

The First Noel

SAB

Traditional 17th Century English Carol

Arranged by Betsy Lee Bailey

Moderato (♩ = c. 96)

The musical score is arranged in three systems. The first system includes vocal staves for Soprano (SA) and Tenor (TB), and a piano accompaniment. The SA and TB parts begin with rests for the first three measures, then enter with the lyrics "The first No el the". The piano accompaniment starts in the first measure with a *legato* marking and a *mp* dynamic. The second system continues the vocal parts with the lyrics "an - gel did say was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields where they lay. In". The piano accompaniment continues with a similar *mp* dynamic. The third system shows the continuation of the piano accompaniment. The score is in 3/4 time and features a variety of musical notations including rests, notes, and slurs.

13

fields — where they lay keep-ing their sheep on a cold win-ter's night — that

13

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef, starting at measure 13. The lyrics are: "fields — where they lay keep-ing their sheep on a cold win-ter's night — that". The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef, also starting at measure 13. The music is in a simple, homophonic style.

13

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for the first system, continuing from measure 13. It features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

19

was — so deep. No - el, — No - el, No - el, No - el. —

mf

19

Detailed description: This system contains the second two staves of music, starting at measure 19. The vocal line (top staff) has the lyrics: "was — so deep. No - el, — No - el, No - el, No - el. —". The piano accompaniment (bottom staff) continues. A dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) is placed above the piano staff, with a hairpin crescendo leading to it.

19

mf

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for the second system, continuing from measure 19. It features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. A dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) is placed above the piano staff, with a hairpin crescendo leading to it.

25 *rit.* *mp* *a tempo*

Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

*div. If there are no basses, men should follow Tenor line.

25 *rit.* *mp* *a tempo*

31 *mp* *Women unison*

2.They look - ed up and saw a star shin-ing

31 *mp* *Men unison*

2.They look - ed up and saw a

31 *mp*

37

in the east be - yond them far. And to the earth it

37

star shin-ing in the east be - yond them far. And to the

37

43

gave great light, And so it con - tin - ued both day and night. No -

43

earth it gave great light, And so it con - tin - ued both day and

43

49 *div.* *f*

el, No - el, No - el, No - el. Born is the King of
night. No - el, No - el, No - el. Born is the King of

49 *f*

49 *f*

55 *rall.* *mf* *p*

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

55 **div.*

55 *rall.* *mf* *p*

**div. If there are no basses, men should follow Tenor line.*