

On Christmas Night

Anonymous Early English Carol

Arranged by
JAMES MCCRAY

SSA Voices a cappella

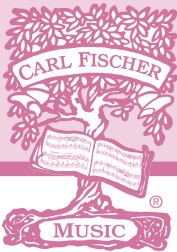
RANGES:



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Program Notes

This anonymous Christmas carol from the Renaissance is arranged for unaccompanied three-part treble choir. It should be performed with a gentle sweetness and reverence.

Within the three-verse form, the first is in unison. The melody is clearly maintained in the remaining two verses containing shifting harmonies, which employ a raised or lowered seventh degree of the scale. Strive to create linear, musical lines by singing from breath mark to breath mark and not breathing in the middle of the phrase.

About James McCray

James McCray (Ph.D) is Professor Emeritus at Colorado State University, where he taught for the last twenty-five years of his career. He was Chairman of the Music, Theatre, and Dance Department for ten of those years. Previously, he was the Chairman of the Music Department at St. Mary's College (Notre Dame, Ind.) and Longwood College in Virginia. He has published over 100 choral works with diverse publishers and is the author of two books on choral music. For over thirty-five years he has written a monthly column on choral music for the international.

On Christmas Night

for SSA Voices, *a cappella*

Anonymous Early English Carol

JAMES McCRAY

Gracefully ♩ = 60

mp

Soprano 1

On Christ-mas night all— peo-ple hear News brought by an - gels far and

Soprano 2

On Christ-mas night all— peo-ple hear News brought by an - gels far and

Alto

On Christ-mas night all— peo-ple hear News brought by an - gels far and

Keyboard
(for rehearsal only)

Gracefully ♩ = 60

mp

4

near,— News of great joy and of great mirth, News of their sweet Re-deem-er's

near,— News of great joy and of great mirth, News of their sweet Re-deem-er's

near,— News of great joy and of great mirth, News of their sweet Re-deem-er's

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Pressing forward

8

mf

birth. — Then why should men — on earth be sad — Since our Re-deem -

mf

birth. — Then why should men — on earth be sad — Since our Re-deem -

mf

birth. — Then why should men — on earth be sad — Since

Pressing forward

mf

12

- er made us glad, — And when from sin —

- er made us glad, — And when from sin —

our Re-deem - - mer made us glad, — And when from

15

— he set us free, — All for to gain, — gain our li - ber - ty? —

— he set us free, — All for to gain, — gain our li - ber - ty? —

sin — he set us free, All for to gain — our

18

— On Christ - mas night. *f* Then out of

— On Christ - mas night. *f* Then out of

li - ber - ty? On Christ - mas night. *f* Then out of

21

dark-ness we see the light, Which makes all an-gels sing this night: Glo-ry to

dark-ness we see the light, Which makes all an-gels sing this night: Glo-ry to

dark-ness we see the light, Which makes all an-gels sing this night: Glor-y to

25

God and peace to men Both now and ev-er-more. A-men. *rit.*

God and peace to men Both now and ev-er-more. A-men.

God and peace to men Both now and ev-er-more. A-men. *div.*

rit.

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