

Commissioned for Christmastide by Geneva Presbyterian Church - Laguna Woods, California,
celebrating 50 years of ministry and forward serving others by remembering, telling, and living the way of Jesus

THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied

Words by
CHRIS ANDERSON

Music by
RICHARD A. NICHOLS

ACCOMP. Gently ($\text{♩} = 80$)

The score is written for piano accompaniment and vocal parts (Soprano and Alto). The piano part begins with a tempo marking of 'Gently' and a metronome indication of 80 beats per minute. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The piano part features a series of chords and melodic lines, with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano). The vocal parts enter at measure 4, with the Soprano part marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). The lyrics are: 'The voice of God that called forth light now cries in-to the star-ry night. The One who shout-ed, "Let there be!" now coos and whim-pers'.

4 S.A. *mp* 5 6 7

The voice of God that called forth light now cries in-to the

8 9 10 11

star-ry night. The One who shout-ed, "Let there be!" now coos and whim-pers

A hymn version of this piece for congregational participation is available as a free download at www.FredBock.com/Freedownloads

BG2639

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12 13 14 15

help - less - ly. For God has tak - en hu - man flesh to rid this bro - ken

T.B. *mp*

16 17 18 19

world of death. Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is born to rid this bro - ken

mf

20 21 22

world of death.

dim.

23 24 25 26 *mp*

Now

mp

The hands of God that fash-ioned man,

p

27 28 29 30 *mp*

wrap a-round His moth-er's hand. Now

mp

Oo The One who flung the stars in space,

31 32 33 34 *gradual cresc.*

stretch-es for His moth-er's face. God has come to Beth-le-hem to

mp *gradual cresc.*

Oo For God has come to Beth-le-hem to

35 36 37 *mf* 38

save our bro - ken souls from sin. Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is born to

save our bro - ken souls from sin. *mf*

39 40 41 *mp* Al - le - lu -

save our bro - ken souls from sin. *p*

mp *p*

42 43 44 *cresc.* Al - le - lu -

Al - le - lu - ia! *mp* *cresc.* Al - le - lu -

Al - le - lu - ia! *cresc.* Al - le - lu -

simile

45 *mf* Al - le - lu - ia! 46 *mf* Al - le - lu - ia! 47 Al - le - lu -

ia! *mf* Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

48 *f* lu - - - ia! 49 50

lu, Al - le - lu - ia!

51 52 53 *unis. p* 54

The ver - y God who

pp Oo

pp

55 56 57 58

nev - er sleeps now slum - bers with the cows and sheep. The One whom heav - en

Oo

Oo

59 60 61 *mp*

can - not hold now snug - gles warm in swad - dled clothes. For

Oo

mp For

62 63 64

God Him - self is born on earth to bring our bro - ken

65 hearts re - birth. 66 *f* Al - le - lu - ia! 67 Christ is born to

68 bring our bro - ken hearts 69 *decresc.* re - - - birth. 70 Al - le - 71 *mp*

72 *rit.* Al - le 73 lu - ia! 74 Al - le - lu - ia! 75 *pp*

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