

Christmas Day

Text by Christopher Smart
(1722-71)

For Angela Obasi

Music by Peter Owens
(b.1960)

Andante assai ♩ = 80 *p*

Soprano
Na - ture's de-co-ra-tions glis - ten Far a -

Alto
Ooo Na - ture's de-co-ra-tions glis - ten Far a -

Tenor
Ooo Na - ture's de-co-ra-tions glis - ten Far a -

Bass
Ooo Na - ture's de-co-ra-tions glis-ten Far a -

5 *mp* *p*
S - bove their u - su - al trim; Birds on box and lau - rels lis - ten As so

A - bove their u - su - al trim; Birds on box and lau - rels lis - ten As so

T - bove their u - su - al trim; Birds on box and lau - rels lis - ten As so

B - bove their u - su - al trim; Birds on box and lau - rels lis - ten As so

9 *mf* *f*
S near the che - rubs hymn. Bo - re - as now no long - er win - ters On the

A near the che - rubs hymn. Bo - re - as now no long - er win - ters On the

T near the che - rubs hymn. Bo - re - as now no long - er win - ters On the

B near the che - rubs hymn. Bo - re - as no long - er win - ters On the

13

S *p*
de - so - lat - ed coast; Oaks no more are riv'n in splin - ters

A *p*
de - so - lat - ed coast; Oaks no more are riv'n in splin - ters

T *p*
8 de - so - lat - ed coast; Oaks no more are riv'n in splin - ters

B *p*
de - so - lat - ed coast; Oaks no more are riv'n in splin - ters

Pochiss. rit. **Poco più mosso**

S *mp*
By the whirl-wind and his host. Spinks and ou - zles sing sub -

A *mp*
By the whirl-wind and his host. Spinks and ou - zles sing sub -

T *mp*
8 By the whirl - wind and his host. Spinks and ou - zles sing sub -

B *mp*
By the whirl-wind and his host. Spinks and ou - zles sing sub -

21

S *mf* *mp*
-lime - ly, 'We too have a Sa - viour born,' Whit - er blos - soms burst un -

A *mf* *mp*
-lime - ly, 'We too have a Sa - viour born,' Whit - er blos - soms burst un -

T *mf* *mp*
8 -lime - ly, 'We too have a Sa - viour born,' Whit - er blos - soms burst un -

B *mf* *mp*
-lime - ly, 'We too have a Sa - viour born,' Whit - er blos - soms burst un -

25

S *f* *ff*
 -time-ly On the blest Mo-sa-ic thorn. God all-boun-teous, all-cre-

A *f* *ff*
 -time-ly On the blest Mo-sa-ic thorn. God all-boun-teous, all-cre-

T *f* *ff*
 8 -time-ly On the blest Mo-sa-ic thorn. God all-boun-teous, all-cre-

B *f* *ff*
 -time-ly On the blest Mo-sa-ic thorn. God all-boun-teous, all-cre-

29

S *mp* *dim.*
 -a-tive, Whom no ills from good dis-suade, Is in-car-nate, and a

A *mp* *dim.*
 -a-tive, Whom no ills from good dis-suade, Is in-car-nate, and a

T *mp* *dim.*
 8 -a-tive, Whom no ills from good dis-suade, Is in-car-nate, and a

B *mp* *dim.*
 -a-tive, Whom no ills from good dis-suade, Is in-car-nate, and a

Rit.

33

S *p* *pp*
 na-tive Of the ve-ry world he made.

A *p* *pp*
 na-tive Of the ve-ry world he made.

T *p* *pp*
 8 na-tive Of the ve-ry world he made.

B *p* *pp*
 na-tive Of the ve-ry world he made.