

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS

as recorded by The Collingsworth Family on "A True Family Christmas"

From the Prism Music collection **HERE WITH US**

Arranged and Orchestrated by
Bradley Knight

70 Rubato ♩ = 82

Musical notation for measures 1-3. Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), 4/4 time signature. The piece begins with a piano introduction marked *mf*. The melody in the right hand starts with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass line consists of sustained chords.

Musical notation for measures 4-7. The tempo is marked *rit.* (ritardando) and *f a tempo* (forte at tempo). The melody continues with eighth and quarter notes. The bass line features a steady accompaniment of chords.

Musical notation for measures 8-11. The tempo is marked *Slower* ♩ = 76. The piece is marked *a tempo* (at tempo), *rit.*, *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *p* (piano). The melody includes a half note G4 and a quarter note A4. The bass line has long, sustained chords.

NARRATOR: Merry Christmas! I'd like to share with you what I believe is the greatest story ever told...
the story of The First Christmas.

Musical notation for measures 12-15. The tempo is marked *rit.* and *a tempo*. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes. The bass line features sustained chords.

Now, imagine yourself over 2,000 years ago, standing on a hillside near a little town in Judea. Look over in the distance.
You'll see a man slowly leading a donkey down the road.

Musical notation for measures 16-19. The tempo is marked *rit.* and *a tempo*. The melody continues with quarter and eighth notes. The bass line features sustained chords.

His name is Joseph. Sitting on the back of the donkey is a young virgin lady named Mary.
They've been on a very long journey, and they're headed for that little village you see.

20 71 1:13

accel.

Something very special will take place there tonight. For this is the little town of Bethlehem.

24 *CHOIR*
p

rit.

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Andante ♩ = 73

27

lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie. A -

rit.

mp

31

bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by. Yet, -

TENORS

35

accel.

a tempo

accel.

rit.

in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light. The

Add BASSES

39

a tempo

rit.

a tempo

hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to-night.

NARRATOR: If you follow Mary and Joseph into the town, you'll see that it's getting dark, and all of the rooms in all of the inns are taken, but one innkeeper tells them they can spend the night in a stable nearby.

72 2:23

Heavenly ♩ = 80

44

This is where something special will take place. You see, inside that stable, a baby boy is born to Mary and Joseph,

48

whom they call "Jesus." They have no baby's crib, so Mary puts little Jesus to sleep in the soft hay of a manger.

73 2:55

LADIES

p

53

"Away In A Manger"

58

way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, the lit - tle Lord

63

Je - sus lay down His sweet head. The stars in the sky looked

68 *rit.*

down where He lay, the little Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the

NARRATOR: Now imagine that you leave that peaceful scene in the stable and head back out to the hillside. There, you see a group of shepherds tending

74 3:39 **Mysteriously** ♩ = 80

73 *rit. a tempo*

hay.

pp rit. a tempo

their flocks. All of a sudden, the shepherds become frightened, for the skies above are instantly filled with a great light.

Faster ♩ = 85 **Slower** ♩ = 72

78

ff

Then, you hear the voice of the angel of God, who encourages the shepherds to “Fear Not,” for he brings Good News of a Savior born this day—a Savior who is Christ the Lord.

75 4:13

82 $\text{♩} = 79$ $\text{♩} = 73$ $\text{♩} = 79$ $\text{♩} = 82$

“The First Noel” $\text{♩} = 78$

86 *rit.* *mf*

No - el, no - el! No - el, no -

rit. *mf*

$E\flat$ F $E\flat$ $F13$ $B\flat$ $E\flat maj7$ F F $B\flat$ $E\flat$ D $E\flat$ $F2$ $E\flat$

90 *rit.* *a tempo* *rit.*

el! Born is the King of Is - ra -

rit. *a tempo* *rit.*

$B\flat$ D F A Gm $B\flat maj7$ F $E\flat$ $B\flat$ D $E\flat$ F C $B\flat$ $B\flat$ $B\flat$ $F7$

94 *a tempo* *rit.*

el! No - el, no - el! No - el, no -

B \flat D F \sharp Gm E \flat maj7 Dm7 B \flat D E \flat F Gm F/A

a tempo *rit.*

98 *a tempo*

el! Born is the King of

B \flat F \sharp 7 Gm B \flat maj7 E \flat B \flat D E \flat F C

a tempo

102 *rit.* *a tempo*

Is - ra - el!

B \flat B \flat F B \flat D E \flat F B \flat

rit. *a tempo* *p*

76 5:02 Slightly Faster

NARRATOR: After hearing the angel's announcement, you hear the shepherds ask the angel where to find the Christ Child.

The angel tells them to go to the manger, where they will find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes.
As the shepherds leave, the skies are filled with a multitude of angels, saying,

107

rit. *a tempo*

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to all men.”

