

# THE LOWLY CHILD

Charles S. Brown, 1899

Derek Healey

*Simply, not too fast* (♩ = ca. 116)

*mf* 8' Oboe solo

\*Organ *sempre legato*

*p* Sw. 8' Gedeckt

Solo *mf*

1. Pre - cious is the sto - ry How the king of glo - ry  
 2. Shep - herds watch were keep - ing While their flocks were sleep - ing,

Sw. *p*

Soprano I

1. Came to earth a low - ly child; came a lit - tle strang - er,  
 2. In Ju - de - a far a - way When an an - gel cho - rus

Soprano II *mp*

1. Came a lit - tle strang - er,  
 2. When an an - gel cho - rus

© 2005, Derek Healey. Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved.

\*May also be played by piano or harp.

1. Sleep - ing in a man - ger, Sim - ple, pure, and un - de - filed.  
 2. Sang a song so glo - ri - ous That it ech - oes still to - day:

1. Sleep - ing in a man ger, S - ple, pure, and un - de - filed.  
 2. Sang a song so glo rous T it ech - oes still to - day:

1. Christ our Sav - ior, bless - ed Sav - ior, Came to earth a low - ly child.  
 2. Sang of Je - sus, bless - ed of Christ the low - ly child.

1. Christ our Sav - ior, bless - ed ior, Came to earth a low - ly child.  
 2. Sang of Je - sus, bless - ed of Christ the low - ly child.

Oboe *mf*

Sw. *p*

**Soprano I**  
*mf*

3. With a glo - ry beam - ing, And a ra - diance stream - ing,

**Soprano II**  
*mf*

3. With a glo - ry beam ing, And a ra - diance stream - ing,

**Alto**  
*mf*

3. With a glo - ry beam - ing, And a ra - diance stream - ing,

*mp*  
Sw. *mp* Soft flutes 8', 4'

*mf* *mp* *mf*

3. Shone a lit - tle strang - er star: And the wise men dar - ing,

*mf*

3. Shone a lit - tle strang - er star: And the wise men dar - ing,

*mf* *mp* *mf*

3. Shone a lit - tle strang - er star: And the wise men dar - ing,

(Accomp. *ad. lib.*)

3. Gold and trea - sures bear - ing, Jour - neyed in its light a - far: *mf* *mp*

3. Gold and trea - sures bear - ing, Jour - neyed in its light a - far: *mf* *mp*

3. Gold and trea - sures bear - ing, Jour - neyed in its light a - far: *mf* *mp*

3. Came to Je - sus, Bless - ed Je - sus, Came to Christ, the low - ly child. *mf* *rall.* *mp*

3. Came to Je - sus, Bless - ed Je - sus, Came to Christ, the low - ly child. *mf* *rall.* *mp*

3. Came to Je - sus, Bless - ed Je - sus, Came to Christ, the low - ly child. *mf* *rall.* *mp*

Oboe *mf*

*a tempo*

Sw. 8' Gedeckt

*p*

*molto rit.*

\*  
*p* 16', 8'

The image shows a musical score for three parts: Oboe, Sw. 8' Gedeckt, and Bass. The Oboe part is in the top staff, marked *mf* and *a tempo*. The Sw. 8' Gedeckt part is in the middle staff, marked *p*. The Bass part is in the bottom staff, marked with an asterisk and *p* 16', 8'. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. A large black watermark 'SAMPLE' is overlaid on the score.

\*Omit if played on piano or harp.

SAMPLE

## PERFORMANCE NOTES

The overall feel of “The Lowly Child” should be that of a simple Mediterranean folk carol with a bagpipe introduction and ritornello. A gentle 6/8 lilt pervades the work, which should be performed in a relaxed, unpretentious manner.

As far as is possible, the vocal tones should be warm and simple, even childlike. It is also important that the first soprano’s entries on the high E should be made without tension. Care should also be taken to ensure that the voices balance each other, particularly in the final verse.

The right-hand melody of the four-measure organ (keyboard) introduction, interlude and ending could alternatively be performed on a solo instrument such as oboe, violin, recorder or even a trumpet (if transposed). If this is the case, the organ should not double the solo instrument and also the instrument should not be used during the verses.

—Derek Healey

SAMPLE