

OCP Choral Series

Midnight Silence

composed for the 100th Anniversary of the Christmas Vigil Mass,
The Summit Country Day School, Cincinnati, Ohio
for Assembly, Cantor, SATB Choir, Keyboard, and Guitar

Mark Friedman

INTRO: Peacefully (♩ = ca. 77)

8va

Keyboard *mp*

VERSE 1: Cantor or Unison Choir

mp

1. Mid - night si - lence, calm is the sky, earth is still and

mp

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A handbell part is available in the Age To Age Instrument Book, edition 10928.

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1. win-ter is nigh. Shin - ing star will light — the way

1. for our Sav - ior born this day.

VERSE 2: Tenor/Bass

mp
2. For all a - ges God — has come, shep - herds greet the

2. Ho - ly One. Low - ly man - ger, cat - tle stall

2. bears the Sav - ior of us all.

VERSE 3: Soprano/Alto

3. Ti - ny babe so full of grace, we, your peo - ple

3. seek your face. Let our hearts keep warm in your light

3. as we kneel this ho - ly night.

VERSE 4

Melody (Assembly only)

mp *cresc.* *mf*

4. An - gel choirs — flood — the earth, sing the news of

S *mp* *cresc.* *mf*

4. An - gel choirs — flood — the earth, sing the news of

A

T *mp* *cresc.* *mf*

4. An - gel choirs — flood — the earth, sing the news of

B

mp *cresc.* *mf*

4. An - gel choirs — flood — the earth, sing the news of

mp *cresc.* *mf*

mp

4. Je - sus' birth. In - fant sleep - ing on — the hay

mp

4. Je - sus' birth. In - fant sleep - ing on — the hay

mp

4. Je - sus' birth. In - fant sleep - ing on — the hay

mp

4. Je - sus' birth. In - fant sleep - ing on — the hay

mp

4. brings the dawn - ing of the day.

4. brings — the dawn - ing — of — the day.

The musical score for Verse 4 consists of three systems. The first system shows a vocal line in G major with a 2/4 time signature, followed by a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are "4. brings the dawn - ing of the day." The second system shows a vocal line with a 2/4 time signature, followed by a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are "4. brings — the dawn - ing — of — the day." The third system shows a piano accompaniment with a 2/4 time signature, followed by a 4/4 time signature.

8va

p *poco rit.*

The piano accompaniment for Verse 4 is shown in two systems. The first system is marked *p* and the second system is marked *poco rit.* The music is in G major and 4/4 time.

VERSE 5
Melody (Assembly only)

mp a tempo

5. Mid - night si - lence, calm is the sky, earth is still and

S *mp a tempo*

A 5. Mid - night si - lence, calm is the sky, earth is still and

T *mp a tempo*

B *mp a tempo*

mp a tempo

The musical score for Verse 5 consists of four systems. The first system shows a vocal line in G major with a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are "5. Mid - night si - lence, calm is the sky, earth is still and". The second system shows a vocal line with a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are "5. Mid - night si - lence, calm is the sky, earth is still and". The third system shows a vocal line with a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are "5. Mid - night si - lence, calm is the sky, earth is still and". The fourth system shows a piano accompaniment with a 4/4 time signature.

5. win-ter is nigh. Shin - ing star will light — the way
light —

5. win-ter is nigh. Shin - ing star will light — the way
light the, light the —

5. for our Sav - ior born this day.

5. for — our Sav - ior born this day.

5. way, Sav - ior born this day. *8va*

p

rit.

Midnight Silence

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composed for the 100th Anniversary of the Christmas Vigil Mass,
The Summit Country Day School, Cincinnati, Ohio

(Guitar/Vocal)

Mark Friedman

INTRO: Peacefully (♩ = ca. 77)

G D/F# C/E Bm/D Am G C D

VERSE 1
G Gsus4 G C/G G (a tempo) Dsus4 D C Bm

mp 1, 5. Mid - night si - lence, calm is the sky,
mp 2. For all a - ges God has come,
p 3. Ti - ny babe so full of grace,
mp 4. An - gel choirs flood the earth,

Am G C D C G Bm7 C

1, 5. earth is still and win - ter is nigh. Shin - ing star will light the way
2. shep - herds greet the Ho - ly One. Low - ly man - ger, cat - tle stall
3. we, your peo - ple seek your face. Let our hearts keep warm in your light
4. sing the news of Je - sus' birth. In - fant sleep - ing on the hay

G D 1-3 G Gsus4 G C/G D.S.

1, 5. for our Sav - ior born this day.
2. bears the Sav - ior of us all.
3. as we kneel this ho - ly night.
4. brings the dawn - ing of the

4 G p D/F# C/E D Am G C D poco rit. D.S.

4. day.

Final
G p D/F# C/E D Am G C D G rit.

5. day.

Assembly Edition

MIDNIGHT SILENCE

Mark Friedman

1,5. Mid - night si - lence, calm is the sky, earth is still and
 2. For all a - ges God has come, shep - herds greet the
 3. Ti - ny babe so full of grace, we, your peo - ple
 4. An - gel choirs flood the earth, sing the news of

1,5. win - ter is nigh. Shin - ing star will light the way for our
 2. Ho - ly One. Low - ly man - ger, cat - tle stall bears the
 3. seek your face. Let our hearts keep warm in your light as we
 4. Je - sus' birth. In - fant sleep - ing on the hay brings the

1-3, Final (♩) (Fine) 4 4 to Vs 5

1,5. Sav - ior born this day. 4. day.
 2. Sav - ior of us all.
 3. kneel this ho - ly night.
 4. dawn - ing of the

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Performance Notes

Composed for the 100th anniversary of the Christmas Vigil Mass at The Summit Country Day School Chapel in Cincinnati, *Midnight Silence* is a hymn for use at Midnight Mass and liturgies throughout the Christmas season. It can be sung by the choir as an anthem or meditative piece, or by the assembly as a gathering song, communion song, or song of thanksgiving and praise. Its presentation and instrumentation should reflect the simplicity and beauty of the song and of the season itself. The richness of the accompaniment may further be enhanced by handbells or strings, both available from OCP Publications, and the keyboardist may choose to play either piano or organ. Care should be taken to faithfully render the music and lyrics in a gentle and lullaby-like manner. The progression of verses featuring cantor, men's voices, women's voices, and full choral scoring allows the piece to build in expression and texture.

—M.F.