111

rit. *p accel.* *rit.*

Glo

TENORS, falsetto

rit. *accel.* *rit.*

The shepherds rush to the manger and fall on their knees in worship,
for this child is Christ the Lord.

115

a tempo *rit.*

ri - a! O

a tempo *rit.*

77 5:39

“O Come All Ye Faithful”

119

come, let us a - dore Him. O come, let us a - dore Him. O

78 6:11

123

come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord.

127

rit. **f** *a tempo*

For He a - lone is wor - thy. For

rit. **f** *a tempo*

10
130

He a - lone is wor - thy. For He a - lone is

133

wor - thy, Christ the Lord.

79 6:49 NARRATOR: Now, look up into the sky. Do you see that beautiful bright star gleaming in the heavens? There are three men who are also looking at that star. They're traveling from far away.

137

Ethereal ♩ = 77

pp

They are using the star as a guide to lead them to the Christ Child. Who are these three men that followed the star?

80 7:08

141

Desert Feel ♩ = 120

rit. *mp* Bm

"We Three Kings"

144

MEN
mp

144

We three kings of O - ri - ent are;

Bm B⁴ Bm

p

Musical score for measures 144-146. It features a vocal line for men in a key of B major (two sharps) and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of chords in the left hand and a melodic line in the right hand. The lyrics are: "We three kings of O - ri - ent are;". Chords indicated are Bm, B⁴, and Bm. The piano part starts with a *p* dynamic.

147

147

bear - ing gifts we trav - erse a - far, field and foun - tain,

B⁴ Bm Bm A
C#

Musical score for measures 147-149. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "bear - ing gifts we trav - erse a - far, field and foun - tain,". Chords indicated are B⁴, Bm, Bm, and A/C#. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a melodic line.

150

150

moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star,

D B7 Em F^o7 Bm

rit.

Musical score for measures 150-152. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star,". Chords indicated are D, B7, Em, F^o7, and Bm. The piano part includes a *rit.* (ritardando) marking. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

81 7:40 NARRATOR: Yes... those three men are the three wise men. The bright star leads them straight

153

pp

Musical score for measures 153-155. It features a piano accompaniment in a key of B major (two sharps). The tempo is marked as $\text{♩} = 118$. The piano part starts with a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic. The score consists of chords in the right hand and a melodic line in the left hand.

to Bethlehem where they meet baby Jesus. There, the three wise men present the first Christmas gifts ever given to anyone:

155

(timed with the musical accents) Gold Frankincense and Myrrh.

157 *rit.*

And they, too, fall on their knees to worship Him. But why would these noble men bow down to worship a child?

161 $\text{♩} = 66$

You see, this is no ordinary child! This child is God's gift to us!
He has brought us the gospel of love and peace! He has come to set the captive free!

166

He has come to bring salvation for you and for me! That is why we celebrate this night called Christmas.

171 $\begin{matrix} \text{A} \\ \text{E} \end{matrix}$

82

8:36

Ab(unis.)

Ab⁷sus

176

“O Holy Night”

MEN *mf*

180

Tru - ly, He taught us to love one a -

184

noth - er. His law is love, and His gos - pel is peace.

189

Chains shall He break, for the slave is our bro -

ther, and in His name all o - pres - sion_ shall cease. Sweet

C^o7 F#m C# C# E# F#m

hymns of joy in grate - ful cho - rus raise we. Let all with -

A^{7sus} D/A A^{7sus}

in us praise His ho - ly name!

A/G D/F# Dsus/E D N.C. F# C# Bm F# A#

ff

209

Christ is the Lord! O praise

Ten. mel.

Bm F#m Em

f

214

His name for - ev - er! His pow'r and

Bm F#m Bm Gm D A

D F#m C#m Bb A G

219

glo - ry ev - er - more pro - claim!

D F#m G D A C# D

His pow'r and glo - ry

D Dsus D Em D A A G D F# D G Em G

ev - er - more pro - claim!

D A A D

84 10:18 rit.

a tempo
A FEW sopranos take the upper part

Fall on your knees!

D D/C Gm Bb D7 A Gm Dm F A E Dm

rit. *ff a tempo*

238

O hear the an - gel voic - es! O

Cm Gm Bb D A Gm Ebm Bb C D Ebm

243

night di - vine, O night

Bb F Eb Bb D Eb Bb F

248

when Christ was born. O night di -

F A Bb Dm Gm F Eb

vine, O night, O

B \flat D E \flat B \flat F F (unis.)

night di vine, di -

B \flat B \flat A B \flat A \flat E \flat m G \flat E \flat m B \flat G \flat F E \flat m

vine!

B \flat