

Commissioned by Michael Simmonds for the choir of Rochester Cathedral, director Scott Farrell

# Merrily did the shepherds blow

Christmas carol for SATB and organ or piano

Words: anon. 15th cent., altd.

Music: ALAN BULLARD  
(b. 1947)

Lively ♩ = c.112

SOPRANO  
ALTO

TENOR  
BASS

ORGAN  
or  
PIANO

*p*

4

S. (Choir 1) *mf*      S. (Choir 2) *mf*      (Choir 1) *f*

*mf*      *mf*      *f*

Be-ne-di-ca-mus Do-mi-no, Mer-ri-ly did the shep-herds blow, Be-ne-di-ca-mus Do-mi-no,

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*mf*      *f*

Man.

7

(Choir 2) *f*

*f*

Mer-ri-ly did the shep-herds blow!

Ped.

The markings (Choir 1) and (Choir 2) are optional.

10

T. B. (Choir 1) *p* (Choir 2) *mp*

A-bout the field they pip-èd full right, Al-though it was the

13

(Choirs 1+2) *mf* *f*

mid-dle of the night, Then down from hea-v'n saw they

15

S. A. (Choir 1) *f*

Be-ne-di-ca-mus Do-mi-no,

shine a bright light:

Man.

(Choir 2) *f* 17 Mer-ri-ly did the shep-herds blow,

(Choir 1) Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no,

(Choir 2) 19 *f* Mer-ri-ly did the shep-herds blow! \_\_\_\_\_

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(Choir 2)

Ped.

S. A. (Choir 1) 22 *mf* Of an - gels came a com - pa - ny, —

(Choir 2) *mf* With joy - ful songs and

(Choirs 1+2)

25

cheer-ful me - lo - dy, The mer - ry shep-herds ran with

27

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haste, them to see: Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, Man.

29

Mer-ri-ly did the shep-herds blow, Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no,

32 *f* (Choir 2)

*Mer-ri-ly did the shep-herds blow!* (Choirs 1+2)

*f* (Choir 2)

*mf*

Ped.

35 *f*

To Beth - le-hem the shep-herds took flight, Bathed in the an - gel's

*f*

To Beth - le-hem the shep-herds took flight, Bathed in the

*f*

38

glo - rious heav'n - ly light, And there they found a child in

an - gel's glo-rious heav'n - ly light, And there they

40

clothes daz - ling bright: Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no,

found a child in clothes daz - ling bright: Be - ne - di - ca - mus

*p*

42

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Mer - ri - ly did the shep - herds blow, Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no,

Do - mi - no, Mer - ri - ly did the shep - herds blow, Be - ne - di - ca - mus

*mp*

44

Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no.

Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no.

Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no, Mer - ri - ly did the shep - herds blow!

*rit.* *p* *pp* *mp*

Slower, but always moving on  $\text{♩} = c.96$

47

*p*

Now let us pray to that lit - tle child,

*p*

Now let us pray to that lit - tle child,

*p*

Now let us pray to that lit - tle child,

*p*

Now let us pray to that lit - tle

Slower, but always moving on  $\text{♩} = c.96$

*p*

PROMOTIONAL COPY  
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53

And to his mo - ther so hum - ble and mild,

And to his mo - ther so hum - ble and mild, So hum - ble and

And to his mo - ther so hum - ble and mild,

child, And to his mo - ther so

58

The Vir - gin Ma - ry un - de - filed.

mild, The Vir - gin Ma - ry un - de - filed.

The Vir - gin Ma - ry un - de - filed.

mild, The Vir - gin Ma - ry un - de - filed.

Solo

*p*

PROMOTIONAL COPY  
for reading only

63

*poco rit.*  
Do - mi - no.

SOLO 1 *mp*  
Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no.

SOLO 2 *p*

*mp*  
For

*mp*  
For

*poco rit.*

*mp*



A little more movement ♩ = c.104

67 FULL *p espress.*

ah, *p espress.*

ah, *espress.*

8 now is come our per - fect bliss, *espress.*

now is come our per - fect bliss,

A little more movement ♩ = c.104

Solo

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71 *mf*

With 'Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis', *mf*

With 'Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis'. *mf*

8 ah, With Glo - ri - a in ex - *mf*

ah, With 'Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - *mf*

76 *f*

As we may sing, may sing in

*f*

As we may sing, may sing in

*f*

8 -cel - sis', As we may sing in

*f*

sis', As we may sing in

*f*

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80 *mf* *p*

Pa - ra - dise, Pa - ra - dise.

*mf* *p*

Pa - ra - dise, Pa - ra - dise,

*mf* *p*

8 Pa - ra - dise, Pa - ra - dise, Pa - ra - dise, Pa - ra - dise.

*mf* *p*

Pa - ra - dise, Pa - ra - dise.

a little slower ♩ = c.96

Do - mi - no,

84

SOLO 1 *p* **PROMOTIONAL COPY for reading only**

Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no,

*pp* Pa - ra - dise.

*pp* ah.

*pp* ah.

a little slower ♩ = c.96

*pp*

Man.

poco rit.

shep-herds blow!

88

SOLO 1 *p* So gen - tly did the shep-herds blow!

SOLO 2 *pp*

poco rit.

*p*

92 **Tempo primo** ♩ = c.112

S.  
A.

T.  
B.

*pp*

95

B. (Choir 1)  
*pp*

T. (Choir 2)  
*pp*

Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, Mer - ri - ly did the shep - herds blow,

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Man.

(Choir 1) *ff*

(Choir 2) *p*

(Choir 2) *ff*

97 *ff* *p* *ff*

Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no, Mer - ri - ly did the shep - herds

*ff* (Choir 1) *p* (Choir 2) *ff*

100

*blow!* (Choir 1 + 2)

*f*

Ped.

102

*f*

I pray to all of you that are here, sing-ing, re-joic - ing

*unis. fp* *f* *fp*

*ah,* *Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no,* *ah,*

**PROMOTIONAL COPY  
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105

hap - pi - ly with good cheer, Prais-ing our God at the

*f*

*Mer-ri-ly did the shep - herds blow, shep - herds blow,*

107

close of this year. *ff* *Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, —*

*f* *Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no, ff*

*ff* *f*

109

*p*

*Mer - ri - ly did the shep - herds blow! Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no,*

*p*

*p*

111

*f* *Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no, Do - mi - no, —*

*f* *ff*

113 *ff*

Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, Mer - ri - ly did the shep - herds blow,  
 Be - ne - di - ca - mus, Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, Mer - ri - ly did the

*ff*

115 *f* *mf*

PROMOTIONAL COPY  
 for reading only

Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, Mer - ri - ly did the shep - herds blow,  
 shep - herds blow, Be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, Mer - ri - ly, mer - ri - ly,

*f* *mf*

**ff** **molto rit.**

Mer - ri - ly did the shep - herds blow, shep - herds

**ff** **molto rit.**

**PROMOTIONAL COPY  
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**a tempo** **allargando**

blow!

**ffp** **fff**

**a tempo** **allargando**

**ff** **fff**