

DIRGE FOR THE SAVIOR

Duration 4 mins.

From ★ "A Christmas Canticle"

Mixed Voices S.A.T.B.

Text from "A Christmas Antiphony" by
ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE

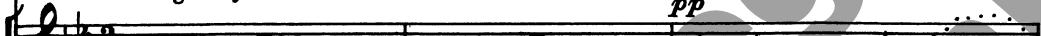
Music by
JOHN BIGGS
a.s.c.a.p.

Andante sostenuto $\text{d} = 80$

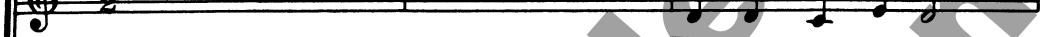
Tabor (small hand drum)

 $\frac{8}{2}$

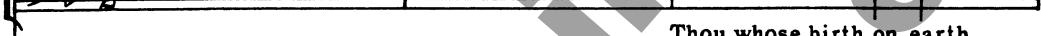
Finger Cymbals

 pp

TENOR

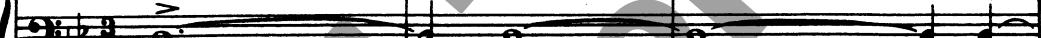
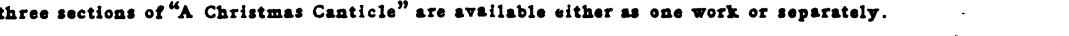
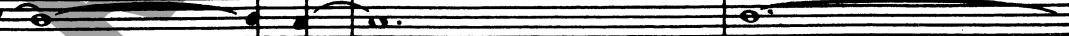
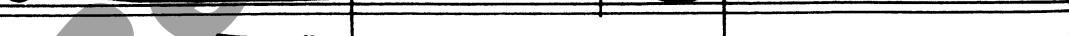
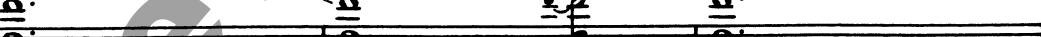
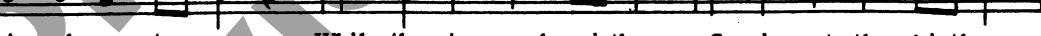
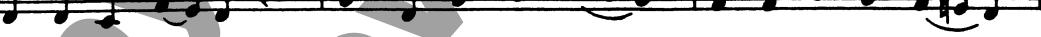
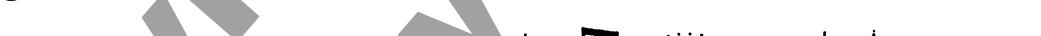
 pp

BASS



Thou whose birth on earth

PIANO

 8 Andante sostenuto $\text{d} = 80$ 

* The three sections of "A Christmas Canticle" are available either as one work or separately.

SOPRANO

A *pp*

God whose heart hath part
pp

ALTO

God whose heart hath part
pp

This day born a - gain.
This day born a - gain.

pp

pp

loco

mf

In all grief that is, Was not man's the dart — That went thru thine heart,—

In all grief that is, Was not man's the dart — That went thru thine heart,—

In all grief that is, Was not man's the dart — That went thru thine heart,—

In all grief that is, Was not man's the dart — That went thru thine heart,—

continue throughout the piece following singer's dynamics.

pp

*Use this pattern in all $\frac{2}{3}$ measures.
(Percussionists must read from choral score)

B *p*

And the wound not his? Where the pale souls wail,
And the wound not his? Where the pale souls wail,
And the wound not his? Where the pale souls wail,
p (falsetto)
And the wound not his? Where the pale souls wail,

loco

8

Held in bonds of death, Where all spirits quail — Came thy God-head pale —
Held in bonds of death, Where all spirits quail — Came thy God-head pale —
Held in bonds of death, Where all spirits quail — Came thy God-head pale —
Held in bonds of death, Where all spirits quail — Came thy God-head pale —

p

8

[C] *mf*

Still from hu-man breath. Pale from life and strife,
Still from hu-man breath. Pale from life and strife,
Still from hu-man breath. Pale from life and strife,
till from hu-man breath. Pale from life and strife,
Still from hu-man breath. Pale from life and strife,

loco

8.....

Wan with man-hood came, — Faith of mor-tal life — Pierced as with a knife, —
Wan with man-hood came, — Faith of mor-tal life — Pierced as with a knife, —
Wan with man-hood came, — Faith of mor-tal life — Pierced as with a knife, —
Wan with man-hood came, — Faith of mor-tal life — Pierced as with a knife,

(*mf*)

8.....

Scared as with a flame. Thou the Word and Lord

Scared as with a — flame. Thou the Word and Lord —

Scared as with a flame. Thou the Word and Lord.

Scared as with a — flame. Thou the Word and Lord.

loco

8..... *loco* 8.....

