

# THE FIRST NOWELL

for keyboard, choir and congregation

Traditional English Carol

arr. Benjamin Harlan

orch. Wes Ramsay

1 2 3 4 5 6 7

Flute 1-2 Warm, lyrical (♩ = c. 98) *mf*

Oboe *mf*

Clarinet 1-2 *mf*

Horn 1-2 Warm, lyrical (♩ = c. 98) *mf* *unis.* *div.*

Trumpet 1-2

Trombone

Cymbals Warm, lyrical (♩ = c. 98)

Chimes *mf*

Timpani

Harp Warm, lyrical (♩ = c. 98) *mf*

Choir Soprano *mf* The first Nowell the angel did  
Alto  
Tenor  
Bass

Piano *mf*

Violin I Warm, lyrical (♩ = c. 98) *mf* con sord. senza sord.

Violin II *mf* con sord. senza sord.

Viola *mf* con sord.

Cello *mf* con sord.

Contrabass *mf* con sord.

The First Nowell - Full Score - Page 2

8 9 10 11 12 13 14

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Cym.

Chm.

Timp.

Hp.

Choir

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

say, Was to cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay

*unis.*

*div.*

The First Nowell - Full Score - Page 3

15 16 17 18 19 20 21

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Cym.

Chm.

Timp.

Hp.

Choir

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

keep - ing their sheep, On a cold win - ter's night — that was — so deep. *f* Now - ell, — Now -

*cresc.*

*cresc.*

Detailed description: This page of a musical score for 'The First Nowell' includes parts for Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Cymbal, Chimes, Timpani, Harp, Piano, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The score is in a key with three flats and a common time signature. The choir part has lyrics: 'keep - ing their sheep, On a cold win - ter's night — that was — so deep. *f* Now - ell, — Now -'. The piano part features a steady accompaniment. The strings (Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass) have melodic lines with crescendos. The woodwinds (Flute and Oboe) have melodic lines with accents and slurs. The percussion (Cymbal, Chimes, and Timpani) are mostly silent.

The First Nowell - Full Score - Page 4

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

*1st only*

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The top section includes woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet), brass (Horn, Trumpet, Trombone), and percussion (Cymbal, Chimes, Timpani). The middle section features the Harp and Piano. The bottom section includes strings (Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, Contrabass) and a Choir. The score is in a key signature of three flats (B-flat major or D-flat minor) and a common time signature. The woodwinds and strings play a melodic line starting on measure 25, marked *mf*. The choir enters in measure 25 with the lyrics: "ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Born is the King of Is - - - ra - el." The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and a steady bass line.



The First Nowell - Full Score - Page 6

36

37

38

39

40

41

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. *unis.* *div.*

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Cym.

Chm.

Timp.

Hp.

Choir  
yond — them far, And — to — the — earth it — gave — great light, And —

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

6

6

Detailed description: This page of a musical score for 'The First Nowell' includes parts for Flute, Oboe, Clarinet (unison and divisi), Horn, Trumpet, Trombone, Cymbal, Chimes, Timpani, Harp, Choir, Piano, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The score is in a key with three flats and a common time signature. The choir part has lyrics: 'yond — them far, And — to — the — earth it — gave — great light, And —'. The woodwinds and strings have various melodic and harmonic parts, with some string parts featuring sixteenth-note runs marked with a '6' (sixteenth notes).



48 49 50 51 52 53

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn. *div.*

Tpt.

Tbn.

Cym.

Chm.

Timp.

Hp.

Choir

ell, Now - ell, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Pno. *mf*

Vln. I *tr*

Vln. II *tr*

Vla.

Vc. 6

Cb. 6



The First Nowell - Full Score - Page 10

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. *div.*

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Cym.

Chm.

Timp.

Hp.

Choir  
coun - try far, To seek for a king was their in - tent, And to fol - low the  
*unis.* *div.*

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla. *unis.* *div.*

Vc. *mf* *unis.*

Cb.

The First Nowell - Full Score - Page 11

68

69

70

71

72

73

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Cym.

Chm.

Timp.

Hp.

Choir

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

star — wher - ev - er it went. *f* Now - - - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now -

*unis.*

*unis.*

*div.*

*f*

*unis.* 6

*unis.* 6

6

74 75 76 77 78

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn. *div.* *unis.*

Tpt.

Tbn.

Cym.

Chm.

Timp.

Hp.

Choir  
ell, Born is the King of Is - - ra - el.

Pno.

Vln. I *tr.*

Vln. II *tr.*

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

With more breadth 79 80 81 82 83 84 85

Fl. *f* *un.* *div.*

Ob. *f*

Cl. *f* *un.* *div.*

Hn. *f* *div.*

Tpt. *f* *un.* *div.*

Tbn. *f* *un.* *div.*

Cym.

Chm.

Timp.

Hp. *f*

Choir

Then — let — us — all — with — one — ac — cord — Sing — prais — es — to — our

Pno.

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *f* *un.*

Vc. *f*

Cb. *f*

86 87 88 89 90 91

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn. *unis.* *div.*

Tpt.

Tbn.

Cym.

Chm.

Timp.

Hp.

Choir  
heav'n - ly Lord Who hath made heav'n and earth of naught, And

*unis.*

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Detailed description: This page of a musical score for 'The First Nowell' covers measures 86 to 91. The score is arranged for a full orchestra and choir. The instruments listed are Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Horn (Hn.), Trumpet (Tpt.), Trombone (Tbn.), Cymbal (Cym.), Chimes (Chm.), Timpani (Timp.), Harp (Hp.), Piano (Pno.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Contrabass (Cb.). The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is common time (C). The choir part includes the lyrics: 'heav'n - ly Lord Who hath made heav'n and earth of naught, And'. The score features various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings like 'unis.' (unison) and 'div.' (divisi). The harp part has a tremolo effect in measure 87. The piano part provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The string parts (Violins, Viola, Cello, and Contrabass) play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The woodwinds and brass parts have more complex rhythmic figures, including some rests and slurs.

Fl. 92 93 94 95 **Maestoso** 96 *unis.* 97

Ob.

Cl. *unis.* **Maestoso** *unis.* 96 *div.*

Hn. *unis.* 96 *div.*

Tpt.

Tbn. *unis.*

Cym. **Maestoso** 96

Chm.

Timp.

Hp. **Maestoso** 96

Choir  
with His blood man - kind hath bought. **ff** Now - ell, Now - ell, Now -

Pno. **ff**

Vln. I **Maestoso** 96

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

98 *div.* 99 100 *unis.* 101 *div.* 102 103

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hn.

Tpt.

Tbn.

Cym.

Chm.

Timp.

Hp.

Choir

Pno.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

ell, Now - ell, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.