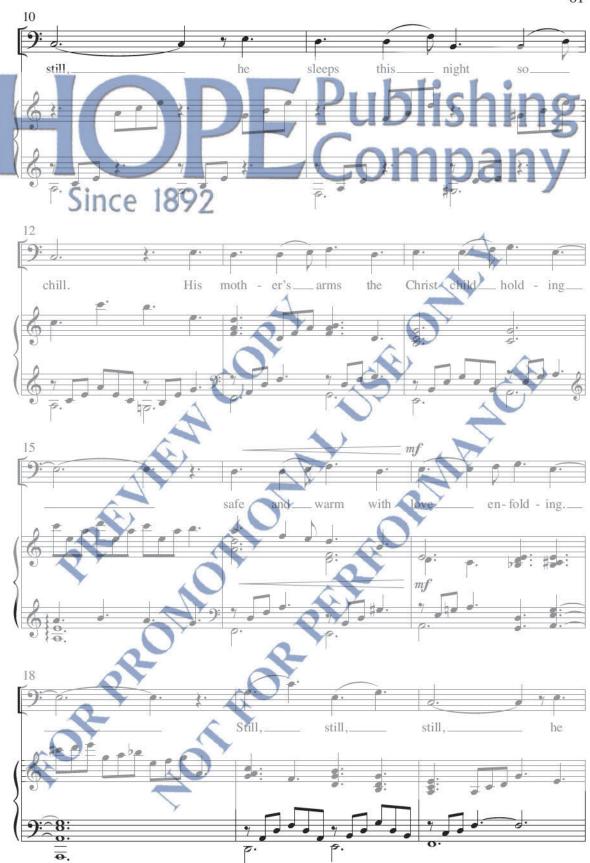
STILL, STILL, STILL

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NARRATOR: When they had seen the child, the shepherds told Mary and Joseph what the angels had said about Jesus. Both were astonished at what the shepherds said, but Mary treasured up all these things, and pondered them in her heart. (*Luke 2:17-19*)



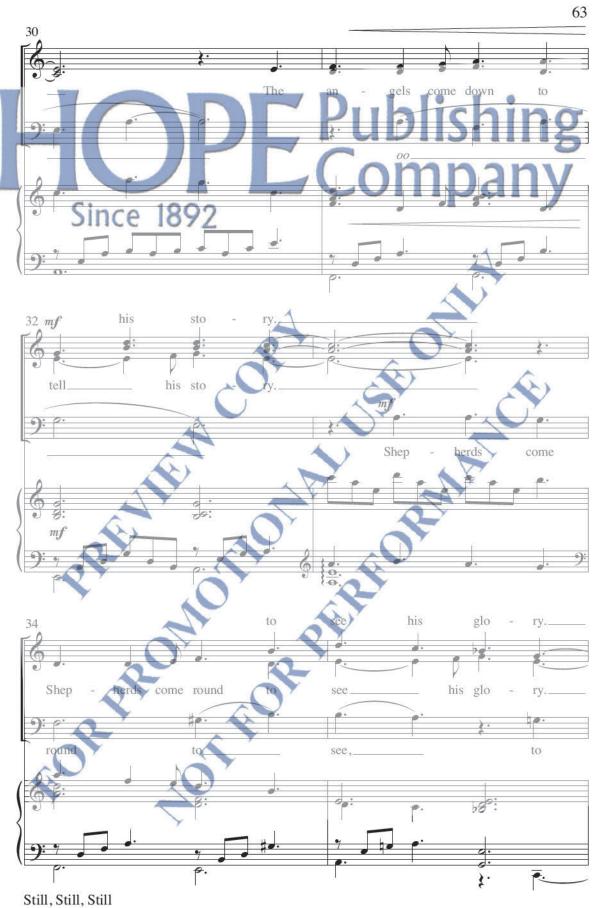
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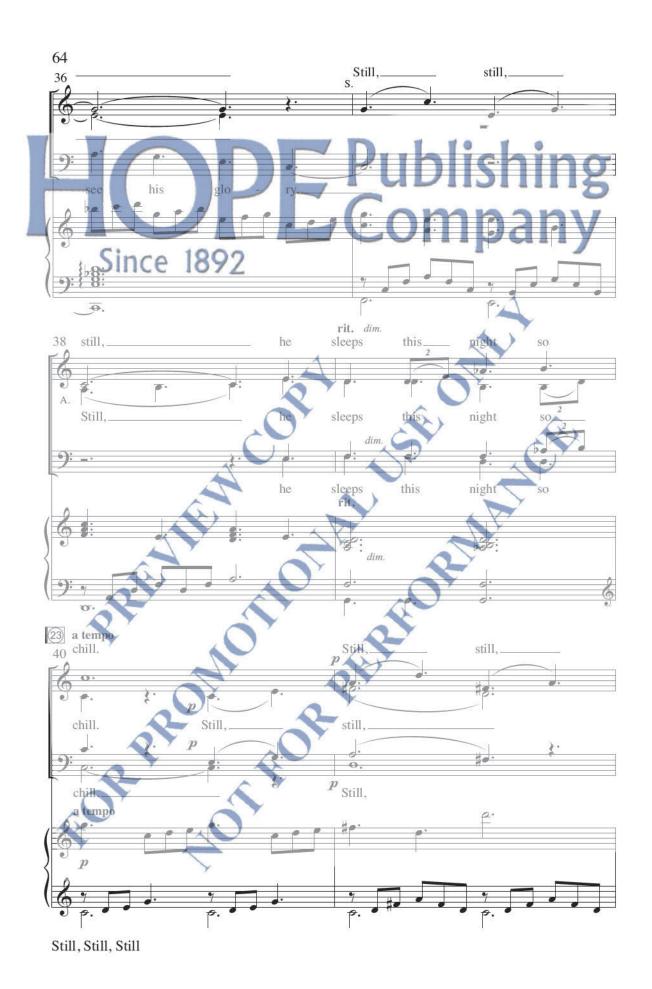


