

The darkest midnight in December

Words: Irish traditional,
after Fr. William Devereux, fl. 1728

Music: adapted from an English traditional carol,
collected by Cecil Sharp,
arranged by MARK SWINTON

Flowing steadily ♩ = 108

Solo

mp

SOPRANO

1. The dark - est mid - night in De - cem - ber, No

5

snow nor hail nor win - ter's storm Shall hin - der us for

11

to re - mem - ber The babe that on this night was born.

Full

p

17

SOPRANO

2. Four thou - sand years from the cre - a - tion The world lay

ORGAN

Man. to Ped.
with 16' ad lib.

22

groan - ing un - der sin; No one could

26

ev - er ex - pect sal - va - tion: No one could ev - er

31

en - ter heav'n.

Sw. 8' with Ob.

mf

Ped. 16', 8'
Sw. to Ped.

TENOR

36 *mf*

3. A - dam's_ fall_ had_ damn'd us_ all To hell, to_

BASS

mf

3. A - dam's_ fall_ had_ damn'd us_ all To hell, to_

+ 32'

41

end - less pains for - lorn; 'Twas so de -

end - less pains for - lorn; 'Twas so de -

32' off

45

-creed we'd ne'er been freed Had not this heav'n - ly

-creed we'd ne'er been freed Had not this heav'n - ly

32' off

50

babe been born.

babe been born.

Sw. or Ch. 8'

Man.

54 SOPRANO & TENOR (or SATB in unison) *mf*

4. We like _____ beasts _____ lay _____

Solo (Soft Reed or Sesquialtera)

+ 4'

Ped.

58 in a _____ sta - ble, Sense - less, _____ blind, and dead _____ by _____

63 sin; To help our - selves we were _____ not a - ble, But

68 he _____ brings life _____ and _____ health a - gain.

tacet