

# On Christmas Night

Cat McGill

$\text{♩} = 70$

Soprano *mp*  
On Christ-mas night the joy\_bells

Alto *mp*  
On Christ-mas night the joy bells

Tenor *mp*  
Doo Doo Doo

Bass *mp*  
Dmm Dmm Dmm

4

ring To tell what news the an-gels bring News of

ring To tell what news the an-gels bring News of

doo doo doo

dmm dmm dmm

glad - ness news of mirth\_\_ News of our ble - ssed sa - viour's

glad - ness news of mirth\_\_ News of our ble - ssed sa - viour

doo doo ble - ssed

dmm dmm ble - ssed

birth\_\_ The cho - irs sing Glo - -

our sa - viour's birth The cho - irs sing the trum - pets

our sa - viour's birth The cho - irs sing Glo\_\_

birth\_\_ The cho - irs sing

13

- ri-a\_\_\_\_\_ Glo - - - ri-a in our

sound\_\_\_\_\_ and we share the joy of this Christ-mas night in our

\_\_\_\_\_ ri-a\_\_\_\_\_ share the joy\_\_\_\_\_ of this Christ-mas night in our

and we share this night in our

16

*mf*

town. And in this town\_\_\_\_\_ of silk - en mills\_\_\_\_\_ Of cobb-led  
Dark are the Roa - ches stand ing proud Soft is the

*mp*

town. And in this in this town of silk - en mills cobb - led  
Dark are the dark the Roa-ches stand-ing proud is the

*mp legato*

town. silk - en mills\_\_\_\_\_  
Roa - ches proud

*mf*

town. And in this town of silk - en mills\_\_\_\_\_ Of cobb-led  
Dark are the Roa - ches stand-ing proud Soft is the

4  
20

23

26

Measure 26: Treble clef, *f* dynamic. Notes: quarter rest, quarter G4, quarter A4, quarter B4, half G4. Lyrics: "The cho-irs sing Glo - - - ri - a\_\_\_\_\_".  
Measure 27: Treble clef, *f* dynamic. Notes: quarter G4, quarter A4, quarter B4, quarter C5, quarter B4, quarter A4, quarter G4, half G4. Lyrics: "night all The cho-irs sing the trum - pets sound and we".  
Measure 28: Treble clef, *f* dynamic. Notes: quarter G4, quarter A4, quarter B4, quarter C5, quarter B4, quarter A4, quarter G4, half G4. Lyrics: "night all The cho-irs sing Glo ri - a\_\_\_\_\_".  
Measure 29: Bass clef, *f* dynamic. Notes: quarter rest, quarter G3, quarter A3, quarter B3, half G3. Lyrics: "The cho-irs sing and we".

29

Measure 29: Treble clef. Notes: half G4, quarter A4, quarter B4, quarter C5, quarter B4, quarter A4, quarter G4, half G4. Lyrics: "Glo - - - ri - a in our town.".  
Measure 30: Treble clef. Notes: quarter G4, quarter A4, quarter B4, quarter C5, quarter B4, quarter A4, quarter G4, half G4. Lyrics: "share the joy of this Christ-mas night in our town.".  
Measure 31: Treble clef. Notes: quarter G4, quarter A4, quarter B4, quarter C5, quarter B4, quarter A4, quarter G4, half G4. Lyrics: "share the joy of this Christ-mas night in our town.".  
Measure 32: Bass clef. Notes: half G3, quarter A3, quarter B3, half G3. Lyrics: "share this night in our town.".

6  
32

*mp*

A - cross the Moor - lands si - lence creeps\_\_ As un - der

*p*

A - cross the Moor - lands si - lence creeps Un - der

*p*

Doo doo

*p*

Dmm dmm

35

si - lver snow it sleeps So ga - ther round\_\_ both far\_\_ and

si - lver snow it sleeps So ga - ther round\_\_ both far\_\_ and

*mf* *f*

doo So ga - ther round\_\_ both far and

*mf* *f*

dmm So ga - ther round\_\_ both far and

38

near\_\_\_ And raise your voi - ces in Christ-mas cheer

near\_\_\_ And raise your voi - ces in Christ - mas Christ - mas\_

near And raise your voi - ces in Christ - mas\_

near And raise your voi - ces in cheer\_

41

*f* joyfully  
The cho-irs sing Glo - - - ri - a\_

*f* joyfully  
cheer The cho-irs sing\_ the trum - pets sound\_ and we

*f* joyfully  
cheer The cho-irs sing Glo\_ ri - a\_

*f* joyfully  
\_ The cho-irs sing\_ and we

8  
44

*grandioso*

Glo - - - ri-a in our town. The cho-irs

*grandioso*

share the joy of this Christ-mas night in our town. The cho-irs

*grandioso*

share the joy\_ of this Christ-mas night in our town. The cho-irs

*grandioso*

share this night in our town. The cho-irs

47

sing Glo - - - ri - a

sing\_ the trum - pets sound\_ and we

*rit*

sing Glo\_ ri - a

sing\_ and we

*rit*



49 *rit*

Glo - - - ri - a in our town.

share the joy of this Christ-mas night in our town.

*rit*

share the joy — of this Christ-mas night in our town.

share this night in our town.

The main melody of the verse (up to 'The choirs sing...') and the lyrics of the first verse have been adapted from a 'Christmas Song of the South Staffordshire Colliers' which was recorded in the Lucy Broadwood Manuscript Collection in 1904. The tune and lyrics would have been sung around South Staffordshire in the 1800s, and were sent to Lucy Broadwood by Dr James Culwick, who wrote:

*"I have certainly not heard this for the past forty years. I have written it from memory of my mother's singing. She said when she learned it the recital lasted nearly an hour. There were about ninety verses sung slowly by a man with a strong, rough and deep bass voice."*

You can view the original manuscript in the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library at Cecil Sharp House in London, on online:

<https://www.vwml.org/record/LEB/5/127>

The refrain, harmonies, and additional verses have been added by Cat McGill to celebrate Christmas in Leek 2023, as part of OUTSIDE Arts' Advent Doors project. This carol will be performed for the first time on Christmas Eve, nearly 120 years after it was first written down, by community choirs and singers from the local area.