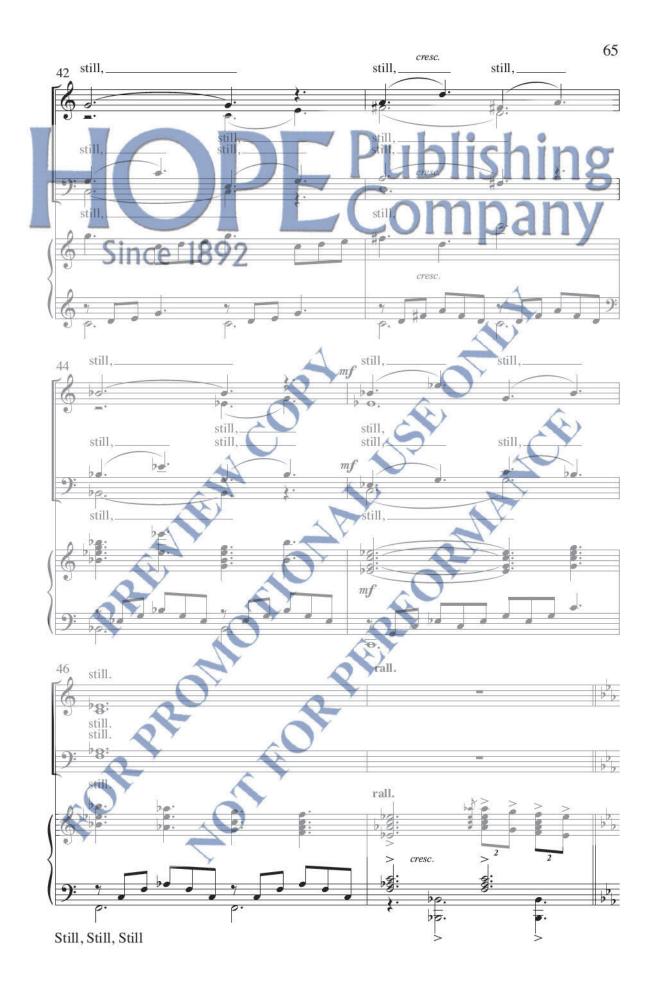
Still, Still, Still





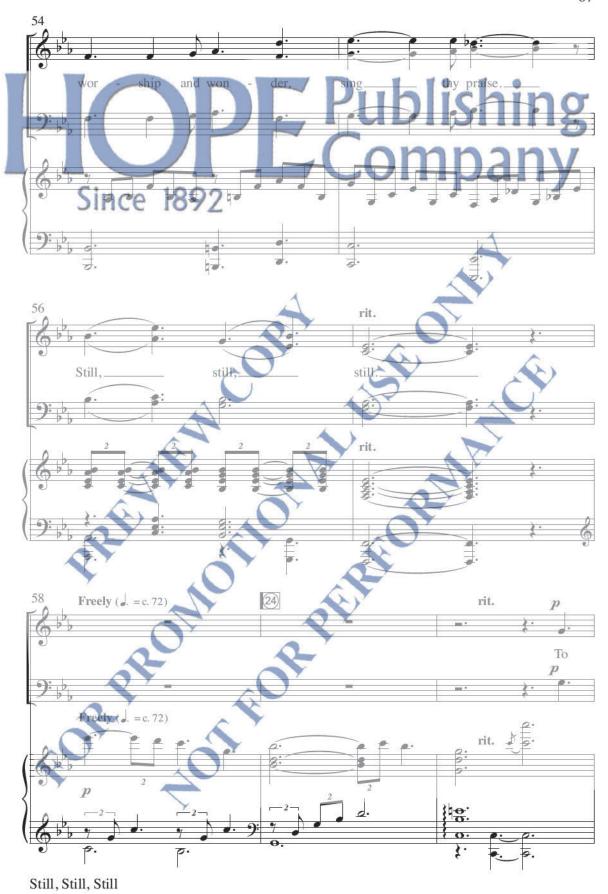


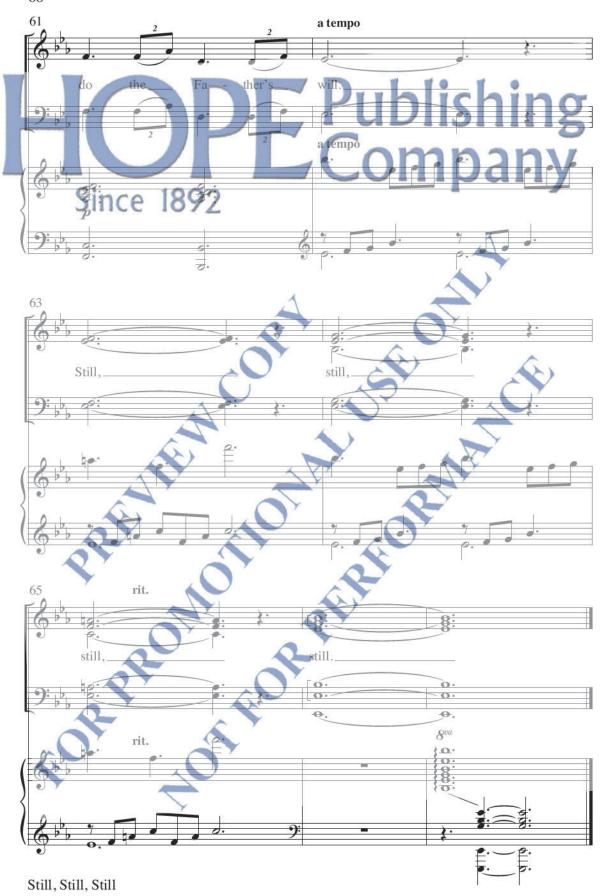






Still, Still, Still





Let There Be Peace on Earth

Arranged by JOEL RANEY

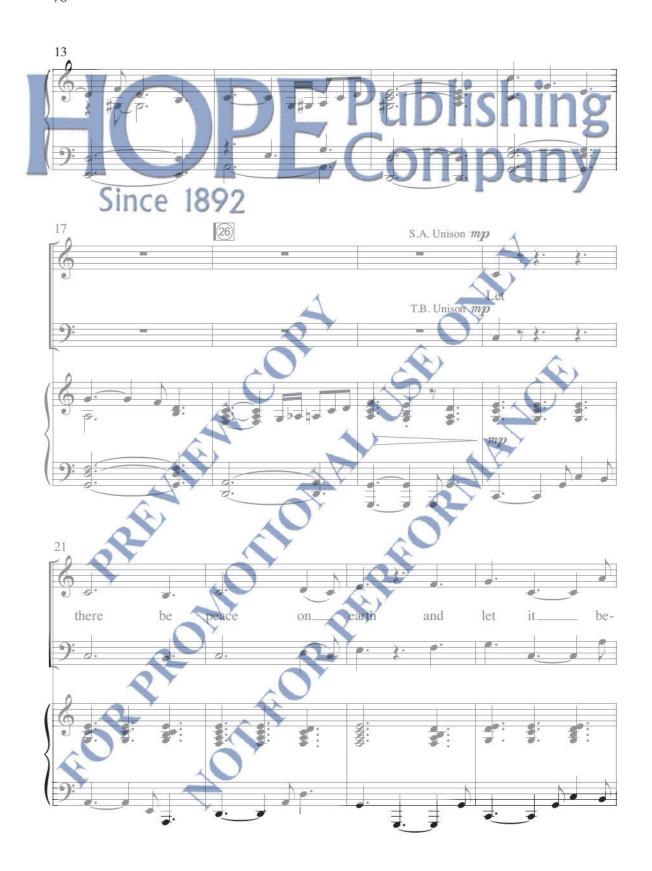
Words and Music by JACKSON-MILLER and SY MILLER

NARRATOR: (Begin on cue, m. 6) On that first Christmas morning, the ancient prophecy was fulfilled. For unto us, a child was born; a son was given. And we call him Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. He will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching, our world puts its hope.

