

for Stephen Cleobury and
the choir of King's College, Cambridge

What sweeter music

*Words by
Robert Herrick
(1591-1674)

JOHN RUTTER

Andante tranquillo (♩ = 66)

SOPRANOS *p dolce e legato*

What sweet-er

ORGAN

Sw. *p legato sempre*

Man.

5

mu - sic can we bring Than a ca - rol, for to sing The birth_ of

Ped.

9

mp this our heav'n-ly King? *mf* A-wake the voice! A-wake the string! *mp* Dark and dull

TENORS & BASSES *mp unis.*

mp *mf* *mp*

*slightly abridged and altered

This carol has been recorded on Collegium COLCD 111 by The Cambridge Singers and The City of London Sinfonia, conducted by the composer.

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13

poco meno mosso

night, fly hence a - way, And give the ho - nour to this day That sees De -

T. B.

Ped.

17

pp poco rit.**a tempo** (♩ = 66)

S. A. - cem - ber turn'd to May, That sees De - cem - ber turn'd to May. Why does the

T. B. *dim.* *p* *pp* *mp cantabile*

poco rit. **a tempo** (♩ = 66)

dim. *p* *mp*

21

unis.

chill - ing win - ter's morn Smile, like a field be - set with corn? Or smell like a

Ped.

25 *mf* *f dolce* *mp*

mea-dow new-ly shorn Thus on the sud - den? Come and see The cause, why

mf *mp*

29 S. 1 *mp* *mf* S. 2

'Tis he is born, whose quick-'ning birth Gives life and

T. B. A. *mp* *mf*

things thus fra-grant be: 'Tis he is born, whose quick-'ning birth Gives life and

Fl.

Man.

33 S. *mp* S. *p molto legato*

lu - stre, pub-lic mirth, To hea-ven and the un-der- earth. We see him

A. *mp* T. B. *p molto legato*

lu - stre, pub-lic mirth, To hea-ven and the un-der- earth.

p (Organ tacet)

(Man.)

37

S. A.

come, — and know him ours, — Who, with his sun-shine and his show'rs, Turns the

T. B.

Turns all the 5

3

3

41

mp

pa - tient ground to flow'rs, turns all the pa - tient ground to flow'rs. The

mf

p

mp

mf

pp

turns all the ground to — flow'rs. The

45

S. div.

dar-ling of the world is come, And fit it is, we find a room To —

(*pp*)

dar - ling of the world is come, we — find — a

49

wel-come him, to wel-come him. The nobler part of all the house here, is the

room — to — wel-come him. *mp* *cresc.*

pp *mp* *cresc.*

Man. Ped.

53

S. A.

mp

heart, Which we will give him; and be-queath This hol - ly, and this

T. B.

mf — *mp*

p

57

S. A.

mf

i - vy wreath, And Lord of

T.

mf

i - vy wreath, To do him ho - nour; who's our King, And Lord of

B.

mf

i - vy wreath, To do him ho - nour; who's our King, And Lord of

mp

Ped.

60

S. A. *poco f* *mf* *p* *pp molto dolce*
all this re - vel - ling. What sweet - er

T. *poco f* *mf* *p* *pp molto dolce*
all — this re - vel - ling. What sweet - er

B. *poco f* *mf* *p* *pp molto dolce*
all — this re - vel - ling. — What sweet - er

(Ped.)

64

mu - sic can we bring Than — a ca - rol, for to

67

mp poco rit. *p* poco meno mosso

S. sing The birth_ of this our heav'n-ly King, the birth of

A. sing The birth of this our heav'n-ly King. (Hum)

T. sing The birth_ of this our heav'n-ly King. (Hum)

B. sing The birth of this our heav'n-ly King. (Hum)

mp *p*

poco rit. poco meno mosso

dim.

70

dim. rit. *a tempo* *pp*

this our hea - ven - ly King. —

dim. *pp*

dim. *pp*

div. *dim.* *pp*

rit. *a tempo* rit.

pp

(Ped.)