

What sweeter music

Robert Herrick (1591-1674)

John Rutter

Andante tranquillo (♩ = 66)

p dolce e legato

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

What sweet-er mu - sic can we

S.

A.

T.

B.

bring than a ca - rol, for to sing the birth of this our heav'n-ly King? A-wake the

S.

A.

T.

B.

voice! A-wake the string!

Dark and dull night, fly hence a - way, and give the ho - nour to this

Dark and dull night, fly hence a - way, and give the ho - nour to this

S. *pp* ... that sees De - cem - ber turn'd to May.

A. *pp* ... that sees De - cem - ber turn'd to May.

T. *p* *pp* *mp*
 day that sees De - cem - ber turn'd to May, that sees De - cem - ber turn'd to May. Why does the

B. *p* *pp* *mp*
 day that sees De - cem - ber turn'd to May, that sees De - cem - ber turn'd to May. Why does the

S.

A.

T. *mf*
 chill - ing win - ter's morn smile, like a field be - set with corn? Or smell like a mea - dow new - ly

B. *mf*
 chill - ing win - ter's morn smile, like a field be - set with corn? Or smell like a mea - dow new - ly

S. *mp*
 'Tis he is

A. *mp*
 'Tis he is

T. *f* *mp*
 shorn thus on the sud - den? Come and see the cause, why things thus fra - grant be:

B. *f* *mp*
 shorn thus on the sud - den? Come and see the cause, why things thus fra - grant be:

31 *mf* *mp*

S. born, whose quick-'ning birth gives life and lu-stre, pub-lic mirth, to hea-ven and the un-der-

A. *mf* *mp*

A. born, whose quick-'ning birth gives life and lu-stre public mirth, to hea-ven and the un-der-

T. *8*

B.

36 *p molto legato*

S. earth. We see him come, and know him ours, who, with his sun-shine and his show'rs, turns all the

A. *p molto legato*

A. earth. We see him come, and know him ours, who, with his sun-shine and his show'rs, turns the

T. *p molto legato*

T. We see him come, and know him ours, who, with his sun-shine and his show'rs, turns the

B. *p molto legato*

B. We see him come, and know him ours, who, with his sun-shine and his show'rs,

41 *mp* *mf* *p*

S. pa-tient ground to flow'rs turns all the pa-tient ground to flow'rs. The dar-ling of the

A. *mp* *mf* *p*

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

T. *mp* *mf* *pp*

T. pa-tient ground to flow'rs, turns all the pa-tient ground to flow'rs. The dar-ling of the

B. *mp* *mf*

B. turns all the ground to flow'rs.

46

S. world is come, and fit it is, we find a room to wel-come him, to wel-come him.

A. world is come, and fit it is, we find a room to wel-come him, to wel-come him.

T. world is come, *(pp)* we find a room to wel-come him. *mp* The

B. *mp* The

51

S. *mp* ... which we will give him; and be -

A. *mp* ... which we will give him; and be -

T. no-bler part of all the house here, is the heart, which we will give him; and be -

B. no-bler part of all the house here, is the heart, which we will give him; and be -

mf *mp*

55

S. queath this hol - ly and this i - vy wreath,

A. queath this hol - ly and this i - vy wreath,

T. queath this hol - ly and this i - vy wreath, to do³ him ho - nour; who's our

B. queath this hol - ly and this i - vy wreath, to do him ho - nour who's our

mf

59

S. *pp molto dolce*
What sweet-er

A. *mf* ... and Lord of all this re-vel - ling. *f* *mf* *p* *pp molto dolce*
What sweet-er

T. *f* *mf* *p* *pp molto dolce*
King, and Lord of all this re-vel - ling. What sweet-er

B. *f* *mf* *p* *pp molto dolce*
King, and Lord of all this re-vel - ling. What sweet-er

64

S. *mp poco rit.*
mu - sic can we bring than a ca - rol, for to sing the birth of this our heav'n-ly

A. *mp*
mu - sic can we bring than a ca - rol, for to sing the birth of this our heav'n-ly

T. *mp*
mu - sic can we bring than a ca - rol, for to sing the birth of this our heav'n-ly

B. *mp*
mu - sic can we bring than a ca - rol, for to sing the birth of this our heav'n-ly

poco meno mosso

dim. rit.

a tempo

rit.

S. King, *p* the birth of this our hea - ven - ly King. *pp*

A. King, *p* (Hum) - *mmm* - *mmm*

T. King, *p* (Hum) - *mmm* - *mmm*

B. King, *p* (Hum) - *mmm* - *mmm*

poco meno mosso

rit. a tempo

rit.

Pno. *pp*