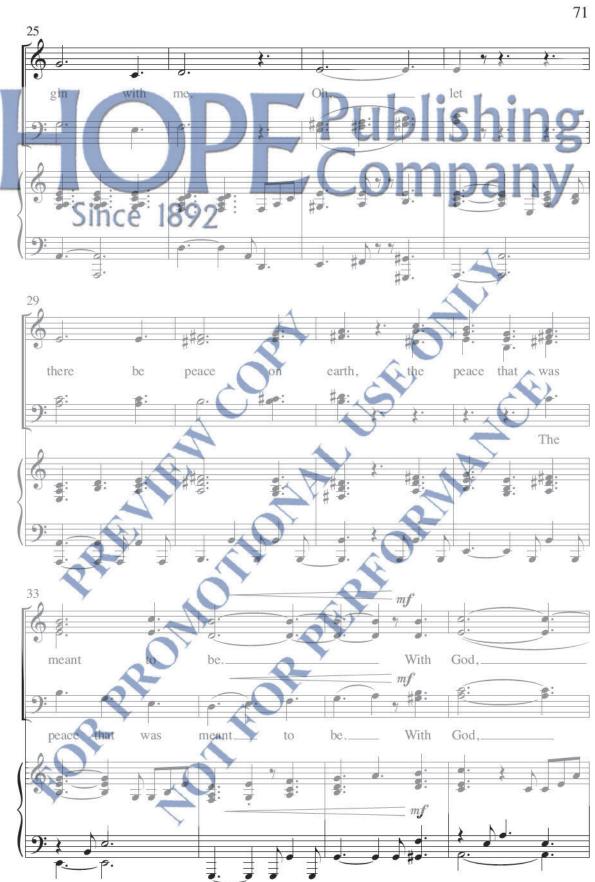


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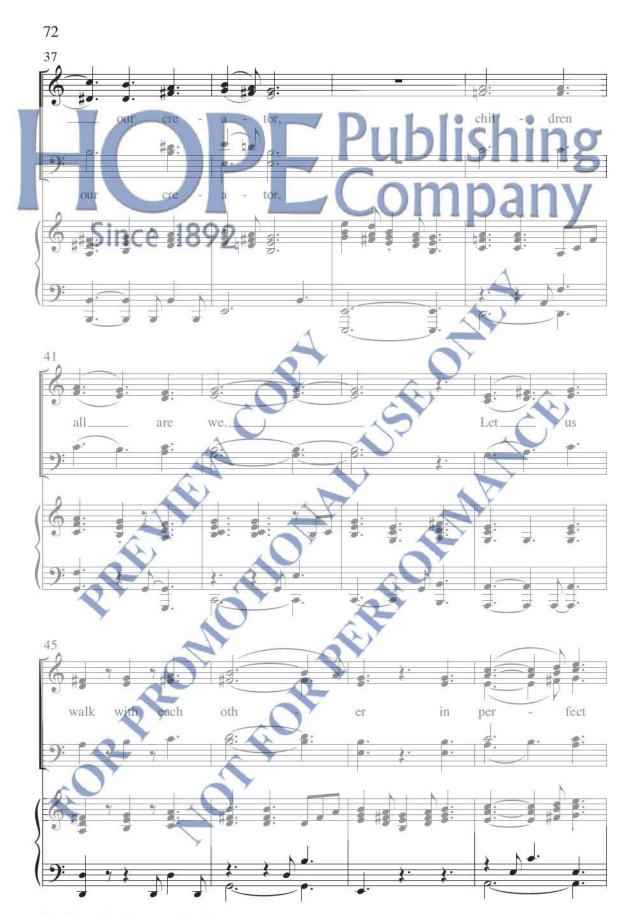
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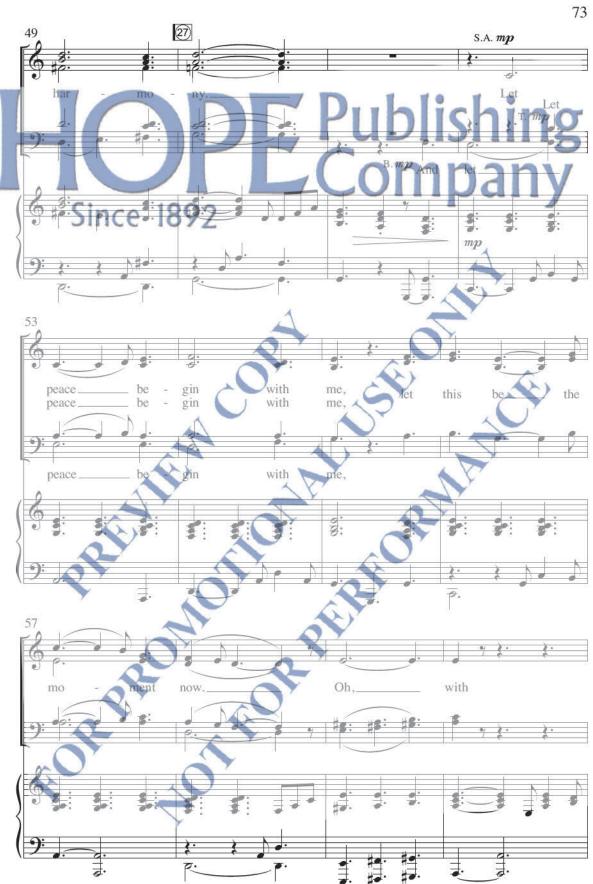
Let There Be Peace on Earth



