

Love Came Down at Christmas

for Men's Chorus and Piano (or Organ)

Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

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Gently, as love descending from heaven, or snow falling

♩ = 88

[Organ *r.h.*]

Piano (or Organ)

The piano introduction consists of three staves in 4/4 time. The right hand features a series of six half notes (G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4) with a *rit.* marking above the final note. The middle staff has a *pp* dynamic and features a series of chords, each with a half note in the right hand and a triplet of eighth notes in the left hand. The left hand has a *p* dynamic and features a series of chords, each with a half note in the right hand and a triplet of eighth notes in the left hand. Pedal markings (*Ped.*) are placed below the first four measures.

7 **A** *a tempo* (♩ = 88)

T1 Love at Christ - mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;

T2 Love came down at, love at Christ - mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;

B1 Love came down at Christ - mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;

B2 Love came down at Christ - mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;

The vocal parts (T1, T2, B1, B2) are in 4/4 time. They begin with a rest for 7 measures, then enter with the lyrics. The music is marked *a tempo* (♩ = 88). Dynamics include *p* and *poco*. The lyrics are: "Love at Christ - mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;".

A *a tempo* (♩ = 88)

The piano accompaniment for the second system consists of two staves in 4/4 time. The right hand has a melody with a *poco* marking above the first measure and a *rit.* marking above the final measure. The left hand has a bass line with a *p* dynamic. Pedal markings (*Ped.*) are placed below the first six measures.

*Organ: sustain low C through measure.

11 *a tempo*

poco

8 ...born at Christ - mas: star and an - gels gave the sign, star and an - gels

poco

8 love was born at, born at Christ - mas: star and an - gels gave the sign, star and an - gels

poco

love was born at Christ - mas: star and an - gels gave the sign, star and an - gels

poco

love was born at Christ - mas: star and an - gels gave the sign, star and an - gels

a tempo

poco

a tempo

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

16

mf *p* *rit.*

8 gave the sign. Love,

mf *p* *rit.*

gave the sign. Love,

mf *p* *rit.*

gave the sign. Love,

mf *p* *rit.*

gave the sign. Love,

mf *rit.*

mf *rit.*

mf *rit.*

mf *rit.*

mf *rit.*

mf *rit.*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

21 **B** *a tempo*

(perhaps just a few voices)

p

ah, _____

mf cantabile *p, mf cantabile*

Wor - ship we the God - head, love in - car-nate, love di-vine; Wor - ship we our

(perhaps just a few voices) *p*

ah, _____

mf cantabile *p, mf cantabile*

Wor - ship we the God - head, love in - car-nate, love di-vine; Wor - ship we our

B *a tempo*

mf *p* *mf*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

26

rit.

a tempo
cresc.

p *p cresc.*

ah, _____ but where - with for sa - cred sign? _____

Je - sus, but where - with for sa - cred sign, but where - with for sa - cred sign? _____

p *cresc.*

ah, _____ but where - with for sa - cred sign? _____

Je - sus, but where - with for sa - cred sign, but where - with for sa - cred sign? _____

rit.

a tempo

p *mf*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

31 **C** *mf* *mf*

Love _____

mf *p* *mf*

Love, _____

Love _____

C

p *mf*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

36 **D** **Faster** ♩ = 108

is the sign.

p *mf* *non dim.*

love, love, love is the sign.

mf with strength

is the sign. Wor-ship we the God - head,

p *mf* *non dim.* *mf with strength*

love, love, love is the sign. Wor-ship we the God - head,

D **Faster** ♩ = 108

p *mf* *(mf)*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

41

mf with strength

wor - ship we our Je - sus, but where - with for
 wor - ship we our Je - sus, but where - with for
 love in - car - nate, love di - vine; wor - ship we our Je - sus, but where - with for
 love in - car - nate, love di - vine; wor - ship we our Je - sus, but where - with for

46

rit.

E ♩ = 88

f triumphantly

sa - cred sign, but where - with for sa - cred sign? Love shall be our to - ken;
 sa - cred sign, but where - with for sa - cred sign? Love shall be our to - ken;
 sa - cred sign, but where - with for sa - cred sign? Love shall be our to - ken;
 sa - cred sign, but where - with for sa - cred sign? Love shall be our to - ken;

rit. *f* **E** ♩ = 88
 Ped. Ped. Ped.

51

p *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

love be yours and love be mine, love to God and neigh - bor,
 love be yours and love be mine, love to God and neigh - bor,
 love be yours and love be mine, love to God and neigh - bor,
 love be yours and love be mine, love to God and neigh - bor,

p *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped.

55

accel. *p cresc.* *p* *molto rit.*

love for plea and gift and sign, and love for plea and gift and sign. And
 love for plea and gift and sign, and love for plea and gift and sign. And
 love for plea and gift and sign, and love for plea and gift and sign. And
 love for plea and gift and sign, and love for plea and gift and sign. And

p cresc. *p cresc.* *p cresc.* *p cresc.*

accel. *molto rit.*

p cresc.

59 **F** *f* emphatically *rit.* **Tempo primo** (♩ = 88) *p* gently

love shall be our to - ken. For love, _____ for

f emphatically *p* gently

love shall be our to - ken, our to - ken. For love came down, for

f emphatically *p* gently

love shall be our to - ken. For love came down, for love came down, for

f emphatically *p* gently

love shall be our to - ken, our to - ken. For

F *f* emphatically *rit.* **Tempo primo** (♩ = 88) *p* gently for rehearsal only -----

64 *rit.*

love came down at Christ - mas time. _____

love came down at Christ - mas time. _____

love came down at Christ - mas _____ time. _____

love came down at Christ - mas time. _____

rit. *Play* *p* *8va* *3*