

The First Nowell

for SATB chorus with piano accompaniment
An original carol by Peter Bloesch

Duration: ca. 4:40

Words: English traditional

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Smoothly, and with great expression (♩ = ca. 72)

The musical score is presented in three systems. Each system consists of a vocal line (S./A.) and a piano accompaniment (PIANO/PNO.). The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as 'Smoothly, and with great expression' with a quarter note equal to approximately 72 beats per minute. The first system (measures 1-4) features a piano introduction with dynamics *f ma dolce* and *mf*. The second system (measures 5-8) includes the vocal entry for Soprano and Alto with the lyrics 'The first No-' and piano accompaniment with dynamics *f*, *mf*, and *mp*. The third system (measures 9-12) continues the vocal line with lyrics 'well the an-gel did say, Was to cer-tain poor shep-herds in fields as they lay; In' and piano accompaniment with dynamics *mp*. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

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13

S./A. fields where they lay keep-ing their sheep, On a cold win-ter's night that

PNO.

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

16

S. was so deep. No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well, *mf ma dolce*

A. was so deep. No - well, No - well, No - well, *mf ma dolce*

PNO. *mf ma dolce*

Ped. Ped.

19

S. *mp* Born is the King of Is - ra - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

A. *mp* Born is the King of Is - ra - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

PNO. *mp* *mf*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

23

T./B. Ten. & Bass *mp*
They look'd__

PNO. *mp*

Red. Red. Red. Red. Red.

26

T./B. up__ and saw__ a star, Shin-ing in__ the east, be - yond them far; And

PNO. *p* *mp*

Red. Red. Red. Red. Red.

30

T. to the earth it gave__ great light, And__ so it con - tin - ued both

B. to the earth it gave__ great light, And so it con - tin - ued both

PNO. *mp*

Red. Red. Red. Red. Red.

33 *mf ma dolce*

T. day and night. No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

B. day and night. No - well, No - well, No - well,

PNO. *mf ma dolce*

36 *mp* *mf*

T. Born is the King of Is - ra - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

B. Born is the King of Is - ra - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

PNO. *mp* *mf*

PNO. *mp*

43 *mf* *mp* *p*

PNO. *mf* *mp* *p*

46 *mp*

S. And by the light_____ of that_ same star, Three wise_ men came from_

A. *mp*
And by the light_ of that same star, Three men_____ came from

T. *mp*
And by the light_____ of that same star, Three men_____ came from

B. *mp*
And by the light_____ of that same star, Three men came from

46 For rehearsal only

PNO. *pp* *mp*

50

S. coun - try_ far; To seek for a king was their_ in- tent, And to fol - low the star wher -

A. coun - try far; To seek for a king_ was their_ in- tent, And to fol - low the star wher -

T. coun - try far; To seek for a king was their in- tent, And to fol - low the star wher -

B. coun - try far; To seek for a king was their in- tent, And to fol - low the star wher -

50

PNO.

54 *mf ma dolce*

S. -ev - er it went. No - well,, No - well, No - well, No - well! Born is the King of

A. -ev - er it went. No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well! Born is the King of

T. -ev - er it went. No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well! Born the King of

B. -ev - er it went. No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well! Born the King of

PNO.

58 *mp* *mf*

S. Is - ra - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

A. Is - ra - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

T. Is - ra - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

B. Is - ra - el! Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

PNO. *pp* *p* *mp*

61

PNO. *mf* *mp*

A tempo

SOP. (loco) & TEN. (8vb) on descant (Some of the tenors may sing with the basses instead, if desired -- up until the pickup to measure 73.)

mf cantabile (dynamically under the melody in the Alto & Bass parts)

64 Slight rit.

S. & T. Then let us all _____ with one ac-cord Sing

ALTO (loco) & BASS (8vb) *f cantabile*

A. & B. Then let us all _____ with one ac-cord Sing

64 Slight rit. **A tempo**

PNO. *mf*

67

S. & T. praise to God, _____ That hath made heav'n and

A. & B. prais - es to our heav'n - ly Lord, That hath made heav'n and

67

PNO.