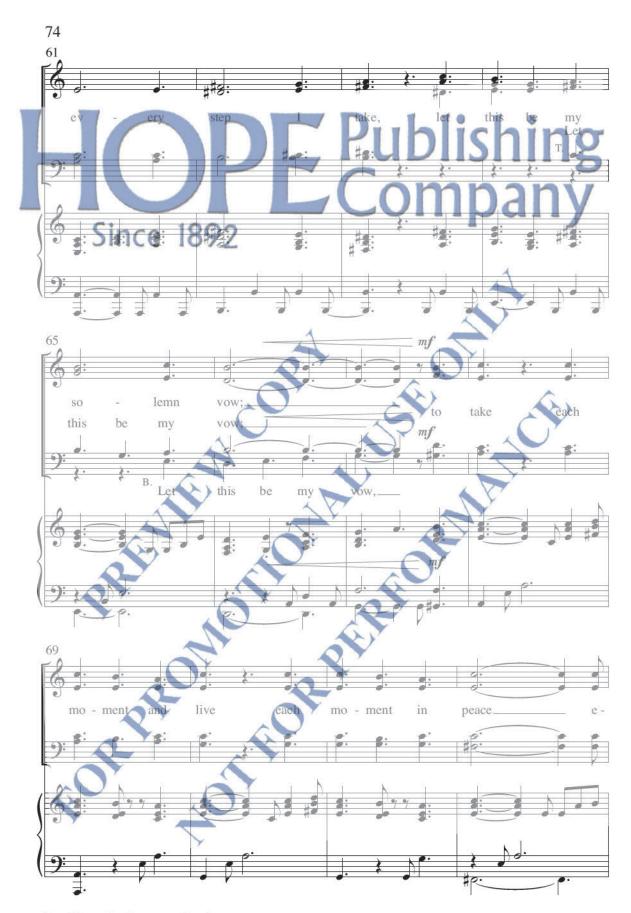
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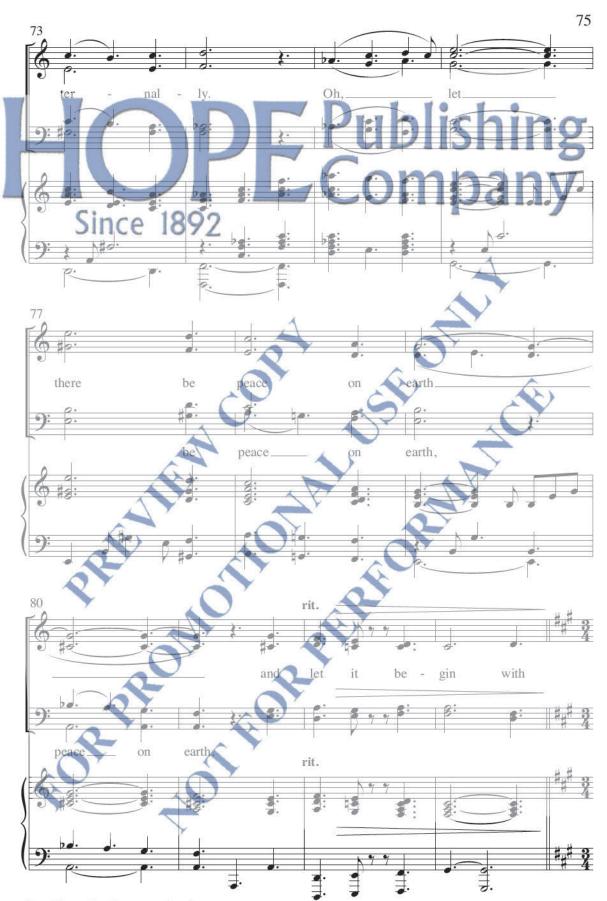
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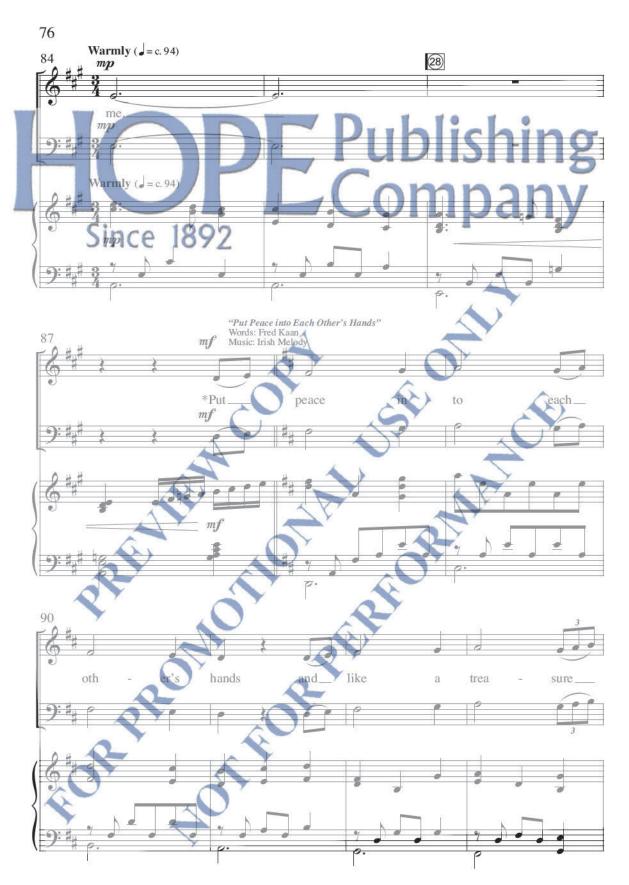
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Let There Be Peace on Earth



Let There Be Peace on Earth

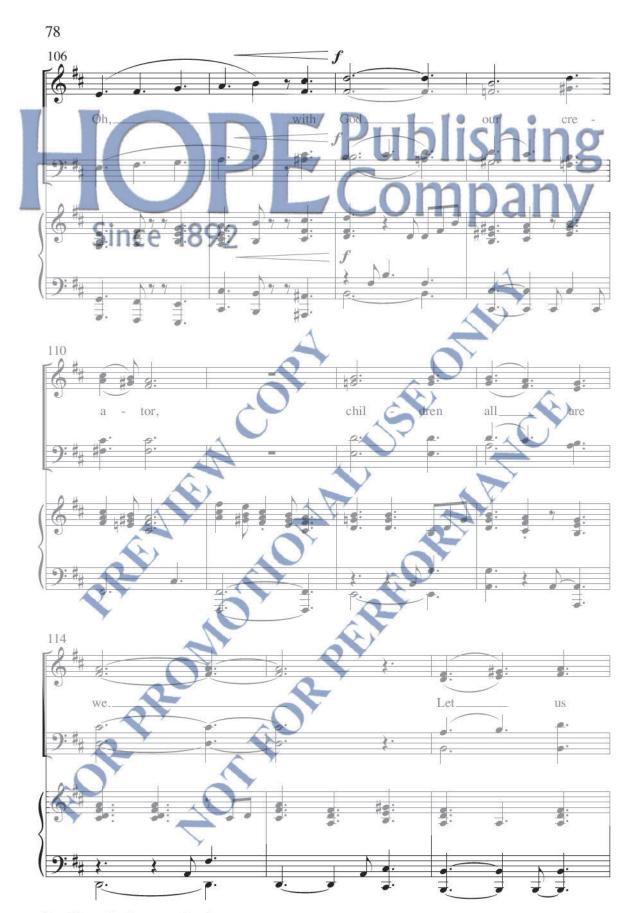


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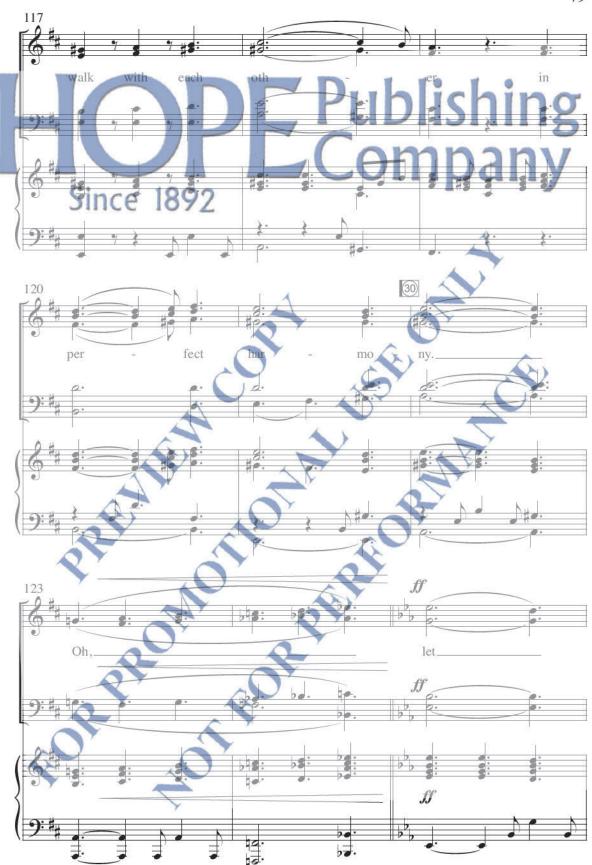


