SILENT NIGHT! O HOLY NIGHT!

for S.A.T.B. voices, accompanied, with optional flute*

Words of Silent Night, Holy Night! by JOSEPH MOHR (1792-1849) Translated by JOHN F. YOUNG (1820-1885) Words of O Holy Night! by CAPPEAU DE ROQUEMAURE Translated by JOHN S. DWIGHT (1813-1893) Based on Silent Night, Holy Night! by FRANZ GRUBER (1787-1863) and O Holy Night! by ADOLPHE ADAM (1803-1856) Arranged by PATRICK M. LIEBERGEN



^{*} Part for flute may be found on page 12. Also available for S.A.B. voices, No. 11401, and 2-Part Treble voices, No. 11402.

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Silent Night! O Holy Night is an anthem for Christmas that pairs the beloved German carol, Silent Night, Holy Night with the beautiful 19th century aria O Holy Night. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include Isaah 9: 1-6, Titus 2: 11-14, and Luke 2: 1-20. One basic homiletical theme is giving praise to the Messiah who comes to bring divine light to a world filled with darkness.

In rehearsal, strive for an expressive egato with a basic feeling of one pulse per measure. To improve ensemble precision, plansing, and tone, rehearse the choir on a liquid neutral syllable such as "noo," pulsing constant eighth notes exactly aligned with the near-constant eighth note figure in the accompaniment. Next, sing the notated rhythm on "noo" without sacrificing precision or fluid phrasing. Finally, add the text.

Adolphe Charles Adom was a 19th-century French composer of operas, masses, cantatas, motets, choruses and songs, among them O Holy Night. Franz Xavier Gruber was a 19th-century Austrian composer who served as organist and schoolmaster at Oberndorf. On Christmas Fvo, 1818, he received a poem from Joseph Mohr, which inspired the song Stille Nach, Hetlige Nacht (Silent Night, Holy Night).

Patrick M. Liebergen is Director of Choral Activities at the University of Wisconsin (Stout) and Director of the Chancel Choir at United Methodist Church, Menomonie, Wisconsin. With music degrees from St. Norbert College in DePere, Wisconsin, the University of Wisconsin (Madison), and the University of Colorado (Boulder), Dr. Liebergen frequently appears throughout the country as an adjudicator and clinician. His choral editions, arrangements and original works are widely published. Dr. Liebergen was the 1988 winner of the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association Composition Competition and the 1990 Winner of the Anthem Contest sponsored by the Twin Cities Church Musicians Association.

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