

The Snow Lay on the Ground

SATB with Organ, optional Cello

J. Guy Stalnaker

Anglo-Irish carol; Unknown source, 19th cent.

The snow lay on the ground, The stars shone bright,
When Christ our Lord was born On Christmas night.
Venite adoremus Dominum; Venite adoremus Dominum;
Venite adoremus Dominum; Venite adoremus Dominum;

'Twas Mary, daughter pure Of holy Anne,
That brought into this world The God made man.
She laid Him in a stall At Bethlehem;
The ass and oxen shared The roof with them.
Venite adoremus Dominum; Venite adoremus Dominum;

Saint Joseph, too, was by To tend the Child;
To guard him, and protect His mother mild;
The angels hovered round, And sang this song,
Venite adoremus Dominum;
Venite adoremus Dominum; Venite adoremus Dominum;

And thus that manger poor Became a throne;
For He Whom Mary bore Was God the Son.
O come, then, let us join The heav'nly host,
To praise the Father, Son, And Holy Ghost.
Venite adoremus Dominum; Venite adoremus Dominum;

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The Snow Lay on the Ground

J. Guy Stalnaker

Andante (♩ = 60) *p*

Soprano
The snow lay on the ground, The stars shone bright, When Christ our Lord was born On

Cello (Opt.)
Introduction Verse 1
p

Organ

9

mp Christmas night. Ven - i - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num; Ven - i - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num; Ven - i - te a - do - re - mus *mf*

mp Ven - i - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num; Ven - i - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num; Ven - i - te a - do - re - mus *mf*

mf Ven - i - te a - do - re - mus *mf*

p All women *mf* Tutti Choir

20

re-mus Do-mi - num; Ven - i - te a - do - re-mus Do-mi - num; 'Twas *p* Mary, daughter pure Of ho - ly Anne, That

re-mus Do-mi - num; Ven - i - te a - do - re-mus Do-mi - num; 'Twas *p* Mary, daughter pure Of ho - ly Anne, That

re-mus Do-mi - num; Ven - i - te a - do - re-mus Do-mi - num;

re-mus Do-mi - num; Ven - i - te a - do - re-mus Do-mi - num;

Tacet cello, Women's Trio Verse Two

Choir

31

brought in-to this world The God made man. She laid Him in a stall At Beth-le - hem; The ass and ox-en

brought in-to this world The God made man. She laid Him in a stall At Beth-le - hem; The ass and ox-en

40 *mf*

shared The roof with them. Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num; Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-

shared The roof with them. Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num; Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-

50

num;

num; *mf*

Saint Joseph, too, was by To tend the Child; To guard him, and protect His moth-er mild; The

Saint Joseph, too, was by To tend the Child; To guard him, and protect His moth-er mild; The

Verse Three
Tacet Women, Men's Trio with Cello

mf

If cello unavailable, 8' octave

mf

59 *f*
 angels hovered round, And sang this song, Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num; Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus
 angels hovered round, And sang this song, Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num; Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus
f

69 *mf*
 And thus that manger poor Be-came a throne; For
 And thus that manger poor Be-came a throne; For
 Do-mi-num; Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num; And thus that manger poor Be-came a throne; For
 Do-mi-num; Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num; And thus that manger poor Be-came a throne; For
 Tutti All Verse Four
mf

79

He Whom Ma-ry bore Was God the Son. O come, then, let us join The heav'n-ly host, To praise the Fa-ther,
He Whom Ma-ry bore Was God the Son. O come, then, let us join The heav'n-ly host, To praise the Fa-ther,
He Whom Ma-ry bore Was God the Son. O come, then, let us join The heav'n-ly host, To praise the Fa-ther,
He Whom Ma-ry bore Was God the Son. O come, then, let us join The heav'n-ly host, To praise the Fa-ther,

88 *f* *Rallentando*

Son, And Ho-ly Ghost. Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num; Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num; The

Son, And Ho-ly Ghost. Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num; Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num;

Son, And Ho-ly Ghost. Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num; Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num;

mf

Son, And Ho-ly Ghost. Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num; Ven-i-te a-do-re-mus Do-mi-num;

f

100 *p* *Diminuendo*

snow lay on the ground, The stars shone bright, When Christ our Lord was born On Christ-mas night.

Coda *Diminuendo*

p

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Andante (♩ = 60)

Cello (Opt.)

p

Introduction Verse 1

All women

p

15

Tutti Choir

mf

Tacet cello,

28

Verse Two

Women's Trio

44

Verse Three

Tacet Women, Men's Trio with Cello

mf

58

f

71

Tutti All Verse Four

mf

83

f

95

Coda

p

Diminuendo