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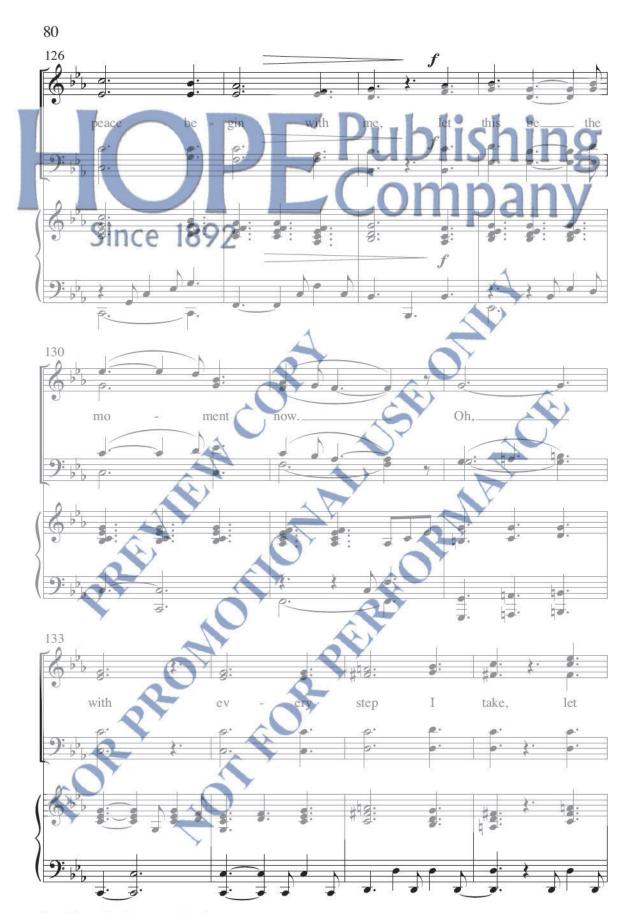


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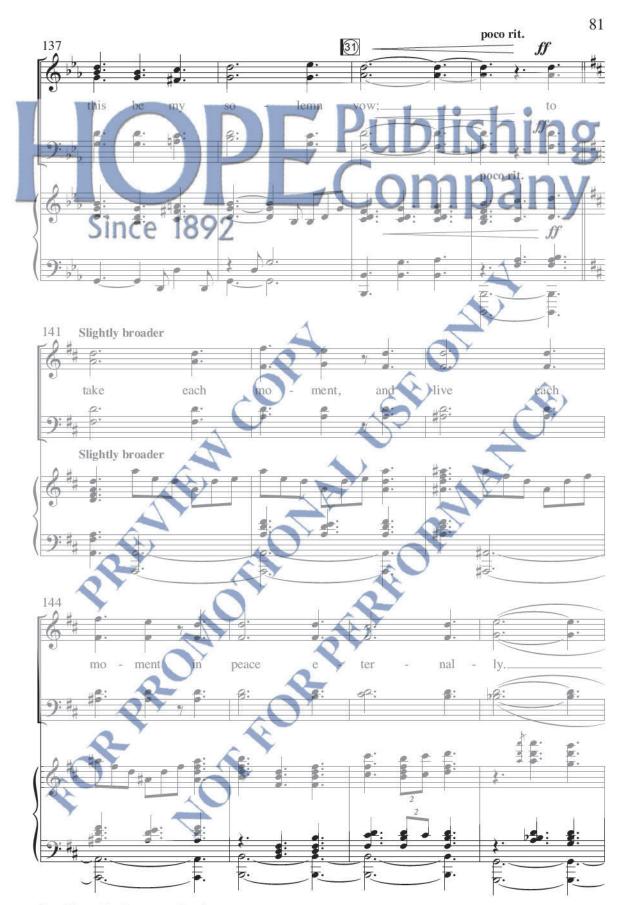




