

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

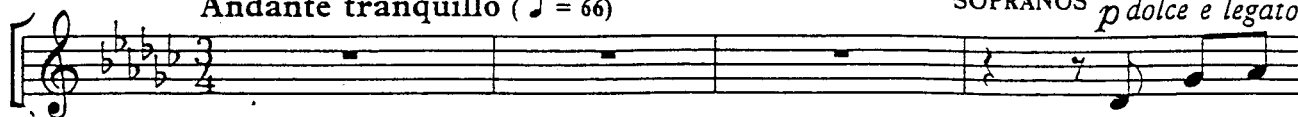
What sweeter music

*Words by
Robert Herrick
(1591-1674)

JOHN RUTTER

Andante tranquillo (♩ = 66)

SOPRANOS *p dolce e legato*



What sweet-er



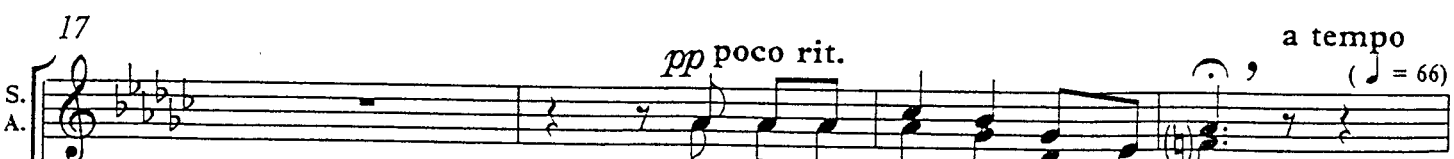
mu - sic can we bring Than a ca - rol, for to sing The birth of



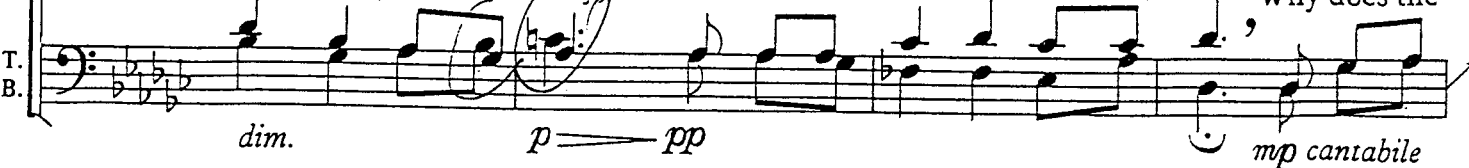
this our heav'n-ly King? A-wake the voice! A-wake the string! Dark and dull



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



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



21 unis. 3 3

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

25 mf f dolce mp

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

29 S. 1 mp mf S. 2 A. mp mf

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

33 S. mp p molto legato T. A. mp B. p molto legato

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

37 Turns all the

S. A. *mp* come, — and know him ours, — Who, with his sun-shine and his show'rs, Turns the

T. B. *mp* pa - tient ground to flow'rs, turns all the pa - tient ground to flow'rs. The

41 *mp* *mf* *p*

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

T. *pp*

mp *mp* *mf* 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 no-bler part of all the house here, is the

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

53

S. *mp*

A. *mp*

T. *mf* \rightarrow *mp*

B. *mf* \rightarrow *mp*

heart, Which we will give_ him; and be-queath_ This_ hol - ly, and this

57

S. *mf*

A. *mf*

T. *mf*

B. *mf*

i - vy wreath, And Lord of

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

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

60

S. *poco f* \rightarrow *mf* \rightarrow *p* *pp molto dolce*

A. *poco f* \rightarrow *mf* \rightarrow *p* *pp molto dolce*

T. *poco f* \rightarrow *mf* \rightarrow *p* *pp molto dolce*

B. *poco f* \rightarrow *mf* \rightarrow *p* *pp molto dolce*

all this re - vel - ling. What sweet - er

all_ this re - vel - ling. What sweet - er

all_ this re - vel - ling._ What sweet - er

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)

70

dim. rit. a tempo pp

this our hea - ven - ly King.

dim. pp

dim. pp

div. dim. pp

= la