

Guard Him, Joseph

SATB

Sally DeFord

♩ = 70

mf *rit.*

Measures 1-4 of the piano introduction in G major, 4/4 time. Measure numbers 1, 2, and 4 are indicated above the staff.

Soprano/Alto unison:

mp *a tempo*

Measures 5-8 of the vocal and piano parts. Measure numbers 6 and 8 are indicated above the vocal staff.

1. Guard him, Jo - seph, as he slum - bers, There be - hind the sta - ble doors,

Measures 9-12 of the vocal and piano parts. Measure numbers 10 and 12 are indicated above the vocal staff.

Let no er - rant sound dis - tress him, Tread thou soft - ly on the floor,

Tenor: (Oo - - -)

Bass:

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14 16

mf Lin - ger watch - ful round the man - ger, Hush thy voice and still the beasts,

rit. ten.

mf *rit. ten.*

18 20

mp For thou hast with - in thy keep - ing *mf* Christ, the in - fant Prince of

a tempo *a tempo*

mp *mf*

$\frac{2}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$ $\frac{4}{4}$

22 24

Peace.

Men's voices unison:

26 28

mp 2. Guard him, Jo - seph, through the dark - ness, Watch - ing o'er him till the dawn,

mp

This system contains the vocal line for men's voices unison (measures 26-28) and the piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major). The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand treble clef and a left-hand bass clef. The dynamic marking is mezzo-piano (*mp*).

30 32

Bid the shep - herds en - ter meek - ly, Stand in won - der, gaze in awe,

This system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment for measures 30-32. The dynamic marking remains mezzo-piano (*mp*).

Tenor I & II

34 36

mf Trim thy lamp and shieldhy can - dle, See they burn all through the night, For thou hast with -

rit. ten. a tempo

Bass I & II

mf *rit. ten. a tempo*

This system introduces the Tenor I & II and Bass I & II parts for measures 34-36. The vocal lines are in bass clef. The piano accompaniment is in treble and bass clefs. The dynamic marking is mezzo-forte (*mf*). Performance directions include *rit.* (ritardando), *ten.* (ritardando), and *a tempo* (return to tempo).

38

40

in thy keep - ing, Christ the E - ver - last - ing Light. *f*

42

44

mp

Sop:

46

48

Alto: *mf*

3. Guard him, Jo - seph, from all dan - ger, Keep thy vi - gil nigh his bed,

Ten:

Bass:

mf

50 52

Let no harm nor grief be - fall him, Stand thou in a fa - ther's stead,

(Oo - -)

54 56

When his mo - ther's arms be wea - ry, Hold him gen - tly as thine own,

rit. *ten.*

58 60

a tempo

For thou hast with - in thy keep - ing God's own well - be -

a tempo

62

rit. lov - ed Son. *p a tempo* God's own well - be - lov - ed

64

Son.

66

rit.