

Before the Paling of the Stars

Christina G. Rossetti (1830-1894)

Time: 3:00

Ronald A. Nelson

With a feeling of mystery, $\text{♩} = 76$

Violin *mp*

Soprano *mp* Be-fore the

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano (for rehearsal) *mp*

Vn. *mf*

S pa - ling of the stars,

A *mp* Be-fore the win - ter morn.

T *mp* Be-fore the ear-liest cock - crow

B

Pno.

Before the Paling of the Stars

21

Vn. *mp*

S 11 Je - sus Christ was born; *p* Born in a sta - ble,

A *p* Born in a sta - ble,

T 8 Je - sus Christ was born. *p* Born in a sta - ble,

B *p* Born in a sta - ble,

Pno. 11

17

Vn. *mp*

S 17 Cra - dled in a man - ger, In the world His hands had made.

A Cra - dled in a man - ger, In the world His hands had made, Born a stran - ger.

T Cra - dled in man - ger. Born a stran - ger.

B Cra - dled in man - ger. Born a stran - - - ger.

Pno. 17 *mp*

23

Vn. *mf*

S *mf* Priest and king lay fast a-sleep In Je - ru - sa - lem,

A *mf* Priest and king lay fast a-sleep In Je - ru - sa - lem,

T *mf* Priest and king lay in Je - ru - sa - lem,

B *mf* Priest and king lay in Je - ru - sa - lem,

Pno. *mf*

29

Vn. *pp* *p* *mp*

S *pp* *mp* Young and old lay fast a-sleep In crowd - ed Beth - le - hem. Saint and An - gel,

A *pp* *mp* Young and old lay fast a-sleep In crowd - ed Beth - le - hem. Saint and An - gel,

T *pp* *mp* in crowd - ed Beth - le - hem. Saint and An - gel,

B *pp* *mp* in crowd - ed Beth - le - hem. Saint and

Pno. *pp* *mp*

Vn. *34*

S *34*
ox and ass, Kept a watch to - geth - er, a watch.

A
ox and ass, Kept a watch to - geth - er, a watch.

T
ox and ass Kept watch, they kept watch. In the win - ter wea - ther.

B
An - gel Be - fore the Christ - mas day-break In the win - ter wea - ther.

Pno. *34*

Vn. *41*
mf *mp* *p* *mp*

S *41*
p Born in a sta - ble, Cra - dled in a

A
p Born in a sta - ble, Cra - dled in a

T
p Born in a sta - ble, Cra - dled in

B
p Born in a sta - ble, Cra - dled in

Pno. *41*
mf *mp* *p*

47

Vn.

S

man - ger, In the world His hands had made.

A

man - ger, In the world His hands had made, Born a stran - ger.

T

man - - - ger. Born a stran - ger.

B

man - - - ger. Born a stran - - - ger.

Pno.

52

Vn.

rit. *a tempo*

S

mp Je - sus on His moth - er's breast In the sta - ble

A

mp Je - sus on His moth - er's breast In the sta - ble

T

mp Je - sus on His moth - er's breast In the sta - ble

B

mp Je - sus in the sta - - - ble cold,

Pno.

rit. *a tempo*

59

Vn. *mf*

S *fp*
cold, Spot-less Lamb of God was He, Shep-herd of the fold; Let us kneel with

A *fp*
cold, Spot-less Lamb, Shep-herd of the fold; Let us kneel with

T *fp*
cold, Lamb and Shep-herd of the fold; Let us kneel with

B *fp*
Lamb of God; Let us kneel with

Pno.

65

Vn. *mf*
(balance voices)

S *mf*
Ma-ry maid, With Jo-seph bent and hoa-ry, *mf* With Saint and An-gel,

A *mf*
Ma-ry maid, With Jo-seph bent and hoa-ry, *mf* With Saint and An-gel,

T *mf*
Ma-ry maid, With Jo-seph bent and hoa-ry, *mf* With Saint and An-gel,

B *mf*
Ma-ry, Jo-seph hoa-ry, *mf* With Saint and An-gel,

Pno. *mf*

70 *cresc.*

Vn. *f*

S ox and ass, To hail the King, to hail the King of

A ox and ass, To hail the King, to hail the King of

T ox and ass, To hail, to hail the King of

B ox and ass, To hail, to hail the King,

Pno. *cresc.* *f*

73 (at the tip) (full bows)

Vn. *ff*

S *f* Glo - - - - - ry.

A *f* Glo - - - - - ry.

T *f* Glo - ry, the King of Glo - - - - - ry.

B *f* the King of Glo - - - - - ry.

Pno.