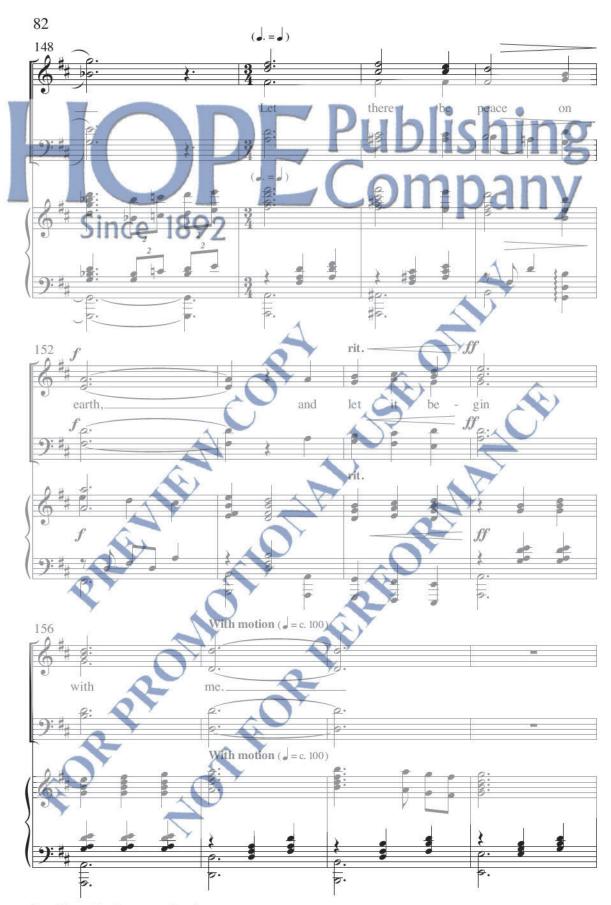
Let There Be Peace on Earth



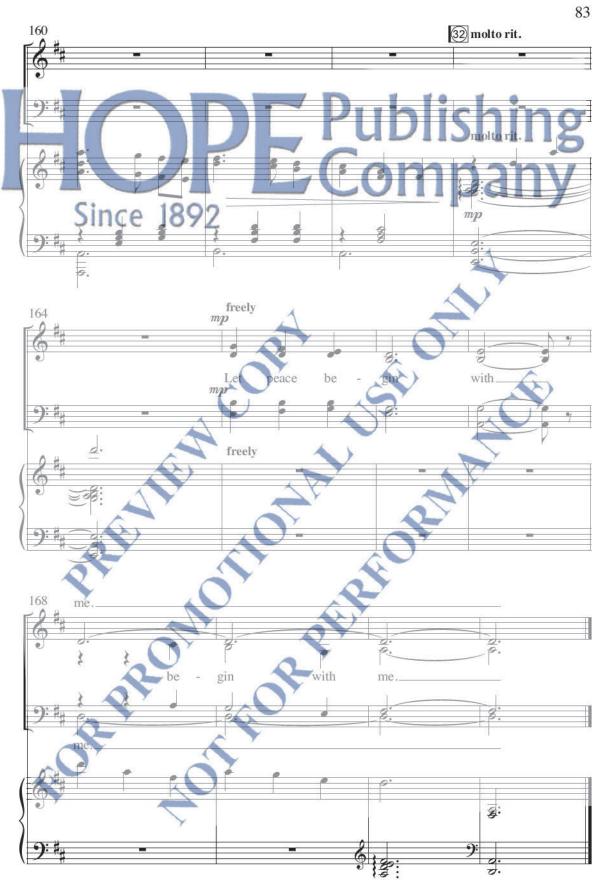
Let There Be Peace on Earth



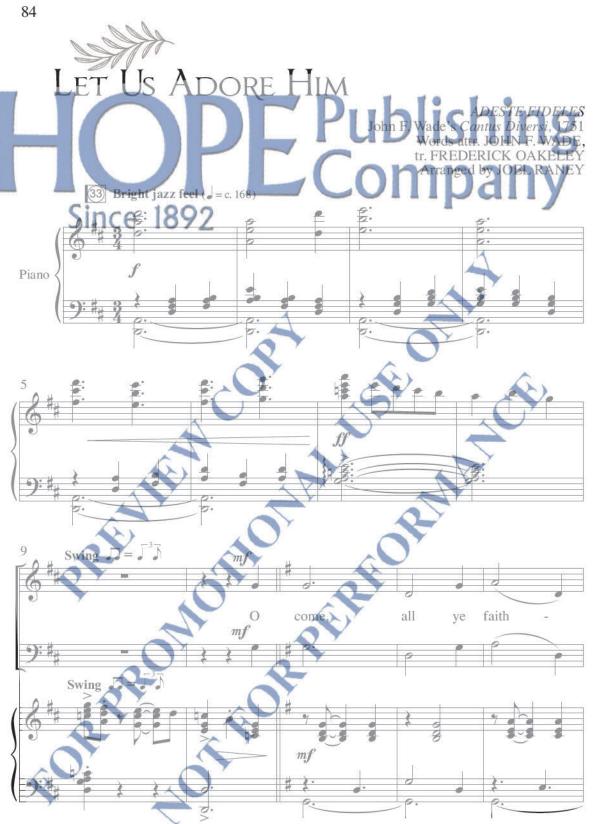
Let There Be Peace on Earth



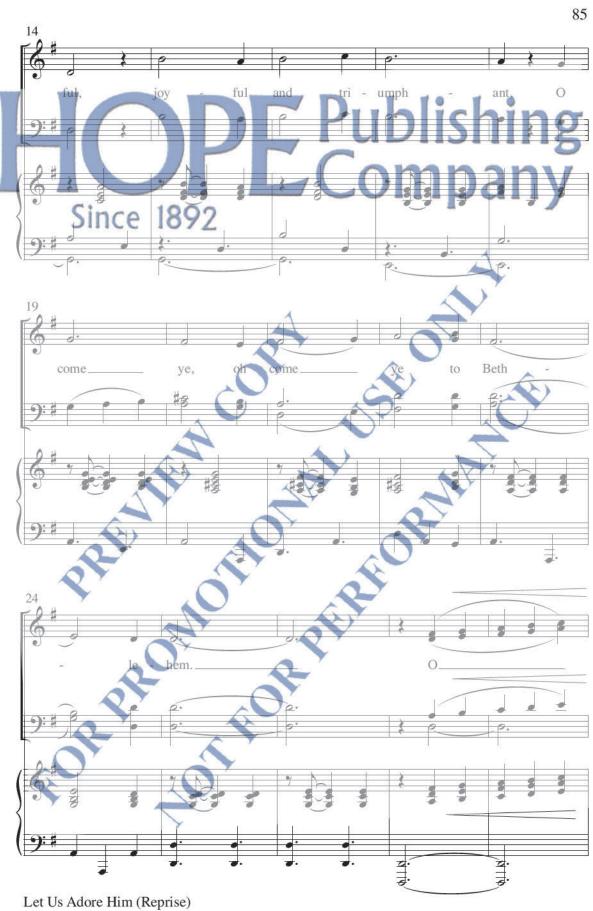
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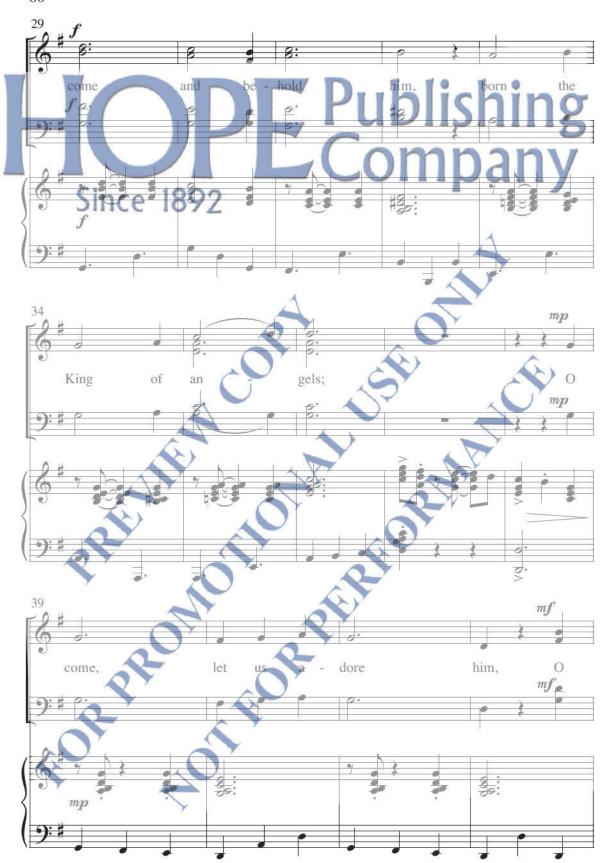


