

for the Sisters of the Good Shephard,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

ISSAY, ISSAY!

(Hear Ye, Hear Ye!)

for 2-part/S.S.A. voices and piano
with optional SoundTrax CD*

Arranged by
PHILIP KERN (ASCAP)

Based on a traditional
Ethiopian Christmas song
with English words by
PHILIP KERN (ASCAP)

Brightly (♩ = ca. 84-92)

PIANO

The piano introduction consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) in a 4/4 time signature. The music is marked *mp* and features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and chords. The key signature has one flat (B-flat).

PART I (SOPRANO)

mp

Up in Beth - le-hem _____ on this ho - ly morn, —

PART II (ALTO)

mp

Up in Beth - le-hem _____ on this ho - ly morn, —

The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern as the introduction, supporting the vocal lines.

9

up in Beth - le-hem _____ babe is born. _____

up in Beth - le-hem _____ babe is born. _____

The piano accompaniment concludes with a final chord and a few more notes.

* Also available for S.A.T.B., Level Four (19217) and S.A.B., Level Three (19218).
SoundTrax CD available (19220).

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13

mp *cresc.*

An - gels in the air sing - ing ev - 'ry-where and they

mp *cresc.*

An - gels in the air sing - ing ev - 'ry-where and they

17

sing, "Hal - le - lu - jah!" They sing,

sing, "Hal - le - lu - jah!" They sing,

21

f

"Is - say, Is - say!* Gay - tah - teh - weh - leh - deh.

f

"Is - say, Is - say!* Gay - tah - teh - weh - leh - deh.

* See note on p. 12.

25

Is - say, — Is - say! Med - hehn_ teh - weh - leh - deh.

Is - say, — Is - say! Med - hehn_ teh - weh - leh - deh.

29

Hear ye! — O, hear — ye! Je - su* — has

Hear ye! — O, hear — ye! Je - su* — has

32

come to - day! Is - say, — Is - say!

come to - day! Is - say, — Is - say!

* pronounced "Yeh - soo"

Gay - tah - teh - weh - leh - deh!"

Gay - tah - teh - weh - leh - deh!"

decresc.

mf

Kings from far - a-way

mf

come to see the boy.

mf

45 *mf* *f*

✓ Kings from far — a-way — shout for joy! —

49 *mf* *mel. cresc.*

Peo - ple join — the kings, — ev - 'ry-bod - y sings, —

mf *cresc.*

Peo - ple join — the kings, — ev - 'ry-bod - y sings, —

52

— and they sing, "Hal - le - lu - jah!"

— and they sing, "Hal - le - lu - jah!"

56 57 *f*

They sing "Is - say, — Is - say! Gay - tah — teh -

They sing "Is - say, — Is - say! Gay - tah — teh -

60

weh - leh - deh! Is - say, — Is - say! Med - hehn — teh -

weh - leh - deh! Is - say, — Is - say! Med - hehn — teh -

64 65

weh - leh - deh! Hear ye! — O, hear — ye! Je - su — has

weh - leh - deh! Hear ye! — O, hear — ye! Je - su — has

68

come to - day! Is - say, Is - say!

come to - day! Is - say, Is - say!

71

Gay - tah teh - weh - leh - deh!"

Gay - tah teh - weh - leh - deh!"

75

mp Oo, Hear the an - gels sing.

mp Oo, Hear the an - gels sing.

mp

79

Oo, _____ Shep-herds' voic - es ring. Hal - le-lu - jah!

Oo, _____ Shep-herds' voic - es ring.

83 *cresc. poco a poco*

Ev - 'ry-bod - y sing. Is - say! Is - say! Sing - ing to — the King!

cresc. poco a poco

Ev - 'ry-bod - y sing. Sing - ing to — the King!

cresc. poco a poco

86 *mf cresc.*

Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah!

mf cresc.

Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah! Hal - le-lu - jah!

mf cresc.

90 92 *f*

Hal-le - lu - jah! Is - say, Is - say!

Hal-le - lu - jah! Is - say, Is - say!

94

Gay - tah teh - weh - leh - deh. Is - say, Is - say!

Gay - tah teh - weh - leh - deh. Is - say, Is - say!

98 100

Med - hehn teh - weh - leh - deh. Hear ye! O, hear ye!

Med - hehn teh - weh - leh - deh. Hear ye! O, hear ye!

102

Je - su has come to - day! Is - say,

Je - su has come to - day! Is - say,

105

108

Is - say! Gay - tah teh - weh - leh - deh! Is - say!

Is - say! Gay - tah teh - weh - leh - deh! Is - say!

109

— Hal - le - lu - jah! Is - say! Hal - le - lu - jah!

— Hal - le - lu - jah! Is - say! Hal - le - lu - jah!

112 *cresc.*

Is - say! _____ Hal - le - lu -

cresc.

Is - say! _____ Hal - le - lu -

cresc.

116 *ff*

jah! _____

ff

jah! _____

Issay, Issay! (pronounced "Th-say, Ih-say," and meaning "Hear ye, Hear ye!") is based on an Ethiopian Christmas song.

"Gay-tah teh-weh-leh-deh" and "Med-hehn teh-weh-leh-deh" are phonetic pronunciations of Amharic phrases meaning "The Lord is born" and "The Savior is born." Amharic is spoken by millions of northern Africans and is the official language of Ethiopia.