

# What Sweeter Music

For SATB Choir unacc.

The Oak Park Concert Chorale

Robert Herrick 1591-1633

Paul Lindblad, conductor

Paul Bouman

Performance suggestion: The refrain could be sung by a mixed quartet or a small group, removed from the choir that sings the verses.

Simply and Joyfully (♩. about 60)

S  
A

mp 1. What sweet-er mu-sic can we bring than a car-ol car-ol

T  
B

car-ol car-ol

Detailed description: This system shows the first two staves of music. The Soprano and Alto parts are on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 6/8 time signature. The lyrics are "mp 1. What sweet-er mu-sic can we bring than a car-ol car-ol". The Tenor and Bass parts are on a bass clef staff with the same key signature and time signature. The lyrics are "car-ol car-ol".

car-ol, for to sing the birth of this our heav-en-ly King?

car-ol, for to sing the birth of this our heav-en-ly King?

Detailed description: This system shows the second two staves of music. The Soprano and Alto parts continue with the lyrics "car-ol, for to sing the birth of this our heav-en-ly King?". The Tenor and Bass parts also continue with the same lyrics. There are dynamic markings of *f* and *rit.* above the notes.

a tempo

A-wake the voice! A-wake the string!:

A-wake the voice! A-wake the string!:

Detailed description: This system shows the third two staves of music. The Soprano and Alto parts have the lyrics "A-wake the voice! A-wake the string!:". The Tenor and Bass parts also have the same lyrics. There are dynamic markings of *mf* above the notes.

*mf* Refrain a little faster (♩. = 74)

We see him come, and know him ours, who with his sun-shine

We see him come, and know him ours, who with his sun-shine

Detailed description: This system shows the fourth two staves of music, which is the refrain. The Soprano and Alto parts have the lyrics "We see him come, and know him ours, who with his sun-shine". The Tenor and Bass parts also have the same lyrics. The tempo is marked as "a little faster" with a quarter note equal to 74 beats per minute.



2

rit. abit

mp

and his show-ers Turns all the pa-tient ground to flowers.

tempo as at beginning

mp 2. Dark and dull night, fly hence a-way, And give the hon-our

to this day, That sees De-cem-ber turned to May, If we may

rit.

ask the rea-son, say: Refrain

a tempo

mp 3. The dar-ling of the world is come And fit it is we find a room to



*f* *rit.* *f* *3* *rit.*

wel-come him, to wel-come him. The nob-ler part of all the house

*slowly*

*p* here is the heart: Refrain

*mf*

4. Which we will give him, and be-queath This hol-ly and this

*rit.*

iv-ly wreath, To do him hon-our who's our King,

*deliberately* *rit.*

And Lord of all this rev-el-ling: Refrain