

The Shepherd's Tale

Jason Charnesky

For SAB Chorus and Keyboard

Bruce Trinkley

from *A Communion of Saints* for solo voice and piano

Barcarolle $\text{♩} = 144$ *poco rit.*

Keyboard

mf *con pedale* *dim.*

a tempo *mp*

How rude - ly sta - bled birth'd ye, babe, With moan - ing cow and ox - en, ____ That

How rude - ly sta - bled birth'd ye, babe, With moan - ing cow and ox - en, ____ That

How rude - ly sta - bled birth'd ye, babe, With moan - ing cow and ox - en, ____ That

a tempo *mp*

mp

no - one wait - ed news of ye Save lambs who leapt in frolic And the

no - one wait - ed news ____ of ye ____ Save lambs who leapt in frolic And the

no - one wait - ed news ____ of ye ____ Save lambs who leapt in frolic And the

13

moth - er's hus - band hard with care Of doubt in what lay sleep - ing? ____ That mis' - ra - ble and storm - ing night Not

13

18

poco rit. *mf* *a tempo*

once gave pause to thun - der. *mf* No stars ran off their froz - en track To spy up - on your

18

poco rit. *a tempo* *mf*

22

la - bor. ____ But all tongues ____ wag a - bout your birth ____ And each adds ____ a new

22

26 *dim. poco rit.*

won - der. all tongues wag a - bout your birth And each adds a new won - der.

won - der. all tongues wag a - bout your birth And each adds a new won - der.

won - der. all tongues wag a - bout your birth And each adds a new won - der.

26 *poco rit. dim.*

31 *a tempo p*

Now talk - ing don - keys prais - ing God Are claimed to have at - tend - ed, ___

31 *a tempo p*

35 *p poco cresc. p*

And through the course of rooms and bars Your mag - ic birth gets mend - ed, ___ Em -

p poco cresc. p

And through the course of rooms and bars Your mag - ic birth gets mend - ed, ___ Em -

p poco cresc.

And through the course of rooms and bars Your mag - ic birth gets mend - ed, ___

35 *poco cresc.*

39 *cresc. poco a poco*

bel - lished in the tell - ing o - ver Spic - y wine and was - sails. The

39 *cresc. poco a poco*

bel - lished in the tell - ing o - ver Spic - y wine and was - sails. The

39 *p cresc. poco a poco*

43 *poco rit.*

Beth - lem crowd en - joyed the tales Of coun - try bump - kin Da - vids

43 *poco rit.*

Beth - lem crowd en - joyed the tales Of coun - try bump - kin Da - vids

47 *f a tempo*

And se - cret sa - viours born in sties By mo - ther made a

47 *f a tempo*

And se - cret sa - viours born in sties By mo - ther made a

47 *f a tempo*

And se - cret sa - viours born in sties By mo - ther made a

50 vir - gin. It's all laughed off as this year's ruse, A Na - za - re - an

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54 ru - mor. It's all laughed off as this year's ruse, A Na - za - re - an ru - mor. *dim.* *poco rit.*

54 ru - mor. It's all laughed off as this year's ruse, A Na - za - re - an ru - mor. *dim.*

54 ru - mor. It's all laughed off as this year's ruse, A Na - za - re - an ru - mor. *dim.* *poco rit.*

59 *a tempo* *mp* Tales have their sea - son of street talk Be - fore they're all for - got - ten.

59 *a tempo* *mp* Tales have their sea - son of street talk Be - fore they're all for - got - ten.

59 *a tempo* *mp* Tales have their sea - son of street talk Be - fore they're all for - got - ten.

63

No prince would so un - seem - ly rise From barn - yard man - ger crib - straw,___ A

63

No prince would so un - seem - ly rise From barn - yard man - ger crib - straw,___ A

67

king were bet - ter bred and board - ed___ Than lay a - mid such of - fal. They'll

67

king were bet - ter bred and board - ed___ Than lay a - mid such of - fal. They'll

71

kill ye, boy, in gos - sip ere Ye find your sense of rea - son, No sa - viour ev - er

71

kill ye, boy, in gos - sip ere Ye find your sense of rea - son, No sa - viour ev - er

cresc. *rit.* *f* *a tempo*

cresc. *f*

cresc. *f*

cresc. *rit.* *a tempo* *f*

74

slept with kine or found a fa - ther want - ing. T'were

74

slept with kine or found a fa - ther want - ing. T'were

77

bet - ter born a shep - herd than A rid - dle in a barn - yard. T'were

77

bet - ter born a shep - herd than A rid - dle in a barn - yard. T'were

77

bet - ter born a shep - herd than A rid - dle in a barn - yard. T'were

81

bet - ter born a shep - herd than A rid - dle in a barn - yard.

81

bet - ter born a shep - herd than A rid - dle in a barn - yard.

rit. e dim.

rit. e dim.

85 *mp a tempo*

meno mosso
p

I'd side with them. It makes no sense To talk of prom - ised com - ets _____

mp

Or won - ders of a thous - and nights Be -

85 *meno mosso*
pp

cresc.

a tempo
mp

91

fall - ing all up - on us _____ One

fall - ing all up - on us _____ *mf* *intensely*

To take the pun - ish - ment we mete With God's own of - fered in - fant. _____ One

91 *mf*

97 *cresc.* *allarg.* *f* *expansively*

night to wipe out all our debt. I'd side with them, _____ ex - cept

I saw my sheep bolt

night to wipe out all our debt. I'd side with them, _____ ex - cept

I saw my sheep bolt

night to wipe out all our debt. I'd side with them, _____ ex - cept *allarg.* I saw my sheep bolt

97 *cresc.* *f* *expansively*

100 *ff*
 down the hill A - fraid of sud - den thun - der, _____ And
 down the hill A - fraid of sud - den thun - der, _____ And
 down the hill A - fraid of sud - den thun - der, _____ And

100
 heard the song the thun - der sang In a sky gone live with an - gels. And
 heard the song the thun - der sang In a sky gone live with an - gels. And
 heard the song the thun - der sang In a sky gone live with an - gels. And

103 *mf*
 heard the song the thun - der sang In a sky gone live with an - gels. And
 heard the song the thun - der sang In a sky gone live with an - gels. And
 heard the song the thun - der sang In a sky gone live with an - gels. And

107 *mp* *molto allargando*
 heard the song the thun - der sang In a sky gone live with an - gels.
 heard the song the thun - der sang In a sky gone live with an - gels.
 heard the song the thun - der sang In a sky gone live with an - gels.

107 *mf* *mp* *p* *pp*
 heard the song the thun - der sang In a sky gone live with an - gels.
 heard the song the thun - der sang In a sky gone live with an - gels.
 heard the song the thun - der sang In a sky gone live with an - gels.