

Commissioned by Westminster Choir College for "Readings and Carols," 2013.

FESTIVAL FIRST NOWELL

SATB Voices, Audience, Organ, Brass and Percussion

THE FIRST NOWELL
Arr. Dan Forrest

English carol, 17th c.

Slowly unfolding, expressively ♩ = 60–69

mp sempre molto legato e espressivo

mf

Ped. *p*

The first system of the piano accompaniment for 'The First Nowell'. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The music is marked 'mp sempre molto legato e espressivo' and 'mf'. A pedal point is indicated in the bass line with 'Ped. p'.

ff

The second system of the piano accompaniment. It continues the melodic and harmonic development. A fortissimo ('ff') dynamic is introduced in the treble line.

to the fore

moving forward

The third system of the piano accompaniment. It includes performance directions: '*to the fore*' and '*moving forward*', indicating a shift in the music's character.

poco a poco rit.

The fourth system of the piano accompaniment. It concludes with the instruction '*poco a poco rit.*' (poco a poco ritardando), indicating a gradual deceleration.

Moving forward

S, A, Audience

f

22

The— first— No - well the— an - gels did say Was to

T, B f

27

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; In— fields— where

32

they lay,— keep - ing their sheep, On a cold win - ter's night— that

37

was — so deep: No - well, — No - well, No - well, No -

42

well, Born is the King — of Is - ra - el. —

w/long.

S, A, Audience Women on melody
mf gently

47

— They look - ed — up and — saw — a star shin - ing

mp

Man.

in the east beyond them far;

T, B, Audience Men on melody mf

And to the

Ped.

earth it gave great light, and so it continued both

Choir only S mp espress. poco a poco cresc.

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well, -

A mp espress. div. poco a poco cresc.

No - well, No - well, No - well, No -

T mp espress. poco a poco cresc. div.

day and night. No - well, No - well, No - well, No -

Choir only B mp espress. poco a poco cresc.

day and night. No - well, No - well, No - well, No -

p

77 *div.* **f** *poco a poco dim. e rit.* *unis.* **Like the beginning** ♩ = 63-66

No - well, the King of Is - ra - el.

f *poco a poco dim. e rit.* *unis.*

well, Born the King of Is - ra - el.

f *unis.* *poco a poco dim. e rit.*

well, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

f *poco a poco dim. e rit.*

well, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

poco a poco rit. **mf**

73 **f** moving forward

Tempo I ♩ = 60-69

78 *poco rit.* **ff**

All Soprs

Molto maestoso

83

s ff

83

s ff

No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well,

A, Audience *ff*

A, Audience *ff*

Then let us all with one accord Sing

T, B *ff*

T, B *ff*

ff

88

88

No - well, to our heav'n - ly Lord, No - well,

prais - es to our heav'n - ly Lord That hath made

93

No - well, No - well, No - well, With His blood man -
 heav'n and earth of nought, and with His blood man -

98

poco a poco rit.
 kind hath bought; No - well, No - well, No - well, No -
poco a poco rit.
 kind hath bought: No - well, No - well, No - well, No -
poco a poco rit.
 kind hath bought: No - well, No - well, No - well, No -
poco a poco rit.
 kind hath bought: No - well, No - well, No - well, No -

103

well, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

well, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

well, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

well, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Piano accompaniment for the first system, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with chords and melodic lines in the key signature of two sharps.