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Carol of the Stable

Robert W. Lehman

SATB a cappella

Robert W. Lehman

Robert W. Lehman, conductor, organist, harpsichordist and composer, holds degrees in organ performance, conducting, church music, and an earned doctorate in liturgical musicology where his particular focus is the ecclesiastical music of the English Middle Ages beginning with chant and culminating in the complex polyphony of the late fifteenth-century Eton Choirbook.

He has served on the staff of several distinguished churches, including the Washington National Cathedral (of which he is a Fellow), the Princeton University Chapel, and Saint Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, New York City. For fourteen years he served as organist and choirmaster of historic Christ Church, New Haven, Connecticut where, under his leadership, the choir and music program gained an international reputation for excellence. He has appeared with major symphony orchestras and chamber ensembles as conductor and soloist, has recorded an extensive discography, and his work is heard regularly over NPR and the BBC. In 2008 he joined the staff of the Episcopal Church of St. Michael & St. George in St. Louis as Organist and Choirmaster.

For Robbie and Cindy Johnson
in friendship and thanks for their great kindness

Carol of the Stable

SATB a cappella

The text is drawn from the writings of Isaac Watts (1674–1748)
and other traditional sources.

Robert Lehman

With a slow and gentle lilt, freely, and with great expression

p Ho - ly
Soprano Alto
Sleep, thou child, and peace at - tend thee, Ho - ly an - gels
Tenor Bass
p thee
4 vig - il
'round thy head; Ox and cat - tle keep their vig - il
vig - il
7 thy *pp*
In the sta - ble 'round thy bed. Lo, the earth, in
pp
10 Wel - comes
si - lence sleep - ing Wel - comes not this ho - ly child;

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13 keep - ing

Ten - der mo - ther, vi - gil keep - ing O'er — her son, — so

16 and

Soprano 1 - 2
Gen - tle
mp

meek and mild. — Gen - tle Ma - ry, lov - ing moth - er,

Alto
mp

moth - er,

19 Ho - ly

Tenor
mf

Ho - ly wo - man, sa - cred womb; — Thou — art cho - sen a -

Bar/Bass
mf

22

- bove — all oth - ers; thou — wilt see — him to the tomb. —

Full
25 *mp*

S
A

Grace and peace, the world's Re-deem - er, Des - tined for a

T
B

mp

28

cru - el fate; He who formed the arch - ing heav - ens

31 *mf*

es - tate. Heav - 'nly Host, their

Sleeps in such a low es - tate. Heav - 'nly Host, their

mf

34 the

si - lence break - ing, Tell the shep - herds where they lie,

break - ing,

37

Choirs of stars and an - gel hosts sing "Glo - ry be to

40

on

With exaltation

f

God on high!" Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

f De - o!

43

An - gels

An - gels sing o'er all the earth; Glo - ri - a in ex -

46

rit.

p

ho - ly

- cel - sis De - o! Sing we of this ho - ly birth!

p

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