

# ONE SINGLE CANDLE

for unison or two-part voices, accompanied

Words and Music by  
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM

Gently (♩ = ca. 100-104)

ACCOMP.

*mp*

4 UNISON VOICES

5

*mp*

One sin - gle can - dle will shine to - night;

7 one sin - gle can - dle will do its part; spread - ing a mes - sage of

THE CCLI LICENSE DOES NOT GRANT PERMISSION TO PHOTOCOPY THIS MUSIC.

10

love and light through the win - dow of your heart.

13 (optional descant)

(melody)

15 *mf* See how it flick - ers,

*mf* See how it flick - ers,

16

see how it glows; al - most as if some - how it knows

see how it glows; al - most as if some - how it knows

19

(voices unison)

that our hopes for peace and joy rest in the birth of a

This system contains measures 19, 20, and 21. It features a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a piano accompaniment in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The lyrics are: "that our hopes for peace and joy rest in the birth of a".

22

ba - by boy. One sin - gle can - dle will

This system contains measures 22, 23, and 24. It features a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in grand staff. The lyrics are: "ba - by boy. One sin - gle can - dle will". A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is present in measure 24.


26

do its best, chas - ing the shad - ows from the room.

This system contains measures 26, 27, and 28. It features a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in grand staff. The lyrics are: "do its best, chas - ing the shad - ows from the room."

29

Fears will be stilled and hearts be blessed, know - ing the ba - by is



32 (opt. descant)

See how it flick - ers,

(melody)

com - ing soon. See how it flick - ers,



36

see how it glows; al - most as if some - how it knows

see how it glows; al - most as if some - how it knows



39

*(voices unison)*

in this world, so dark and dim, we must pre - pare a

This system contains measures 39, 40, and 41. It features a vocal line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a piano accompaniment in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The lyrics are: "in this world, so dark and dim, we must pre - pare a".

42

45

*mp*

place for Him.

One sin - gle can - dle will

*mp*

46

shine to - night;

one sin - gle can - dle will do its part;

49

spread - ing a mes - sage of love and light through the win - dow

52 *rit. poco a poco*

of your heart. O - pen the win - dow of your heart.

*rit. poco a poco*

8va

The image shows a musical score for a children's choir. It consists of two systems of music. The first system starts at measure 49 and ends at measure 51. The second system starts at measure 52 and ends at measure 55. The music is written for a soprano or alto voice part and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The tempo/mood is indicated as 'rit. poco a poco' (ritardando, a little by a little). The lyrics are: 'spread - ing a mes - sage of love and light through the win - dow' and 'of your heart. O - pen the win - dow of your heart.' The score includes a descant at the end, marked '8va' (octave higher).

**One Single Candle** is a gentle Advent anthem for unison or two-part children's choirs. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include Psalm 80: 1-7, Isaiah 40: 1-11, and John 1: 1-9. One basic homilical theme is the preparation to receive the Light of Hope and Peace in the birth of the Messiah.

This simple anthem of Advent light is in A B A B A form. In rehearsal, introduce the A themes first (m. 5-12, 25-32, 45-55), shaping the phrases, carefully articulating the text, and striving for a uniform ensemble sound. Next, teach the B themes (m. 5-22 and 35-42) in similar fashion, adding the descant only after the melody is secure. For unison performances, the descant may be omitted or performed by a C-instrument one octave higher.

**Ruth Elaine Schram** lives in Birmingham, Alabama, where she works for Shades Mountain Baptist Church. Active as a composer, arranger, and children's choir director, she also performs in the Kindred Spirit trio and was the Masters Musicians' 1987 Grand Prize Winner.

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