

arranged by

Peter Backhouse

The Lord at first did Adam make

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Carol arranged for
unaccompanied mixed voices

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The Lord at first did Adam make

English traditional carol
arranged by PETER BACKHOUSE
(b. 1954)

Andante $\text{♩} = 56$

mf

SOPRANO
ALTO

1. The Lord at first_ did A - dam make out of the dust_ and

TENOR
BASS

mf

4 clay, And in his nos-trils breath - ed_ life e'en as the scrip-tures say. And

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9 then in E - den's pa - ra - dise he_ pla - ced him to dwell, That

13

13 he with-in_ it should re - main, to dress and keep_ it well:

CHORUS
Now
f

17 *let good Chris-tians all be - gin*

f

Now all be - gin an ho - ly life to live, And

f

21

to re - jice and mer - ry be, for this is Christ - mas Eve.

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S. *p* 25 *mf*

Ah And

A. *mf* *p*

2. And thus with-in the gar - den he was set there - in to stay; Ah

29

in com-mand-ment un - to him these words the Lord did say:

mf 33

T. 'The fruit which in the gar - den grows to_ thee shall be for meat,'

B. *mp* Ah *mf* 'Ex -

37 *p*

Ah

-cept the tree_ in the midst there - of, of which thou shalt not eat.'

CHORUS

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f 41

S. Now let good Chris-tians all_ be gin

A. *f*

T. Now all be - gin an_ ho - ly life to live, And

B. *f*

45

to re - jice_ and mer - ry be, for this is Christ - mas Eve.

49

T. *mp* Ah *mf* 'If

B. *mf*

3. 'For in the day_ thou shalt it touch or dost to it come nigh,'

53

so thou do but eat_ there - of then thou shalt sure - ly die.'

mp

Ah

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57

S. But A - dam he did take_ no_ heed un - to that on - ly thing, But

A. But A - dam he did take no heed un - to that on - ly thing, But

61

did trans-gress_ God's ho - ly law, and so was wrapt in sin:

did trans - gress God's ho - ly law, and so was wrapt in sin:

CHORUS

Now let good Chris-tians all be - gin

S. A. *f* 65

T. B. *f*

Now all be - gin an ho - ly life to live, And

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of musical notation for the chorus. It features two vocal parts: Soprano (S.) and Alto (A.) on the top staff, and Tenor (T.) and Bass (B.) on the bottom staff. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music begins at measure 65. The Soprano and Alto parts have a melodic line with some grace notes. The Tenor and Bass parts provide a harmonic accompaniment with block chords and moving bass lines. Dynamics include a forte (*f*) marking at the start of the system and another at the beginning of the second line.

69

to re - joice and mer - ry be, for this is Christ - mas Eve.

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of musical notation, starting at measure 69. It continues the vocal parts from the previous system. The Soprano and Alto parts have a melodic line with some grace notes. The Tenor and Bass parts provide a harmonic accompaniment with block chords and moving bass lines. The music concludes at measure 72.

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73 *f*

4. Now mark the good - ness of the Lord, which he for man - kind bore, His

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of musical notation, starting at measure 73. It continues the vocal parts. The Soprano and Alto parts have a melodic line with some grace notes. The Tenor and Bass parts provide a harmonic accompaniment with block chords and moving bass lines. Dynamics include a forte (*f*) marking at the start of the system and another at the beginning of the second line. The music concludes at measure 76.

78

mer - cy soon he did ex - tend, lost man for to re - store; And

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of musical notation, starting at measure 78. It continues the vocal parts. The Soprano and Alto parts have a melodic line with some grace notes. The Tenor and Bass parts provide a harmonic accompaniment with block chords and moving bass lines. The music concludes at measure 81.

82

then, for to re - deem our_ souls from_ death and hell - ish thrall, He

86

Now let good Chris-tians

ff

said his own dear Son should be_ the Sa-viour of_ us all: *Now*

ff *Now let good*

91

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And

all_ be - gin_ an_ ho - ly life to live, and_ to, and_ *And*

Chris - tians all an ho - ly life_ to_ live, and_ to, and_

ff Be - gin_ an_ ho - ly life to live, and_

poco rit.

94

to re - joice_ and mer - ry be, re - joice and mer - ry be, for this is Christ - mas Eve. to, and mer - ry be, to_ re-joyce and mer - ry be_