

WHAT SWEETER MUSIC

68a

Commissioned by The Law Society Choir
Northern Ireland, PRO BONO PUBLICO

Robert Herrick (1591-1674)

For SATB and Organ
Duration: ca. 4:15

Philip WJ Stopford

Sweetly ♫ = 72

mp

Soprano

What sweet-er mu-sic can we bring -

Alto

mp

Tenor

Bass

Sweetly $\downarrow = 72$

tryp

Organ

A musical score for bass clef, 4/4 time, and F# major key signature. The score consists of a single measure with a rest, followed by a bass note, a half note, a whole note, a bass note, a rest, a rest, and another rest.

5

The musical score consists of four staves. The top two staves are for voices, both in G major (two sharps) and common time. The first staff has a treble clef and the second has an alto clef. The lyrics "Than a car - ol for to sing The birth of this our heav'n - ly King?" are written below the notes. The third staff is for the basso continuo, showing only bass clef and a bass staff with a continuous line. The fourth staff is also for the basso continuo, showing only a bass staff with a continuous line. A brace groups the two continuo staves.

Than a car - ol for to sing The birth of this our heav'n - ly King?

Than a car - ol for to sing The birth of this our heav'n - ly King?

- - - - -

- - - - -

- - - - -

- - - - -

- - - - -

- - - - -

9

A - wake the voice! a - wake the string!

A - wake the voice! a - wake the string!

8

mf

Dark and dull night fly

mf

Dark and dull night fly

12

A musical score for voice and piano. The top two staves are blank. The third staff (Treble clef) begins with a dotted half note followed by a half note, then a series of eighth notes. The lyrics "hence a - way!" are written below the notes. The fourth staff (Bass clef) begins with a dotted half note followed by a half note, then a series of eighth notes. The lyrics "And give the hon - our to this day___ That sees De - hence a - way! And give the hon - our to this day___ That sees De -" are repeated below the notes. The piano accompaniment starts in measure 11, continuing through measure 12. It consists of a bass line in the bass clef staff and a treble line in the treble clef staff, both featuring eighth-note patterns.

15

cem - ber turn'd to May,
That sees De-cem - ber turn'd to May.
cem - ber turn'd to May,
That sees De-cem - ber turn'd to May.

19 *mf*

Why does the chill - ing win - ter's morn Smile like a field be -

mf

Why does the chill - ing win - ter's morn Smile like a field be -

8

Bassoon Part:

{

 Treble Clef Bass Clef Key Signature: F# Major (4 sharps) Time Signature: Common Time (indicated by 'C')
 D D D
 F# F# F#
 D D D
 G G G
 D D D

Bass Clef Key Signature: F# Major (4 sharps) Time Signature: Common Time (indicated by 'C')
D D D
F# F# F#
D D D
G G G
D D D

22

set with corn? Or smell like a meadow new - ly shorn Thus on the

set with corn? Or smell like a meadow new - ly shorn Thus on the

25

A musical score for voice and piano. The vocal part is in soprano clef, G major, 2/4 time. The piano part is in bass clef, G major, 2/4 time. The vocal line consists of three staves of lyrics: "sud - den? ____ Come and see The cause why things thus fra - grant be: sud - den? ____ Come and see The cause why things thus fra - grant be: sud - den? ____ Come and see The cause why things thus fra - grant be: sud - den? ____ Come and see The cause why things thus fra - grant be:". The piano accompaniment features harmonic chords in the bass line and sustained notes in the treble line.

32

mf

lus - tre, pub - lic mirth, To heav - en and the un - der - earth.

mf

lus - tre, pub - lic mirth, To heav - en and the un - der - earth.

mf

8 lus - tre, pub - lic mirth, To heav - en and the un - der - earth.

mf

lus - tre, pub - lic mirth, To heav - en and the un - der - earth.

8

The musical score consists of four staves. The top three staves represent three voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) singing identical lyrics in common time. The lyrics are: "lus - tre, pub - lic mirth, To heav - en and the un - der - earth." This pattern repeats three times. The fourth staff represents the basso continuo (B.C.) in 2/4 time, indicated by a brace and a bass clef. It provides harmonic support with sustained notes and occasional chords. Measure numbers 32, 8, and 8 are marked above the staves. Dynamic markings "mf" (mezzo-forte) are placed above the first and second endings. Measure 8 begins with a repeat sign and a bass clef, indicating a change in time signature to 2/4.

What Sweeter Music - SATB

39

Who with his sun - shine and his show'r's Turns all the pa - tient
Who with his sun - shine and his show'r's Turns all the pa - tient
Who with his sun - shine and his show'r's Turns all the pa - tient -
Who with his sun - shine and his show'r's Turns all the pa - tient

42

ground to flow'rs, Turns all the pa - tient ground to flow'rs. The dar - ling of the

ground to flow'rs, Turns all the pa - tient ground to flow'rs. The dar - ling of the

ground to flow'rs, Turns all the pa - tient ground to flow'rs. The dar - ling of the

ground to flow'rs, Turns all the pa - tient ground to flow'rs. The dar - ling o~~f~~ the

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46

world is come, And fit it is we find a room To
world is come, And fit it is we find a room, find a room To
world is come, And fit it is we find a room, find a room To
world is come, And fit it is we find a room To

49

wel-come Him, to wel - come Him, to wel - come Him _____

wel-come Him, to wel - come Him, to wel - come Him _____

wel-come Him, to wel - come Him. The
mf

wel-come Him, to wel - come Him. The

wel-come Him, to wel - come Him. The
mf

53

mf

Which we will
mf
Which we will

no - bler part Of all the house here is the heart, will

no - bler part Of all the house ere is the heart, will

mf

mf

mf

mf

56

give Him; and be - queath This hol - ly and this i - vy

give Him; and be - queath This hol - ly and this i - vy

give Him; and be - queath This hol - ly and this i - vy

give Him; and be - queath This hol - ly and this i - vy

Amen

63

King And *rit.*

hon-our, who's our King And Lord of all this rev-el-ling. *rit.*

hon-our, who's our King And Lord of all this rev-el-ling. *rit.*

hon-our, who's our King And Lord of all this rev-el-ling. *rit.*

What Sweeter Music - SATB

More relaxed

68 *TWp*

What weet-er mu - sic can we bring Than a car - ol for to sing The

What sweet-er mu - sic can we bring Than a car - ol for to sing The

What weet-er mu - sic can we bring Than a car - ol for to sing The

mp

What sweet-er mu - sic can we bring Than a car - ol for to sing The

More relaxed

7W/7



72

birth of this our heav'n-ly King, _____ Of this our heav'n - ly King?
 birth of this our heav'n-ly King, _____ of this our heav'n - iy King?
 birth of this our heav'n-ly King, _____ of this our heav'n - ly King? 1
 birth of this our heav'n-ly King, _____ of this our heav'n - ly King?

rit. **p**

rit. **p**

rit. **p**

Tit. **p**

rit. **p**

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