

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER | ARR. TEMPLETON | SSAA, FLUTE, & VIOLIN



# IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

for SSAA, Flute, & Violin

Music by  
GUSTAV HOLST

Arranged by  
MARK D. TEMPLETON



Gustav Holst's *In the Bleak Midwinter* was written at the request of Ralph Vaughan Williams, the editor of the English Hymnal. Holst used Christina Rossetti's popular poem, written in 1872, for the text. The carol was first published in the English Hymnal in 1906 and quickly became a favorite among congregations. The frigid northern landscape that Rossetti paints with her text combined with the divinely melancholy nature of Holst's melody provides the perfect backdrop for the winter holidays. The first and last sections of this arrangement incorporate the same melody and major key as the original, but the middle section, while in a minor mode, juxtaposes Holst's melody with one of the most beloved chant melodies from the Gregorian chant repertoire, *Ave Maria*. The original chant, shown below, can be sung in conjunction with the piece. This unique arrangement will be exciting for any women's chorus to sing. The flute and violin parts can be played by any two C-instruments.



### IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER BY CRISTINA ROSSETTI (1830-1894)

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1. In the bleak midwinter frosty winds made moan,<br/>Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;<br/>Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,<br/>In the bleak midwinter long ago.</p>                      | <p>3. Angels and archangels may have gathered there,<br/>Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;<br/>But only his mother in her maiden bliss<br/>Worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.</p> |
| <p>2. Our God, Heav'n cannot hold him nor earth sustain;<br/>Heav'n and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign;<br/>In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed.<br/>The Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ.</p> | <p>4. What can I give him poor as I am?<br/>If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb,<br/>If I were a Wise Man I would do my part,<br/>Yet what I can I give him, give my heart.</p>    |

### AVE MARIA

The image shows the musical notation for the Ave Maria chant. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff begins with a decorative initial 'A' and contains the lyrics: - ve Ma-rí-a, grá-ti-a plé-na, Dó-mi-nus té-cum, be-ne-díc-ta tu in mu-li-é-ri-bus, et be-ne-díc-tus frúc-tus vén-tris tú-i, Jé-sus, Sán-cta Ma-rí-a, Má-ter Dé-i, ó-ra pro nó-bis pec-ca-tó-ri-bus, nunc et in hó-ra mór-tis nós-trae. A-men.

#### Latin

*Áve María, grátia pléna,  
Dóminus técum. Benedícta tu in muliéribus,  
et benedíctus frúctus véntris túi, Iésus.  
Sáncta María, Máter Déi, óra pro nóbis peccatóribus,  
nunc et in hóra mór-tis nóstrae. Ámen.*

#### Translation

Hail Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou amongst women,  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.



## In The Bleak Midwinter

Fl. *mp* *p*

Vln. *p*

S 1 *mf* *mp*  
 snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow on snow; in the bleak mid - win - ter,

S 2 *mf* *mp*  
 snow had fal - len, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak mid - win - ter,

A 1 *mf* *mp*  
 snow had fal - len, snow on snow, in the bleak mid - win - ter,

A 2 *mf* *mp*  
 snow had fal - len, snow on snow, in the bleak - mid - win - ter,

Fl. *mp*

Vln. *mp*

S 1 *mf*  
 long a - go. our God, heav'n can - not hold him, nor earth su -

S 2 *mf*  
 long a - go. Our God, heav'n can - not hold him, nor earth su -

A 1 *mf*  
 long, long a - go. Our God heav'n can - not hold him, nor earth su -

A 2 *mf*  
 long, long a - go. Our God, heav'n can - not

\* Melody taken from Gregorian Chant, Ave Maria

25

Fl.

Vln.

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

stain; heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign: in

stain; heav'n and earth shall flee a-way when he comes to reign:

stain; heav'n and earth shall flee a - way when he comes to reign: in

hold him, nor earth su - stain;

30

Fl.

Vln.

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed the Lord God in car - nate,

in the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed the Lord God in car - nate,

the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed the Lord God in car - nate,

in the bleak mid - win - ter, Je - - -

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*



48

Fl.

Vln.

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

— her maid-en bliss, wor-shiped the be - lov - ed with — a kiss,

in her maid-en bliss, wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with — a kiss,

— her maid-en bliss, wor - shiped the be - lov - ed with — a kiss,

mo - ther on - - - ly wor - shiped the be - lov - ed

54

Fl.

Vln.

S 1

S 2

A 1

A 2

*poco rit.* // *a tempo*

*mp*

with — a kiss. Ah

*poco rit.* // *a tempo*

*mp*

*poco rit.*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

Fl. 61

Vln. 61

S 1 *a tempo*  
*mp*  
What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shep - herd,

S 2 *mp*  
What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shep - herd,

A 1 *mp*  
What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shep - herd,

A 2 *mp*  
What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shep - herd,

Fl. 67

Vln. 67

S 1 *mf*  
I would bring a lamb; If I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet

S 2 *mf*  
I would bring a lamb; If I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet

A 1 *mf*  
I would bring, I'd bring a lamb; If I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet

A 2 *mf*  
I would bring a lamb; If I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet

Fl. *p*

Vln. *p*

S 1 *mp*  
what I can I give him, give my heart,

S 2 *mp*  
what I can I give him, give my heart,

A 1 *mp*  
what I can I give him, give my heart,

A 2 *mp*  
what I can I give him, give my heart,

Fl. *pp*

Vln. *pp*

S 1 *mp* *rit.* *p*  
what I can I give my heart.

S 2 *mp* *p*  
what I can I give my heart.

A 1 *mp* *p*  
what I can I give my heart.

A 2 *mp* *p*  
what I can I give my heart.

# Flute - In The Bleak Midwinter

Mark D. Templeton

Tenderly (♩ = c. 80)

*mp* *p*

10 *mp*

17 *p* *mp*

24

31

38 *mp*

51 *poco rit.* *a tempo* *mp*

58 *mp*

72 *p* *pp*

# Violin - In The Bleak Midwinter

Mark D. Templeton

Tenderly (♩ = c. 80)

mp p

9 mp

16 p mp

23

31 7

45 mp

53 poco rit. a tempo mp

60 mp

73 p 4 pp



**Mark Templeton**, born 1974, is an American choral composer, conductor, and countertenor. Templeton's music has been performed across the world at various international festivals and ACDA conventions. Some of his music is published by Santa Barbara Music Publishing, and he has recently started to self-publish. He teaches and resides with his wife, Becca, at West Nottingham Academy in Coloma, Maryland, the oldest boarding school in the United States. He also enjoys coaching, playing, and watching soccer when he is not working. He is available for commission upon request.

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I WILL ARISE (MEDLEY)	TTBB, a cappella
WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN?	SATB, a cappella
SWINGIN' DOWN TO THE RIVER	SSATTB, a cappella
MISSA BREVIS	SATB, a cappella (larger work)
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For more information about these songs and other compositions by Mark Templeton visit [www.MTchoralmusic.com](http://www.MTchoralmusic.com)

