

What Sound Upon the Midnight Air?

SATB w/Piano and Organ (optional)

Sally DeFord

(Organ chimes)

$\text{♩} = 80$

mf Piano

Organ and piano play voice parts:

mp

1. What
2. What

6

8

sound up - on the mid - night air, o'er Beth - le - hem is ring - ing? The e - cho of an
light hath rent the mid - night sky, From realms ce - les - tial spring - ing? O'er Ju - dah migh - ty

mf

10

rit. *a tempo*

12

rit. *a tempo*

an - them fair, In ans - wer to an age - less prayer, the an - gels joy - ful
le - gions fly, A - blaze in glo - ry from on high, Cre - a - tion trem - bles
cresc.

14

rit. *a tempo*

16

rit.

tid - ings their bear, And can - not cease from sing - ing
at their cry, *f* *mf* *p*

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224 Tamarron Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80919 719/260-8925
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Organ chimes:

Women *p* Glo ri - a, *mp* In ex - cel - cis De - o,

unison:

Piano *pp* legato

mf And on the earth be peace, *mp* good will, good will toward men.

Soprano I *p* Glo ri a, *mp* In ex - cel - cis - De - o, *mf* And on the

Soprano II (Small notes 2nd time only.) *p* men. Glo ri - a, *mp* In ex - cel - cis - De - o,

Alto will, good will toward men. *p* Glo ri - a, *mp* In ex - cel - cis -

Tenor/Bass *p* Glo - ri - a -, Glo - ri - a, Glo - ri - a -, Glo - ri - a, Glo - ri - a -,

ppp quasi niente (organ tacet)

30 1 32 2 34

earth be peace, *mp* good will, good will toward men. *subito f* Sing

mf And on the earth be peace, *mp* good will, good will toward earth be peace, *mp* good will toward men. *subito f* Sing

De - o, *mf* And on the earth be peace, *mp* Good *mf* And on earth good *mp* will toward men, *subito f* Sing

Glo - ri - a, Glo - ri - a -, Glo - ri - a, Glo - ri - a -, Glo - ri - a. *subito f* Sing

subito f

Organ: *f*

Soprano 36 38

glo - - - - ri - a, ye men and an - gels ming ling, A -

Alto

glo - - - ri - a, ye men and an - gels ming - ling, A -

Tenor

glo - ri - a, sing glo - - ri - a, ye men and an - gels ming - ling, A -

Bass

glo - - - - ri - a, ye men and an - gels ming ling, A -

40 *rit.* *ff* *And a tempo* 42

bide in peace, good will in - crease, And ne - ver cease from sing - ing.

bide in peace, good will in - crease, And ne - ver cease from sing - ing,

bide in peace, good will in - crease, And ne - ver cease from sing - ing,

bide in peace, good will in - crease, And ne - ver cease from sing - ing,

rit. *ff* *a tempo*

rit.

44 *mf* *f* 46

Glo - - - ri - a, Glo - - - ri - a,

Glo - - - ri - a, Glo - - - ri - a, Glo - - ri - a, Glo - ri - a,

Glo - - - ri - a, Glo - - - ri - a, Glo - ri - a,

Glo - ri - a, Glo - ri - a, Glo - ri - a, Glo - ri - a,

mf *f*

In ex - cel - cis, in ex - cel - cis in ex - cel - cis

In ex - cel - cis, in ex - cel - cis, in ex - cel - cis

In ex - cel - cis, in ex - cel - cis, in ex cel - cis

In ex - cel - cis, in ex - cel - cis, in ex - cel - cis

The score for measures 48-50 features four vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The vocal lines are in a B-flat major key and 4/4 time. The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand part with chords and a left-hand part with a steady eighth-note bass line. The lyrics are 'In ex - cel - cis, in ex - cel - cis in ex - cel - cis'.

ff De - rit. - o.

ff De - rit. - o.

ff De - rit. - o.

ff De - rit. - o.

ff rit. *riten.*

rit.

The score for measures 50-52 features piano accompaniment. The right-hand part has sustained chords with a fermata over the first measure. The left-hand part has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Dynamics include *ff* (fortissimo) and *rit.* (ritardando). The key signature changes to B major in the final measure.