In all time and space, Heard, be-held, a-dored — With all a-ges poured

In all time and space, Heard, be-held, a - dored — With all a-ges poured —

In all time and space, Heard, be-held, a-dored — With all a-ges poured

In all time and space, Heard, be-held, a - dored — With all a-ges poured —

8.....

E

Forth be-fore thy — face. O — Lord, what worth on earth
 Forth be-fore thy — face. O — Lord, what worth on earth
 Forth be-fore thy — face. O — Lord, what worth on earth
 Forth be-fore thy — face. O — Lord, what worth on earth

8.....

Drew thee down to die, What there-in was worth, Lord, thy death and birth,
 Drew thee down to die, What there-in was worth, Lord, thy death and birth,
 Drew thee down to die, What there-in was worth, Lord, thy death and birth,
 Drew thee down to die, What there-in was worth, Lord, thy death and birth,

8.....

F

What be -neath the sky? From the height of night,

What be -neath the sky? From the height of night,

What be -neath the sky? From the height of night,

What be -neath the sky? From the height of night,

8

(ff)

8

Was not thine the star That led forth with might By no world-ly light,

Was not thine the star That led forth with might By no world-ly light,

Was not thine the star That led forth with might By no world-ly light,

Was not thine the star That led forth with might By no world-ly light,

8 loco

8 p.v.

8

G f

Wise men from a - far! Yet the wise men's eyes
 Wise men from a - far! Yet the wise men's eyes
 Wise men from a - far! Yet the wise men's eyes
 Wise men from a - far! Yet the wise men's eyes

loco

8.....

Saw thee not more clear Than they saw thee rise Who, in shep-herd's guise,
 Saw thee not more clear Than they saw thee rise Who, in shep-herd's guise,
 Saw thee not more clear Than they saw thee rise Who, in shep-herd's guise,
 Saw thee not more clear Than they saw thee rise Who, in shep-herd's guise,

8.....

H *mf*

Drew as poor men near. Thou whose ways we praise,
 Drew as poor men near. Thou whose ways we praise,
 Drew as poor men near. Thou whose ways we praise,
 Drew as poor men near. Thou whose ways we praise,

8 : *loco*

mf

..... : *loco* ..

Clear a-like and dark, Keep our works and ways... This and all thy days...

Clear a-like and dark, Keep our works and ways... This and all thy days...

Clear a-like and dark, Keep our works and ways... This and all thy days...

Clear a-like and dark, Keep our works and ways... This and all thy days...

ritard. , *p a tempo*

Safe in - side thine ark. Light not born with morn -

ritard. , *p a tempo*

Safe in - side thine ark. Light not born with morn -

ritard. , *p a tempo*

Safe in - side thine ark. Light not born with morn -

ritard. , *p a tempo*

Safe in - side thine ark. Light not born with morn -

rit. , *p a tempo*

Or her fires a - bove, Je-sus, Vir-gin born, Held of men in scorn,-

Or her fires a - bove, Je-sus, Vir-gin born, Held of men in scorn,-

Or her fires a - bove, Je-sus, Vir-gin born, Held of men in scorn,-

Or her fires a - bove, Je-sus, Vir-gin born, Held of men in scorn,-

Turn thy scorn to love. From the grave-deep wave,

Turn thy scorn to love. From the grave-deep wave,

Turn thy scorn to love. From the grave-deep wave,

Turn thy scorn to love. From the grave-deep wave,

8

sub. fff

8

From the sword and flame, Thou, even thou, shalt save — Souls of king and slave —

From the sword and flame, Thou, even thou, shalt save — Souls of king and slave —

From the sword and flame, Thou, even thou, shalt save — Souls of king and slave —

From the sword and flame, Thou, even thou, shalt save — Souls of king and slave —

8

K *fp*

On - ly by Thy name. Bid _____

On - ly by Thy name. Bid our peace in - crease,

On - ly by Thy name. Bid _____

On - ly by Thy name. Bid our peace in - crease,

loco

ff: *f*:

Bid _____

mf

Bid op - press - ions cease; —

Thou that mad - est - morn; Bid _____

fp: *f*:

Bid _____

mf

Bid op - press - ions cease; —

Thou that mad - est - morn; Bid _____

fp: *p*

(*p*) *pp*

8.....

* *J. J. J. J. J. J. J.* Percussion uses this pattern until the downbeat of $\frac{2}{3}$ bar.

p rallentando

Bid the night be peace; — Bid _____ Bid op-press-ions cease;

p rallentando

Bid _____ Bid the night be peace; Bid _____

p rallentando

Bid the night be peace; — Bid _____ Bid op-press-ions cease;

rallentando

Bid _____ Bid the night be peace; Bid _____

rallentando

8.....

pp

Bid the day _____ be _____ born.

morendo

pp

Bid the day _____ be _____ born.

morendo

Bid the day _____ be _____ born.
(Percussion out after first beat)

pp

Bid the day _____ be _____ born.

morendo

Bid the day _____ be _____ born.

pp

morendo

8.....

(*pp*)