Let There Be Peace on Earth

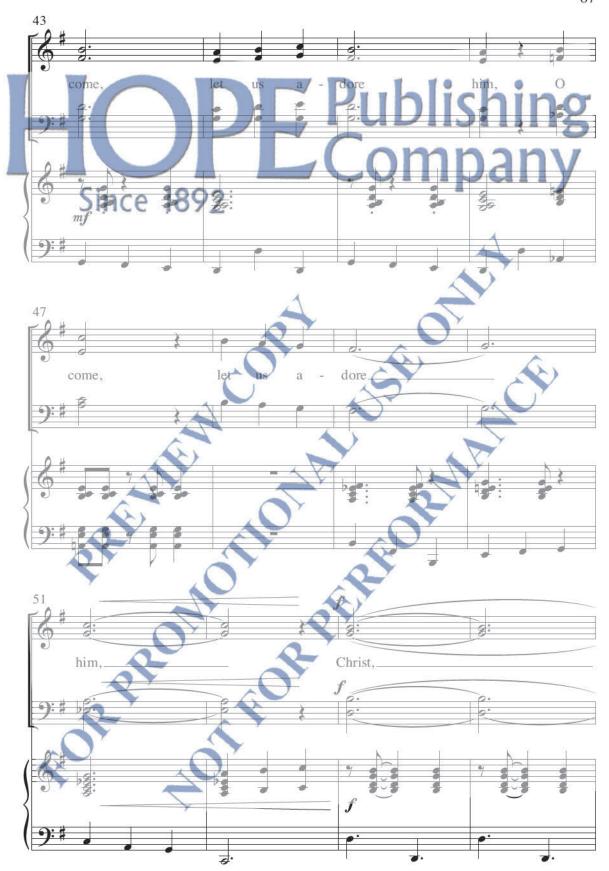


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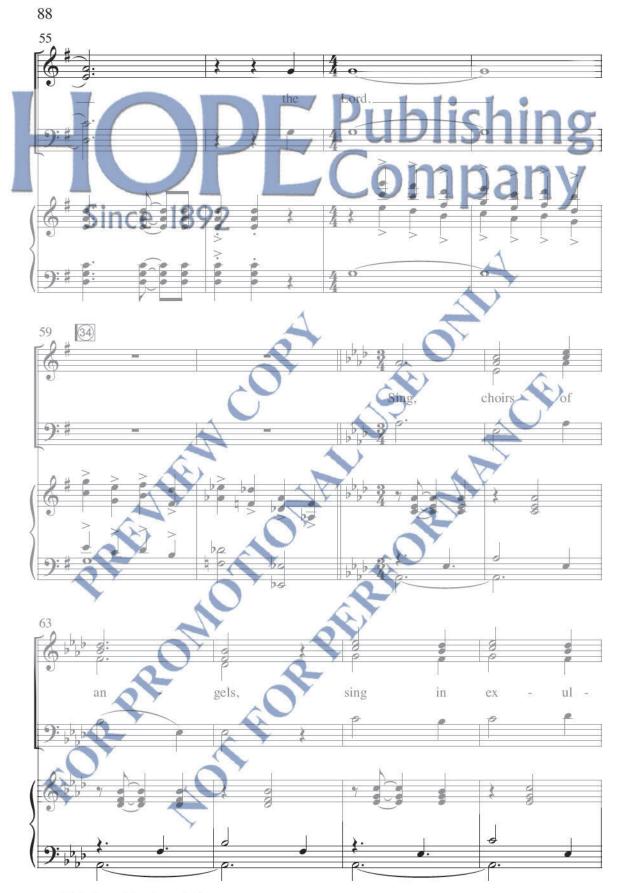




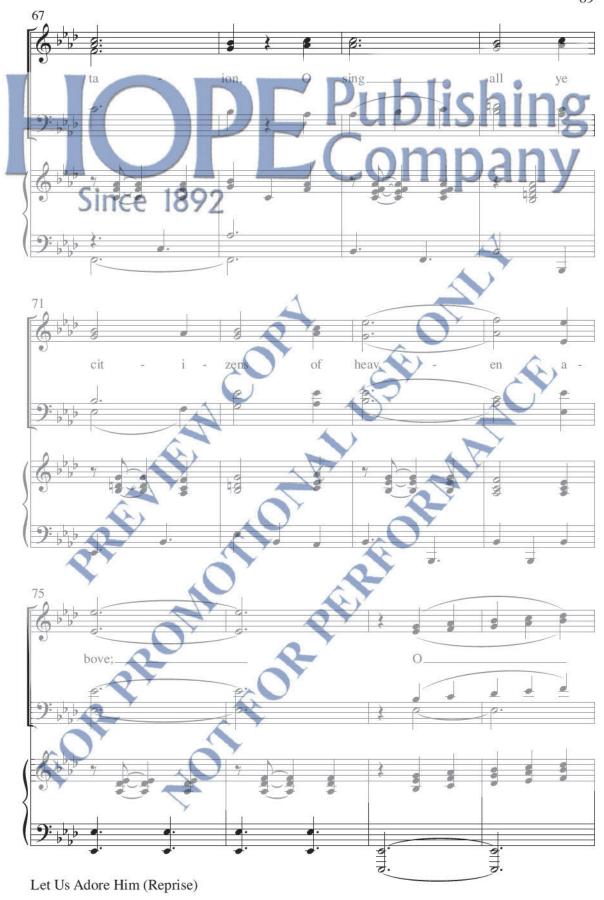
Let Us Adore Him (Reprise)

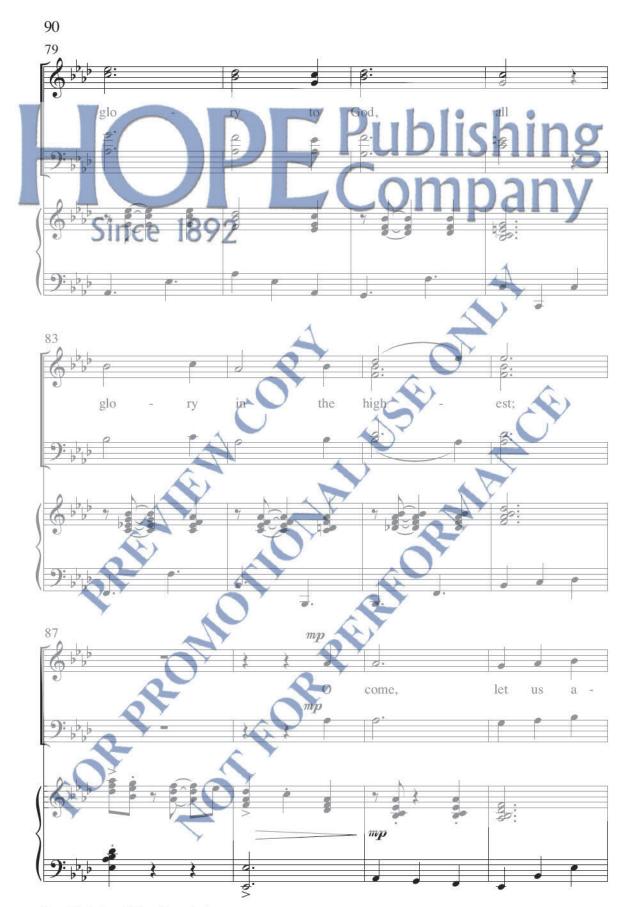


Let Us Adore Him (Reprise)

