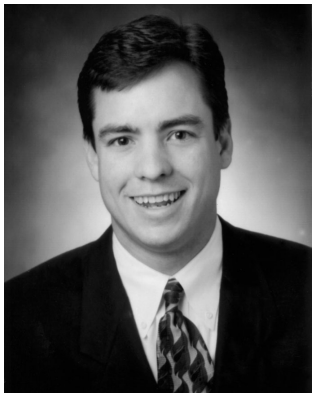


About the Composer

Mark Patterson is an active composer, music educator, and choral clinician. He also is the Director of Choirs at Covington Middle School and Director of the Choristers Choir at Covenant Presbyterian Church, both in Austin, Texas.

He is frequently invited to conduct honor choirs and choral festivals across the country and to lead workshops for choral directors. Mark is especially known for his work with the child and adolescent voice and for cultivating a quality sound in even the most challenging of ensembles.

His choral compositions (over 100 are in print) comprise a rich variety of styles for the sanctuary, classroom, and concert hall. Mark holds Bachelor of Arts and Master of Music Education degrees from the University of Texas at Austin.

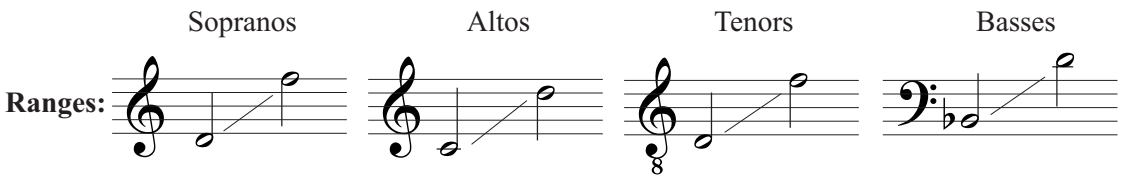
It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to all from heavens all gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing.
And ever o'er its weary sounds the blessed angels sing.

For lo, the days are hastening on by prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever circling years, comes round the age of gold.
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling.
And all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

– Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876)

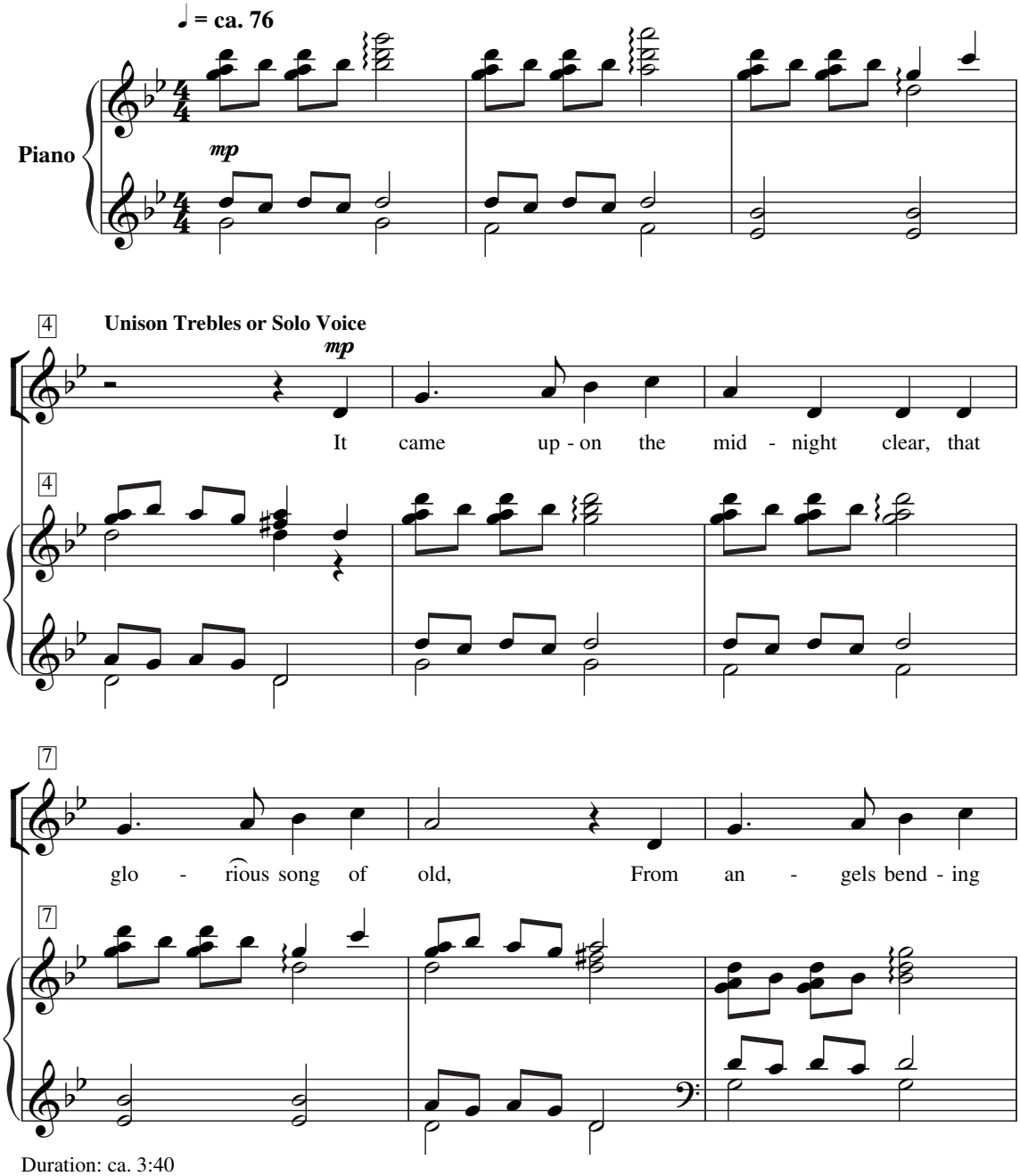


It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

for Mixed Chorus (SATB div.) with Piano Accompaniment

Edmund Hamilton Sears (1810-1876)
Adapted M. P.

Richard Storrs Willis (1819-1900)
New music and arr. by Mark Patterson



Duration: ca. 3:40

Hear a full performance of this and other Kjos chorals at www.kjos.com

©2007 Kjos Music Press, 4382 Jutland Drive, San Diego, California 92117
International copyright secured. All rights reserved. Printed in U.S.A.
WARNING! This composition is protected by copyright law. To copy or reproduce it by any method is an infringement of the copyright law. Anyone who reproduces copyrighted matter is subject to substantial penalties and assessments for each infringement.