

Duration about 3 minutes

Soft, O Soft

William Copper

Grazioso (♩=88-96)

Piano

Measures 1-4 of the piano introduction. The music is in 3/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The tempo is marked 'Grazioso' with a quarter note equal to 88-96 beats per minute. The dynamic is 'p' (piano). The right hand features a melodic line with grace notes, while the left hand provides a simple harmonic accompaniment.

Measures 5-10 of the piano introduction. The melodic line in the right hand continues with more grace notes and slurs, and the accompaniment in the left hand remains consistent.

Measures 11-17 of the piano introduction. The piece concludes with a final melodic flourish in the right hand and a sustained chord in the left hand.

Soprano

(no divisi, alternate notes provided.)

Alto

(no divisi, alternate notes provided.)

Tenor

Bass

(no divisi, alternate notes provided.)

Vocal staves for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. The music begins at measure 18 with a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic. The lyrics are: "Soft, _____ still", "See, _____ star", "Soft, O soft, the night so deep, so still", "See, O see, yon bright and si - lent star", "Soft, O soft, the night so deep, so still", "See, O see, yon bright and si - lent star", "Soft, soft, deep, so still", "See, see, si - lent star". The dynamic changes to *p* (piano) for the final lines.

Measures 16-17 of the piano accompaniment for the vocal section. The music provides a harmonic foundation for the vocalists, featuring a simple accompaniment in the left hand and a melodic line in the right hand.

mp

si - lent the shep-herds watch from _ their hill. "The star is still shi - ning on
 wise kings told He - rod, "we've come so far". "We fol - low the star and a

si - lent the shep-herds watch from their hill. "The star is still shi - ning on
 wise kings told He - od, "we've come so far". "We fol - low the star and a

si - lent the shep-herds watch from _ their hill. "The star is still shi - ning on
 wise kings told He - rod, "we've come _ so far". "We fol - low the star and a

si - lent the shep-herds watch from their hill. "Star is still shi - ning on
 wise kings told He - rod, "we've come so far". "Fol - low the star and a

1.

Beth - le - lem".
 man - ger seek", *p*

Beth - le - lem". "Hush, the Ba - by is sleep - ing".
 man - ger seek", *pp*

Beth - le - lem". "Hush, the Ba - by is sleep - ing".
 man - ger seek", *pp*

Beth - le - lem". "Hush, Ba - by is sleep - ing".
 man - ger seek",

1.

ppp

(*) On some pianos it is more effective to knock on the wood with sustain pedal pressed.

30 2. *p*

"seek the Ba - by there sleep - - ing".

"seek the Ba - by there sleep - - ing".

"seek the Ba - by there sleep - - ing".

"seek Ba - by there sleep - - ing".

2.

pp cresc.

35 *f*

"Find that Ba - by now," King He - rod said, "Find Him and

"Find that Ba - by now," King He - rod said, "Find Him and

"Find Ba-by," He - rod said. "Find Him and

"Find Ba-by," He - rod said. "Find Him,

mf *f*

3

f
 end it all now," he said. "So go, and bring me that ba - by
f
 end it all now," he said. "So go, and bring me that ba - by
 end it all now," he said. "So go, and bring me that ba - by
 end it, now," he said. "Go, bring me ba - by

Piano accompaniment for measures 40-45, featuring a right-hand melody with eighth and sixteenth notes and a left-hand bass line with eighth notes.

ff
 boy: His in - fant king-dom is end - - ing."
ff
 boy: His in - fant king-dom is end - - ing."
ff
 boy: — His in - fant king-dom is end - - ing."
ff
 boy: — His in - fant king-dom is end - - ing."

Piano accompaniment for measures 46-51, featuring a right-hand melody with eighth notes and a left-hand bass line with eighth notes and chords.

52

p
Ah, _____ star-lit

p
Wise men ride a-long the star - lit

p
Wise men ride a-long the star - lit

p
Ah, ride, star - lit

mf

(f)

p

57

way, find _____ the man - ger with break - ing day. "We

way, find - ing the man - ger with break - ing day. We"

way, find - ing the man - ger with break - ing day. "We

way, find - ing the man - ger with break - ing day.

way, find - ing the man - ger with break - ing day.

bring our gifts to the new - born king". Hush, the an-gels are
 bring our gifts to the new - born king". Hush, the an-gels are
 bring our gifts to the new - born king". Hush, the an-gels are
 bring our gifts to the new born king". Hush, an-gels are

pp

(optional) *pp rit.*
 sing - ing. Hush, the an - gels are sing - - ing.
pp
 sing - ing. Hush, the an - gels are sing - ing.
pp rit.
 sing - ing. Hush, the an - gels are sing - ing.
pp rit.
 sing - ing. Hush, an - gels are sing - ing.

pp ppp *pp* *p*