

PROMOTIONAL COPY  
for reading only

arranged by

**Mark Swinton**

*The darkest midnight in December*

Carol arranged for mixed voices and organ

PERFORMANCE NOTE

This arrangement may also be performed by unison voices with organ, if all voices sing the tenor part in verse 3 and if the organ plays the harmonies in verse 5.

Also available by Mark Swinton

GOD BE IN MY HEAD

for unaccompanied mixed voices (SATB),  
plus the original setting for unaccompanied male voices (ATBB)

KING OF GLORY, KING OF PEACE

for unaccompanied mixed voices (double choir, SSAATTBB)

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# The darkest midnight in December

Words: Irish traditional,  
after Fr. William Devereux, fl. 1728

Music: adapted from an English traditional carol,  
collected by Cecil Sharp,  
arranged by MARK SWINTON

Flowing steadily ♩ = 108

SOPRANO

Solo  
*mp*

1. The dark - est mid - night in De - cem - ber, No

5

snow nor hail nor win - ter's storm Shall hin - der us for

11

to re - mem - ber The babe that on this night was born.

(✓)

SOPRANO

Full  
*p*

17

2. Four thou - sand years from the cre - a - tion The world lay

ORGAN

*p*

Fl. 8', 4'

Man. to Ped.  
with 16' ad lib.

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(✓)

22

groan - ing un - der sin; No one could

26

ev - er ex - pect sal - va - tion: No one could ev - er

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31

en - ter heav'n.

Sw. 8' with Ob.

*mf*

Ped. 16', 8'  
Sw. to Ped.

TENOR

36 *mf*

3. A - dam's fall had damn'd us all To hell, to

BASS

3. A - dam's fall had damn'd us all To hell, to

*mf*

*f*

+ 32'

41

*mf*

end - less pains\_\_\_ for - lorn; 'Twas so de -

*mf*

end - less pains\_\_\_ for - lorn; 'Twas so de -

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45

-creed we'd ne'er\_\_\_ been freed\_\_\_ Had not\_\_\_ this heav'n - ly\_\_\_

-creed we'd ne'er\_\_\_ been freed\_\_\_ Had not\_\_\_ this heav'n - ly\_\_\_

32' off

50

babe been\_\_\_ born.

babe been\_\_\_ born.

Sw. or Ch. 8'

*p*

Man.

54 SOPRANO & TENOR (or SATB in unison) *mf*

4. We like \_\_\_\_\_ beasts \_\_\_\_\_ lay \_\_\_\_\_

Solo (Soft Reed or Sesquialtera)

Ped.

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58

in a \_\_\_\_\_ sta - ble, Sense - less, \_\_\_\_\_ blind, and dead \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_

63

sin; To help our - selves we were \_\_\_\_\_ not a - ble, But

68

he \_\_\_\_\_ brings life \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ health a - gain.

tacet

72 *p*

SOPRANO  
ALTO

5. 'Twas but pure love that from a - bove Brought

TENOR  
BASS

*p*

77 *f dolce*

him to save us from all harms: Then

*f dolce*

81 *mf*

let us sing and wel - come him, The

*mf*

85 *rit.*

God of love in Ma - ry's arms!

# Carols for mixed voices

**PETER BACKHOUSE** The Lord at first did Adam make

**ROBERT ASHFIELD** Christmas (And is it true?)

**PETER ASTON** Tidings, tidings that be true

**HARRY BRAMMA** It is high time to wake out of sleep

**JOHN BERTALOT** The annunciation

**ANDREW BRYDEN** Seek him out

**CHRISTOPHER CHIVERS** Diptych

**THOMAS CORNS** In dulci jubilo

**JEREMY DIBBLE** Dormi, Jesu!

**GRAHAM DINNAGE** Gabriel's message

**BARRY FERGUSON** Come, listen to my story

**CHRISTOPHER GOWER** Adam and his helpmate

**HARRY GRINDLE** Heaven song

**ROGER HEMINGWAY** People, look east

**EDWARD HIGGINBOTTOM** Rocking

**TIMOTHY HONE** Gabriel's message does away

**GRAYSTON IVES** Rise up, shepherd!

**CARL JACKSON** An angel came to Nazareth

**BRYAN KELLY** A cradle of carols (five original carols)

**PHILIP LEDGER** A spotless rose

**SIMON LINDLEY** Here is joy for ev'ry age

**RICHARD LLOYD** Adam our father

**ANDREW LUMSDEN** Silent night

**ANDREW MILLINGTON** A carol of hope

**PHILIP MOORE** The Lord at first did Adam make

**JOHN MOREHEN** Joys seven

**MARTIN NEARY** We three kings

**MICHAEL NICHOLAS** Today maiden Mary

**JUNE NIXON** The holly and the ivy

**TIMOTHY NOON** Wexford carol

**ANDREW PARNELL** Tomorrow shall be my dancing day

**ARNOLD PUGH** Silent night

**PHILIP RADCLIFFE** I sing of a maiden

**TIMOTHY ROGERS** A man was the first guilt

**JOHN SCOTT** A God, and yet a man?

**RICHARD SHEPARD** The shepherds heard the angels

**CHRISTOPHER STOKES** Angelus ad virginem

**STEPHEN TANNER** Ding dong! merrily on high

**ROBERT TEAR** Just hear the words (two original carols)

**JOHN TURNER** A song on the birth of Christ

**JAMES WHITBOURN** Hodie

**WILLIAM WHITEHEAD** The seven joys of Mary

## Christmas collections

**STEPHEN CLEOBURY** Sing, choirs of angels

(six hymns arranged with descants)

**RICHARD MARLOW** Peace on earth

(four hymns arranged with double descants)

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