

# The Christmas Story

SATB A Cappella

Luke 2: 1-20

THEODORE BECK

Moderately

SOPRANO  
The birth of our Lord and Sav - ior

ALTO  
The birth of our Lord and Sav - ior

TENOR  
The birth of our Lord and Sav - ior

BASS  
The birth of our Lord and Sav - ior

Moderately

*For  
rehearsal  
only*

Je - sus Christ; as it is re - cord - ed by

Je - sus Christ; as it is re - cord - ed by

Je - sus, Je - sus Christ; As it is re - cord - ed by

Je - sus Christ; As it is re - cord - ed by

Luke, the E - van - gel - ist.  
 Luke, the E - van - gel - ist.  
 Luke, the E - van - gel - ist.  
 Luke, the E - van - gel - ist.

Fluently

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a de -

cree from Cae-sar Au - gus - tus that all the world should be

taxed, And this tax - ing was first made when Cy-ren-i - us was

gov - er - nor of Syr - i - a. And all went to be taxed, ev - 'ry

one in - to his own cit - y. And Jos - eph al - so went up from

Gal - i - lee, out of the cit - y of Naz - a - reth, in -

to Ju - de - a, un - to the cit - y of Dav - id, which is call - ed

Beth - le - hem; be - cause he was of the house and

lin - e - age of Dav - id: To be taxed with

*slower*

Mar - y, his es - pous - ed wife, be - ing great with child. And so it

*still slower* *a tempo*

was, that, while they were there, the days were ac - comp - lish - ed that

she should be de - liv - er'd. And she brought forth her first-born son, and

*slower and softer*

wrapped him in swad - dling clothes, and laid him in a man - ger be -

*still slower*

cause there was no room for them in the inn. — And there were in the same

count-ry shep-herds a - bid-ing in the fields, keep-ing watch o - ver their

flock\_ by night. — And, lo, the\_ an - gel of the Lord came up - on them,

and the glo - ry of the Lord shone round a - bout\_

them: and they were sore a - fraid. And the an - gel said to them:

A bit faster

*mf* Fear not, fear not, for be - hold, \_\_\_\_\_

*mf* Fear not, fear not, fear not, for be -

*mf* Fear

A bit faster

\_\_\_\_\_ I bring you glad ti - dings of great joy, glad ti -

hold I bring you ti - dings, glad ti - - dings

not, fear not, for be - hold, I bring you glad ti - dings

dings, ti - dings of great joy,  
 glad ti - dings, ti - dings of joy, for I  
 of great joy, glad ti - dings of great joy, to

The first system consists of four staves. The top three staves are for vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass), and the bottom staff is for piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and a more active treble line.

glad ti - dings of great joy, glad ti - dings of great  
 bring you ti - dings of great joy, for be - hold, I bring you ti - dings un -  
 all peo - ple, I bring you

The second system continues the vocal and piano parts. It consists of four staves, with the top three for vocal parts and the bottom for piano accompaniment. The musical notation and lyrics continue from the first system, maintaining the same key signature and time signature.

joy un - to all peo - ple.  
to all peo - ple.  
ti - dings of great joy, great joy.

For  
Bass recit.

Detailed description: This block contains a musical score for three voices and piano accompaniment. The top three staves are vocal parts in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The lyrics are: 'joy un - to all peo - ple. to all peo - ple. ti - dings of great joy, great joy.' Below the piano part, there is a section labeled 'For Bass recit.' with a treble clef staff containing a recitative line.

— unto you is born this day in the ci - ty of Da - vid

recitativo

Detailed description: This block shows a recitativo section. It consists of a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: '— unto you is born this day in the ci - ty of Da - vid'. Below the staff, the word 'recitativo' is written.

*slower*  
a Sav - ior, a Sav - ior, which is Christ the Lord.

Detailed description: This block shows a section marked 'slower'. It consists of a single treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: 'a Sav - ior, a Sav - ior, which is Christ the Lord.' The music features a prominent bass line with a circled eighth-note pattern.



And this shall be a sign un - to you:

Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swad-dling clothes, ly-ing in a man-ger.

*faster and a bit louder*

And sud-den-ly there was with the an - gel a

mul - ti-tude, mul-ti-tude of the  
mul - ti-tude, mul-ti-tude } of the heav'n-ly host, prais-ing God and say-ing:  
mul - ti-tude, of the

*f* Glo - ry to God,  
 Glo - ry to, glo - ry to God,  
*f* Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to  
*f* Glo - ry to God,

glo - ry, glo - ry to God,  
 glo - ry, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to  
 God, glo - ry to God,  
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to

glo - ry to God, glo - ry to  
 God, glo - ry to, glo - ry to God,  
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to  
 God, to God, glo - ry to God, to

The first system consists of four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in a soprano, alto, tenor, and bass range. The piano accompaniment is in the right and left hands. The music is in a key with one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, to God, to God, glo - ry to God, to".

