

# Sweet was the Song

Words from William Ballet's Lute Book  
(Early 17th century)

Rather slow but with movement ( $\text{♩} = 112$ )

SOPRANO 1 *pp*  
\*\*Lul - la, lul - la,

SOPRANO 2 *pp*  
\*\*Lul - la, lul - la,

ALTO 1 (or SOLO\*) *p dolce*  
Sweet was the song the Vir - gin sung, When she to Beth - lem

ALTO 2

KEYBOARD (for rehearsal only) *p* *pp* *p*

Rather slow but with movement ( $\text{♩} = 112$ )

8

*pp* Lul - la, lul - la, *pp* Lul -

*mf* Ju - da came, And was de - li - ver'd of a Son, *dim.* Lul -

*pp* Lul - la, lul - la,

*pp* *mf* *pp*

\* The Alto I part may be sung solo, in which case the rest of the choir should be divided into 3 equal parts.

\*\* There should be a difference between the pronunciation of *Lüllaby*, *lüllä* with short ü sounds (as in 'gull') and *Lalüla*, *lalülabü*, 'lülä with long ü sounds (as oo in 'cool').

For Rosamund

## A Wealden Trio

## The Song of the Women

Words by Ford Madox Ford (1873–1939)

Freely ( $\text{♩} = 72$ )  
SOLO  
*p cold*

SOPRANO 1  
When ye've got a child 'ats whist for want\_ of food, And a

SOPRANO 2

ALTO

KEYBOARD  
(for rehearsal only)

Freely ( $\text{♩} = 72$ )  
*p*

3 (S.1 SOLO)  
*ten.*

grate as grey's y'r 'air for want\_ of wood, And y'r man and you ain't no - wise not much

6 (S.1 SOLO) *mf* **rhythmic** ( $\text{♩} = 80$ )

good; Oh It's hard work\_ a-Christ-mas-sing, Ca - rol-ing,

S.1 TUTTI *mf*

S.2 *mf* Oh It's hard work\_ a-Christ-mas-sing, Ca - rol-ing,

A *mf* Oh It's hard work a-Christ-mas-sing, Ca - rol-ing,

Oh It's hard work a-Christ-mas-sing, Ca - rol - ing,

**rhythmic** ( $\text{♩} = 80$ )  
*mf*

This piece was originally intended for three solo voices, but it can be sung by three soloists with chorus, or by one soloist (mezzo-soprano) with chorus, or the whole may be sung *tutti*. It is clear that by using dialect the poet wished to suggest a certain roughness of language. This should be maintained in performance but singers must take care to avoid undue exaggeration.

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For Cecily Smithwick and the East Coker W.I.

# The Oxen

Words by Thomas Hardy

**Slowly moving** (♩ = c. 60) *p* clearly 3

SOPRANOS and ALTOS

Christ-mas Eve, \_\_\_\_\_ and twelve of the clock.

PIANO

*p*

*always smooth*

4 3

'Now they are all \_\_\_\_\_ on their knees,' An el - der said as we sat in a flock By the

7 *p*

em - bers in hearth-side ease. \_\_\_\_\_ We pic - tured \_\_\_\_\_

*sempre p*

*expressive*

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