



Choral Music for Women

for the Contra Costa Children's Choir

Today the Virgin Gives Birth

Kontakion for Christmas
SSA Choir a cappella

Byzantine Chant, Tone III
Arranged by Anthony Doherty

With flowing motion ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 144$ / $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 48$)

The musical score is written for a single voice part in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins with a *mp* dynamic and a 3/8 time signature. The second staff starts at measure 6 with a *mf* dynamic and a 2/4 time signature. The third staff starts at measure 13 with a *mf* dynamic and a 2/4 time signature. The fourth staff starts at measure 19 with a *mf* dynamic and a 2/4 time signature. The fifth staff starts at measure 25 with a *f* dynamic and a 2/4 time signature. The sixth staff starts at measure 29 with a *mf* dynamic and a 2/4 time signature. The piece concludes with a final 3/8 time signature. The lyrics are: To - day the Vir - gin gives birth to the Tran - scen - dent One, and the earth pre - sents a cave to the Un - ap - proach - a - ble One. An - gels with shep - herds give Him glo - ry; wise men fol - low a star as they jour - ney to Him Who is God from all a - ges, yet for our sake is born as a lit - tle child.

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35 *Soprano p*

To - day the Vir - gin gives birth to the Tran -

Alto p

40 *mp*

scen - dent One, and the earth pre - sents a cave to the Un - ap -

mp

47 *mf*

proach - a - ble One. An - gels with shep -

mf

52 *mp*

herds give Him glo - ry; wise men fol - low a

mp

58 *f mp*

star as they jour - ney to Him Who is God from all a - ges, yet

f mp

63 *p*

for our sake is born as a lit - tle child.

p

69 *mf* *f*

To - day the Vir - gin gives birth to the Tran -

mf *f*

74 *mf* *f*

scen - dent One, and the earth pre - sents a cave

mf *f*

80 *f*

to the Un - ap - proach - a - ble One. An - gels with

f

85 *mp*

shep - herds give Him glo - ry; wise men fol - low a

mp

92 *ff*

star as they jour - ney to Him Who is God from all a - ges,

ff

Slower *p* 97 *pp*

yet for our sake is born as a lit - tle child.

p *pp*

*GREEK VERSION for Verse 1

With flowing motion ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 144 / \text{♩} = \text{ca. } 48$)

mp
I Par - the - nos si - me - ron ton i - pe - rou - si - on

mf *p* *mp*
ti - kti, ke i gi - to spi - le - on

12 *mf* *p* *mf*
to a - pro - si - to pro - sa - gi. An - ge - li

17 *mp*
me - ta pi - me - non dho - xo - lo - gou - si.

22 *mf*
Ma - gi dhe me - ta a - ste - ros o - dhi - po - rou -

28 *f* *mp*
si. Dhi i - mas gar e - gen - ni - thi pe - dhi - on ne -

32 *mf* *mp* *p*
on o pro e - o - non The - os.

*This verse may be substituted for the initial unison section on page 1.

Pronunciation Guide

All vowels and consonants as in Latin, except:

- dh: voiced *th* as in *then*
- th: unvoiced *th* as in *thick*
- g: always hard, as in *get*
- ou: *oo* as in *boot*