God, glo - ry to God in the high - est,  
 glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to  
 God, in the high - est, glo - ry to God,  
 God, glo - ry to God in the high - -

The second system continues the vocal and piano parts. The lyrics are: "God, glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to God, in the high - est, glo - ry to God, God, glo - ry to God in the high - -".

glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to  
 God, glo - ry to God in the high - est, glo - ry to  
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est,  
 est, in the high - est, in the high -

*accented* *getting louder*  
 God, glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry to God in the  
*accented* *getting louder*  
 God, glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry to God in the high - est,  
*accented* *getting louder*  
 8 God, glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry to God in the  
*accented* *getting louder*  
 est, glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry to God in the  
*getting louder*  
*accented*

high - est, high - est, high - est, glo - ry to God in the  
 high - est, high - est, high - est, glo - ry to God in the high - est,  
 8 high - est, high - est, high - est, glo - ry to God in the  
 high - est, high - est, high - est, glo - ry to God in the

*soft and smooth*  
 high - est, high - est, high - est, in the high - est; and on  
*soft and smooth*  
 high - est, high - est, high - est, in the high - est; and on  
*soft and smooth*  
 8 high - est, high - est, high - est, in the high - est; and on  
*soft and smooth*  
 high - est, high - est, high - est, in the high - est; and on

earth — peace, — good will toward men, — good will toward

earth peace, good will toward men, peace, — good will toward

8 earth— peace, good will — toward — men, peace, good will

earth— peace, good will toward men, peace, good will toward

*gradually diminishing*

men, — good will, — good will — toward men. —

*gradually diminishing*

men, toward men. —

*gradually diminishing*

toward — men, — good will, — good will — toward men. —

*gradually diminishing*

men, good will toward men, — good will, — good will — toward men. —

*gradually diminishing*

And it came to pass as the an - gels were

gone a - way from them in - to heav'n, the shep-herds said one to an - oth-er:

Gaily, accented

Let us now go ev-en un-to Beth - le - hem, let us

Let us now go

now go ev - en un - to Beth - le - hem,  
 ev - en un - to Beth - le - hem, let us now go  
 Let us now go ev - en un - to

The first system consists of four staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The second staff is another vocal line with lyrics. The third staff is a piano accompaniment line with lyrics. The bottom staff is a bass line. The piano accompaniment is in 8/8 time, indicated by the '8' in a circle.

let us now go ev - en un - to Beth - le -  
 ev - en un - to Beth - le - hem, let us go  
 Beth - le - hem,  
 Let us now go ev - en un - to

The second system consists of four staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The second staff is another vocal line with lyrics. The third staff is a piano accompaniment line with lyrics. The bottom staff is a bass line. The piano accompaniment is in 8/8 time, indicated by the '8' in a circle.



hem, let us now go ev - en  
 un - to Beth - le - hem, let us go ev - en  
 let us go, let us now go ev - en  
 Beth - le - hem, let us now go ev - en

*Fine* 1.  
 un - to Beth - le - hem. and see \_\_\_\_\_ this thing which is  
*Fine*  
 un - to Beth - le - hem. and see \_\_\_\_\_ this thing which is  
*Fine*  
 un - to Beth - le - hem. and see \_\_\_\_\_ this thing which is  
*Fine*  
 un - to Beth - le - hem. and see \_\_\_\_\_ this thing which is \_\_\_\_\_

*Fine* 1.  
 un - to Beth - le - hem. and see \_\_\_\_\_ this thing which is

come to pass; see this thing which the Lord hath made known to us. *D.C. al Fine*

come to pass; see this thing which the Lord hath made known to us. *D.C. al Fine*

8 come to pass; see this thing which the Lord hath made known to us. *D.C. al Fine*

come to pass; see this thing which the Lord hath made known to us.

2. *D.C. al Fine*

*4/8 a tempo*

And they came with haste and found Mar-y and Jo-seph and the

*6/8* *9/8* *getting softer and slower* *a tempo* *6/8*

babe ly-ing in a man-ger. And when they had

*6/8*

seen it, they made known a-broad the say-ing which was

told them concern-ing this child; and all they that heard it

6/8 4/8 6/8 6/8

won-der'd at these things which were told them by the shep - herds. But Mar-y

6/8 7/8 6/8 4/8 Slower 6/8

kept all these things and pon-dered them in her heart. And the shep-herds re-

6/8 Still slower 6/8 Faster 6/8

turned, glo - ri - fy - ing and prais - ing God for all the

6/8 7/8 6/8 6/8

things that they had heard and seen, as it was told un - to them.

6/8 7/8 4/8

Accented

Now sing we, now re - joice, \_\_\_\_\_

Now sing we, now re - joice, \_\_\_\_\_

Now sing we, now re - joice, \_\_\_\_\_

Now sing we, now re -

Accented

Now raise to heav'n our voice; \_\_\_\_\_ He from whom

Now raise to heav'n our voice; \_\_\_\_\_ He

Now raise to heav'n our voice; \_\_\_\_\_

joice, \_\_\_\_\_ Now raise to heav'n our voice; \_\_\_\_\_

joy e'er stream - eth Poor in a man - ger  
 from whom joy stream - eth Poor in a man -  
 He from whom joy e'er stream - eth Poor in a  
 now sing we, now re - joice, —

lies; — Now not so bright - ly beam -  
 ger lies; — Not so bright - ly beam -  
 man - ger lies; — Now not so bright - ly  
 now raise to heav'n our voice, —

eth The sun in yon - der skies. \_\_\_\_\_ Thou my  
 - eth The sun in yon - der skies. \_\_\_\_\_ Thou  
 8 beam - eth The sun in yon - der skies. \_\_\_\_\_  
 now sing we, now re - joice, \_\_\_\_\_ now raise to heav'n our voice, \_\_\_\_\_

Sav - ior art! \_\_\_\_\_ Thou my Sav - ior art! \_\_\_\_\_  
 my Sav - ior art! \_\_\_\_\_ Thou my Sav - ior art! \_\_\_\_\_  
 Thou my Sav - ior art! \_\_\_\_\_ Thou my Sav - ior art! \_\_\_\_\_  
 now sing we, now re - joice, re-joyce. \_\_\_\_\_