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In the Bleak Midwinter

SATB and organ
with optional flute

Robert Lau

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Robert Lau holds degrees in music education, theory and musicology from Lebanon Valley College, Eastman School of Music and The Catholic University of America. Former chair of the Music Department of Lebanon Valley College, he is currently an adjunct member of the School of Humanities, Penn State Harrisburg.

Dr. Lau is the Organist/Choirmaster at Mt. Calvary Episcopal Church, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. In addition he teaches violin, viola and composition privately. He has more than 200 choral and keyboard works published by the leading music publishing companies in the United States and has been commissioned to write choral, keyboard and vocal works for a variety of institutions, churches and individuals. He is a consistent winner of Special Awards from ASCAP for his published choral and keyboard music.

Dr. Lau is Artistic Director of Jubilate! Choral Ensemble of Gettysburg, PA.

For Celia Lerner

In the Bleak Midwinter

SATB and organ with optional flute

Christina Rossetti,
alt. by Robert Lau

Cranham by
Gustav Holst,
arr. by Robert Lau

Simply ♩ = 84

Flute (or other C instrument) *mp*

Soprano
Alto

Tenor
Bass

Simply ♩ = 84
(Solo 8' Trem.)

Organ *mp*

(Play cue notes only in absence of solo instrument)

Man.

5

mp
unis.

In the bleak mid-

5

Ped.

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10

win - ter, frost - y wind made moan, earth stood hard as i - ron,

10

15

wa - ter like a stone; snow had fall - en, snow on snow, — snow — on —

poco cresc. *dim.*

15

poco cresc. *dim.*

Man.

20

mp
unis.

snow, in the bleak mid - win - ter, long — a - go.

20

Ped.

25

mp

unis. *mp*

Hea - ven can - not hold him, nor earth — sus -

25

mp

30

- tain; heav'n and earth shall flee a-way when he comes to reign:

30

35

unis. *mp* *poco cresc.* *dim.* *mp*

In the bleak mid - win - ter a sta - ble place suf - ficed,

and there the

35

poco cresc. *dim.*

Man. Ped.

50

cher - u - bim thronged — the air;

cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim thronged the — air; but his mo - ther

50

mf

(Play) Ped.

55

wor - shipped the be - lov - ed

on - ly, in her mai - den bliss, — wor - shipped the be - lov - ed

55

60

with _____ a kiss.

60

65

unis. *mf*

What can I give him, poor _____ as I am?

unis. *mf*

65

70

If I were a shep - herd, I would bring a lamb;

if I were a

Detailed description: This system contains the first five measures of the piece. The vocal line begins with a whole rest in the first measure, followed by a half note G4, quarter notes A4 and B4, a half note C5, and a quarter note B4. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

70

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for the first five measures. The right hand features a melodic line with chords, and the left hand provides a harmonic foundation with a bass line.

75

yet what — can I give him,

wise - man, I would do my part;

Detailed description: This system contains measures 6-10. The vocal line has a whole rest in measure 6, followed by a half note G4, quarter notes A4 and B4, a half note C5, and a quarter note B4. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern.

75

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 6-10, matching the vocal line above.

80

mf

poco rit.

give _____ my heart, give _____ him my heart,

dim.

80

poco rit.

dim.

85

rit. e dim.

rit.

rit. e dim. *Slower* *mp* *rit.*

give him my heart. _____

mp

unis.

85

rit. e dim.

Slower *rit.*

mp

Selected Works Published by Paraclete Press

- Lau, R. **In the Bleak Midwinter** - PPM00850
SATB and organ, opt. flute
- O Little Town of Bethlehem** - PPM00851
SATB w/ some divisi and organ
- Sing to the Lord a New Song** - PPM00715
SATB and organ
- Campbell, B. **Willow Carol** - PPM00836
SAB and organ
- Stover, H. **Shall I Tell You Who Will Come to Bethlehem?** - PPM00828
SATB and organ
- Healey, D. **Ye Angels, Whose Harmonious Strains** – PPM00838
SATB and organ
- Thou Whose Birth on Earth** - PPM00837
SATB and piano or harp
- Wonacott, G. **Hodie Christus Natus Est** - PPM00841
SSATB and piano
- Hotton, M. **Sweet Baby, Sleep** - PPM00822
SATB a cappella
- Weidner, R. **New Year Carol** - PPM00829
SATB and organ
- Halls, D. **On the Birthday of the Lord** - PPM00218
SATB w/ descant and organ
- Sleep, My Little Babe, Sleep** - PPM00724
SATB and organ
- Sweet Was the Song the Virgin Sang** - PPM00219
Two-part choir and organ



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