



About the Composer

Franklin Ashdown is a composer and a medical doctor who has pursued dual careers for the past three decades. Born in 1942, he studied piano for 12 years, and was recruited to play the organ for a local congregation at age 13. He later studied organ with Judson Maynard and James Drake, and was privately coached by Fred Tulan of San Francisco and Leonard Raver of New York's Juilliard School.

He is a widely published composer of organ and choral music, and his works have been performed in venues ranging from Grace Cathedral in San Francisco and the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City to Saint Paul's Cathedral in London and the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris. His compositions have been featured on APR's "Pipedreams", NPR's "All Things Considered", and the Mormon Tabernacle Choir's CBS broadcast, "Music and the Spoken Word." Leonard Raver and Stephen Burns recorded his *Requiem for the Challenger* for trumpet and organ on the Classic Masters label, and James Welch has included some of his solo organ music in his series of CD recordings for various labels. A resident of Alamogordo, NM, Dr. Ashdown enjoys a full life as an internist, composer, and organist-choir director for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the ground,
 The angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone around.
 "Fear not," said he (for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind);
 "Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind.
 To you in David's town this day is born of David's line,
 A Savior, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:
 The heav'nly babe you there shall find to human view displayed,
 All meanly wrapped in swathing bands and in a manger laid."
 Thus spake the seraph and forthwith appeared a shining throng
 Of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:
 "All glory be to God on high, and to the earth be peace:
 Goodwill henceforth from heav'n to all begin and never cease."

Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

Ranges:

Sopranos	Altos	Tenors	Basses

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

for Mixed Choir (SATB) with Piano* or
Organ Accompaniment and Optional Cello

Nahum Tate (1652-1715)

Franklin D. Ashdown

Gently, with movement (♩ = ca. 84)

Organ or Piano* *mp*

Pedals (or opt. cello)

4 Sopranos *mp*

While shep-herds watched their flocks by night, All

4 Altos

While shep-herds watched their flocks by night, All

*Cello is necessary for performance with piano accompaniment

Duration: ca. 3:25

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

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