
IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

Words
Christina Rossetti

Music
Gustav Holst

SATB

Cantate Domino
E D I T I O N

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In the bleak midwinter

Christina Rossetti

Gustav Holst.

1. In the bleak mid-winter fros-ty wind made moan.
 2. Our God, Heav'n can-not hold him nor earth sus-tain;
 3. E-nough for him, whom Cher-u-bim wor-ship night and day, a
 4. An-gels and arch-an-gels may have ga-thered there
 5. What can I give him, poor-as I am?

5
 1. Earth stood hard as i-on, wa-ter like a stone:
 2. Heav'n and earth shall flee a-way when he comes to reign:
 3. breast-ful of milk, and a man-ger-ful of hay: e-
 4. Cher-u-bim and Ser-a-phem throng-ed the air; but
 5. If I were a shep-herd I would bring a lamb;

9
 1. Snow had fall-en snow on snow, snow-on-snow,
 2. In the bleak mid-winter a sta-ble place suf-ficed the
 3. -nough for him, whom an-gels fall-down be-fore, the
 4. on-ly his mo-ther in her mai-den bliss
 5. If I were a wise-man I would do my part; yet

13
 1. in the bleak mid-winter, long-a-go.
 2. Lord God Al-migh-ty, Je-sus Christ.
 3. ox and ass and ca-mel which a-dore.
 4. wor-shipped the Be-lov-ed with a kiss.
 5. what I can I give him give my heart.

NB. This carol is so often sung incorrectly. The verse structure is irregular; the extra syllables are sung to the small notes which would otherwise be rests, these notes are ONE beat and are often incorrectly shortened to a quaver. Note also how the words are structured on the notes in bar 15, printed correctly here but often incorrectly interpreted.