

A Shepherd's Carol

Anonymous

Old Besançon Carol

Arr. Ken Berg

(Besançon is in eastern France, close to Switzerland)

Ken Berg's bio is at www.sbmp.com

$\text{♩} = 135$

Percussion mid

Percussion low

9

15

23

pp

pp

pp

T

B

Shep-herds, the cho - rus come and swell!

The score is written for percussion and voice. It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 135. The percussion part consists of two staves: 'Percussion mid' and 'Percussion low'. The music is in 3/4 time. The vocal part is written for Tenor (T) and Bass (B) voices. The lyrics are: 'Shep-herds, the cho - rus come and swell!'. The score includes measure numbers 9, 15, and 23. The percussion part features various rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The vocal part features a melody with lyrics under the notes. The dynamic marking *pp* (pianissimo) is used for the vocal part starting at measure 23.

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Shep-herds, the cho - rus come and swell! Shep-herds, the cho - rus come and swell!

Shep-herds, O Shep-herds, the cho - rus come and swell! Sing no - el, no - el!

No - el, no - el! Shep-herds, the might - y

Three percussion parts (snare, tom, and cymbal) are shown in the top system. They play a rhythmic pattern in 4/4 time, transitioning to 3/4 time. The dynamic marking is *f* *fp*. The vocal accompaniment (treble and bass clef) is in 4/4 time, transitioning to 3/4 time, and then to 3/4 time with a key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#). The lyrics are: cho - rus come and swell!

39

Three percussion parts (snare, tom, and cymbal) are shown in the top system. They play a rhythmic pattern in 3/4 time, transitioning to 4/4 time. The dynamic marking is *mp*. The vocal accompaniment (treble and bass clef) is in 3/4 time, transitioning to 4/4 time, and then to 3/4 time with a key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#). The lyrics are: Shep-herds, shake off your drow - sy sleep! Rise and leave your

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Three percussion parts (snare, tom, and cymbal) are shown in the top system. They play a rhythmic pattern in 4/4 time, transitioning to 3/4 time, then 4/4 time, and finally 3/4 time. The vocal accompaniment (treble and bass clef) is in 4/4 time, transitioning to 3/4 time, then 4/4 time, and finally 3/4 time with a key signature change to two sharps (F# and C#). The lyrics are: sil - ly sheep, An - gels from heav'n a - round are sing - ing, ti - dings

49

of great joy are bring - ing, Shep - herds, the cho - rus come and swell!

Sing no - el, no - el! Sing no - el!

57

Verse 2 *mp*

Hark! E - ven now the bells ring 'round!

61

Lis - ten to their mer - ry sound: Hark! How the birds now

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songs are mak - ing as if win - ter's chains are break - ing.

67

Shep - herds, the cho - rus come and swell! Sing no - el, no - el! Sing no -

mf

mf

mf

mf

el!

el!

75

mp

mp

mp

Verse 3 *p leggiero*

See how the flow'rs all burst a - new, think-ing the snow is sum - mer dew:

p leggiero

79

p leggiero

See how the stars a - fresh are glow - ing all of their bright - est

beams be - stow - ing!

86

Com-eth at length the age of peace, strife and sor - row

90

now shall ___ cease! Proph-ets fore-told the won - drous sto - ry of ___ this

96

heav'n - born Prince of Glo - ry! Shep - herds, the cho - rus

come and swell! Sing no - el, no - el! Sing no -

100

ff

p

ff

1001-9

f *mf*

f *mf*

f *mf*

Verse 5 *f* *sempre dolce*

Shep-herds! Then up and quick a - way. Go seek the

f *sempre dolce*

112

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Babe ere break__ of day; He is the hope of

ev - 'ry na - tion, All__ in Him__ shall find__ sal - va - tion!

120

Shep - herds, the cho - rus come and swell,

Sing no - el, O sing no

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128

el Shep - herds the cho - rus come and swell,
Shep - herds the cho - rus come and swell! Shep - herds the cho - rus come and swell,

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The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system features a vocal line with lyrics and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "el! Sing! Sing no - el! Sing! Sing no -". The piano part includes dynamic markings *f* and *f*. The second system features three drum parts and piano accompaniment. The drum parts are marked with *p* and *ff*. The piano accompaniment includes dynamic markings *ff* and *ff*. The lyrics for the second system are: "el, no - el!".

About the drums

The intended drums for this piece are Japanese "Taiko" drums. If they are not available, use drums pitched high, medium and low. No snares, no shakers. It is best if they are beaten with sticks or mallets as opposed to manually. The percussion part is available as a free download at sbmp.com.

Listen to a recording at www.sbmp.com

Performed by the Graduate Choristers of the Birmingham Boys Choir
Ken Berg, conductor