

**This Peaceful Night** incorporates the beloved carol, “Silent Night, Holy Night.” An outstanding selection for school holiday concerts, it is also appropriate for Christmas worship.

For performance by church choirs, suggested corresponding scripture readings include Luke 2: 1–20, Matthew 1: 18–25 and Matthew 2: 1–12. One basic homiletical theme is the inspiration for worship and source of peace that are found in the birth of the Prince of Peace.

**Don Besig** is the Director of Music at Perinton Presbyterian Church in Fairport, New York. He has over 30 years of experience teaching vocal music in the public schools of western New York. **Nancy Price** holds B.M. and M.M. degrees in music from Ithaca College. She began singing in elementary school choirs directed by Don Besig and in her senior year of college first worked with him as a lyricist. Since 1980 they have collaborated on over 250 compositions for school and church. Both Besig and Price have received several ASCAP Special Awards.

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# THIS PEACEFUL NIGHT

for S.A.T.B. voices,\* accompanied,  
with optional descant or C-instrument\*\*

Words by  
DON BESIG  
and NANCY PRICE (ASCAP)

Music by  
DON BESIG (ASCAP)

Moderately (♩ = ca. 69–76)

ACCOMP.

*mp*

5

SOPRANO & ALTO UNISON

*mp*

Shad - ows fell, the air grew cold

9

on that night long a - go.

\*Also available for S.A.B. voices (7789), 2-part any combination voices (7790), and unison or 2-part voices (20014).

\*\*Part for C-instrument may be found on page 11.

13

In a sta - ble dark and \_ bare



17

sat a maid - en pure and \_ fair.



21

All the world \_ was still that night;



25

all \_ was still that night. \_



29



33

*mf*

Qui - et - ly the gift did come;

TENOR & BASS UNISON

*mp*

Musical score for measures 33-36. This system includes vocal parts and piano accompaniment. The vocal parts (Tenor and Bass Unison) are written on a single staff with a key signature of two flats. The piano accompaniment is on a grand staff. The lyrics "Qui - et - ly the gift did come;" are written below the vocal staff. The piano part features a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. A fermata is placed over the final measure of this system.

37

He was born, God's true Son. \_\_\_\_\_

*mf*

Musical score for measures 37-40. This system continues the vocal and piano parts. The vocal staff has the lyrics "He was born, God's true Son. \_\_\_\_\_". The piano accompaniment continues with a melody in the treble clef and a bass line in the bass clef. A fermata is placed over the final measure of this system.

41

In a man - ger stall He lay

45

on a bed of new - mown hay.

49

Love came down to the world that night;

53

love \_\_\_\_\_ came down that night. \_\_\_\_\_

This system contains measures 53 through 56. It features a vocal line with lyrics and piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The vocal melody is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is present in measure 54. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

57

This system contains measures 57 through 60. The vocal line is mostly rests, with a final note in measure 60. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines. A double bar line appears at the end of measure 60. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

61

This system contains measures 61 through 64. Measures 61 and 62 show the vocal line with rests. Measures 63 and 64 show the piano accompaniment with a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) in measure 63. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

**65** SILENT NIGHT, by Franz Gruber (1818)

DESCANT \*

*mf*

Ah (or oo throughout)

*mp unis.*

To the sta - ble come once more.

*mp unis.*

**65**

69

Ah

Gath - er 'round; keep Him warm.

69

\*Descant may be performed by solo voice, a few voices, and/or C-instrument.

73

Ah \_\_\_\_\_

Wor - ship now this ti - ny King.

73

77

Ah \_\_\_\_\_

Share the love and joy He brings.

77

77

77



81

*rall.* Freely

Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_

Peace has come to the\_ world this night; peace \_ has

81

Freely

86 *a tempo* *dim. poco a poco*

*a tempo* *dim. poco a poco*

come this night.

*dim. poco a poco*

86 *a tempo*

# THIS PEACEFUL NIGHT

11

**C-instrument**  
(optional)

*Music by*  
**DON BESIG**

Moderately ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 69-76$ )

4 5 8 13 8 21 8

29 33 8 41 8 49 8

57 61 65 \* *mf*

69

73 77

81 *rall.*

85 *Freely* *a tempo*

*mp dim. poco a poco*

\*SILENT NIGHT, by Franz Gruber (1818)

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