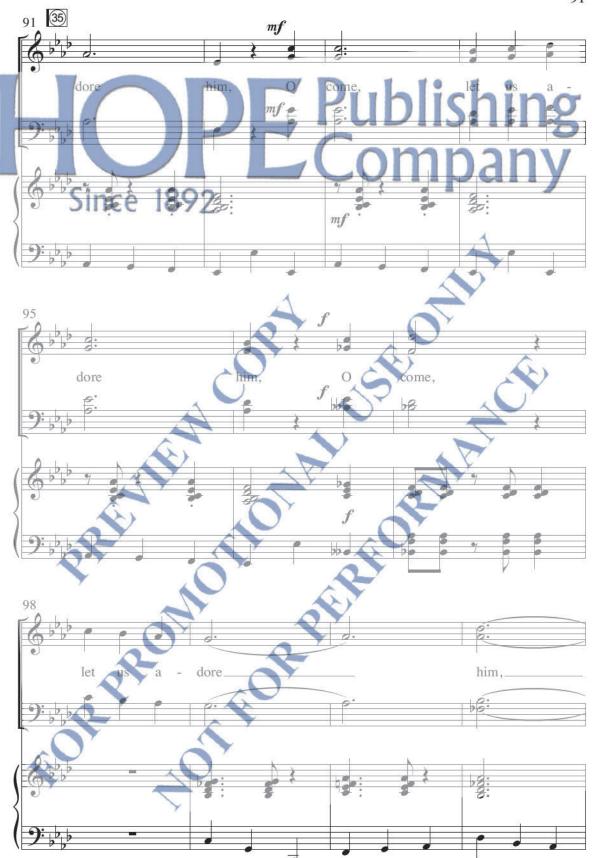


Let Us Adore Him (Reprise)

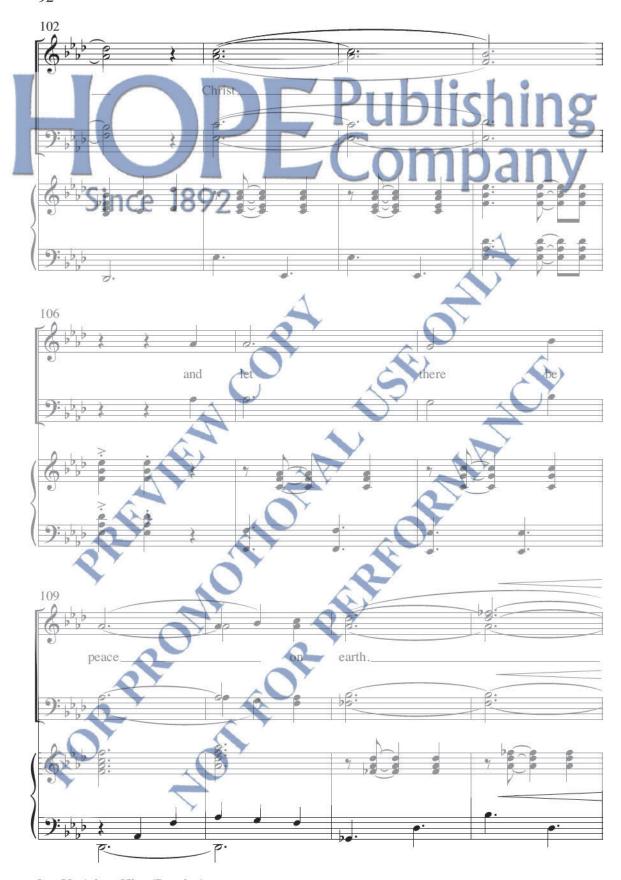




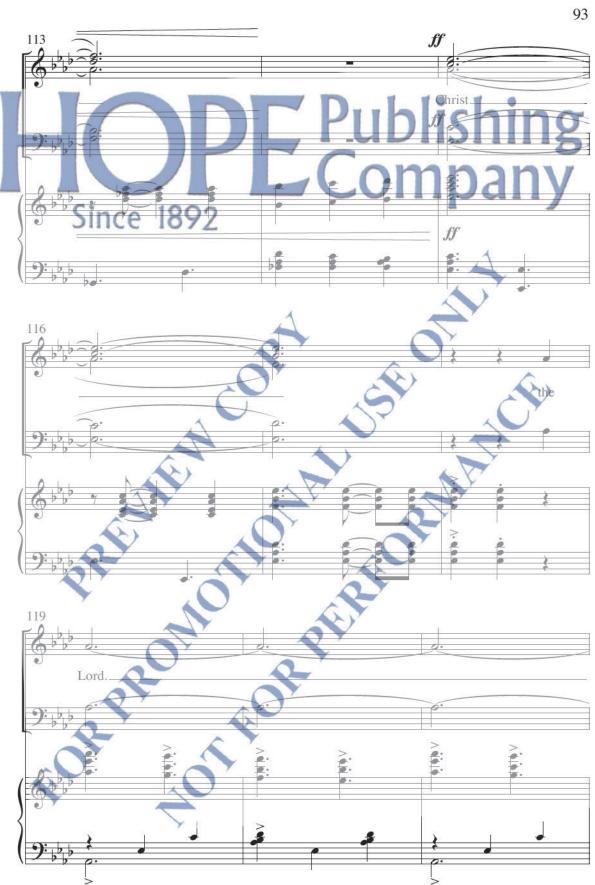
Let Us Adore Him (Reprise)



Let Us Adore Him (Reprise)



Let Us Adore Him (Reprise)



Let Us Adore Him (Reprise)



Let Us Adore Him (Reprise)

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Since 1892 A PRAYER FOR PEACE

(Narration begins on cue at m. 42)

NARRATOR: Centuries before the birth of Christ, the prophet Isaiah foretold his coming. He said "a child will be born, a son will be given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Does the world long for anything more than it longs for peace?

LET US ADORE HIM (Narration TACET)

BRING US HEAVENLY PEACE

(Narration begins with music)

NARRATOR: Of the promised Messiah, Isaiah wrote. Here is my servant, my chosen one in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching, the lands will put their hope." (Isaiah 42:1-4)

IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

(Narration begins on cue at m. 2)

NARR ATOR: In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken, and everyone went to their own town to register. So Joseph went to Bethlehem to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them at the inn. (from Luke 2)

NARRATIONS (CONT.)

(Narration begins on cue at m. 4)

NARRATOR: And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and said, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born; he is the Messiah, the Lord. Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host joined the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace and goodwill to all." (Luke 2: 8-14)

CARRY ME TO BETHLEHEM

(Narration begins with music)

NARRATOR: When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. (Luke 2: 15-16)

STILL, STILL, STILL

(Narration begins on cue at m. 3)

NARRATOR: When they had seen the child, the shepherds told Mary and Joseph what the angels had said about Jesus. Both were astonished at what the shepherds said, but Mary treasured up all these things, and pondered them in her heart. (Luke 2.17-19)

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

(Narration begins on cue at m. 6)

NARRATOR: (Begin on cue, m. 6) On that first Christmas morning, the ancient prophecy was fulfilled. For unto us, a child was born; a son was given. And we call him Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. He will not falter or be discouraged till he establishes justice on earth. In his teaching, our world puts its hope.

LET US ADORE HIM - REPRISE (Narration TACET)

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