

Fairest Lord Jesus

excerpt from the chancel opera "Birth of our Lord"
Words: traditional • Music: Susan Hulsman Bingham

♩ = 66

Soprano (S.)

Alto (A.)

Tenor (T.)

Bass (B.)

Organ (O.)

mp Fair - est Lord Je - sus, Ru - ler of all

p (blur with pedal)

na - ture, O thou of God and man the Son;

Thee will I cher - ish, Thee will I hon - or, Thou, my soul's

Thee will I cher - ish, Thee will I hon - or, Thou, my soul's

Thee will I cher - ish, Thee will I hon - or, Thou, my soul's

Thou, my soul's

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16

glo - ry, joy and crown.

Fair are the mea - dows,

glo - ry, joy and crown,

Fair are the mea - dows,

16

glo - ry, joy and crown.

Fair the mea - dows,

16

glo - ry, joy and crown. My soul's joy, my soul's crown.

16

leggiero

21

Fair - er still the wood - lands, Robed in the bloom-ing garb of spring:

Fair - er still the wood - lands, Robed in the bloom-ing garb of spring:

21

Fair - er still the wood - lands Robed in the bloom-ing garb of spring:

21

pp

26 Je - sus is fair - - - - er, is pur - - - - er who makes the
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er who makes the
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er who makes the

26 *pp* Je - sus is fair - - - - er, is pur - - - - er who makes the

molto cresc.

31 heart sing.
 woe - ful heart to sing.
 woe - ful heart to sing.

31 woe - ful heart to sing.

*sppp**poco a poco cresc.*

Musical score for the first section of the song. The score consists of four staves: soprano, alto, tenor, and bass. The key signature is one flat, and the time signature is common time. Measure 36 starts with a dynamic of *sppp*. The lyrics "Fair is the sun - shine," "Fair - er still the moon - light," and "And" are repeated three times. Measures 37-39 show eighth-note patterns on the soprano and alto staves. Measure 40 begins with a dynamic of *poco a poco cresc.* The lyrics "Fair is the sun - shine," "Fair - er still the moon - light," and "And" are repeated again. The bass staff provides harmonic support throughout the section.

molto cresc.

Musical score for the second section of the song. The score consists of four staves: soprano, alto, tenor, and bass. The key signature changes to no sharps or flats, and the time signature remains common time. Measure 40 starts with a dynamic of *molto cresc.* The lyrics "all the twink' - ling, star - - - ry host:" are repeated three times. Measures 41-43 show eighth-note patterns on the soprano and alto staves. Measure 44 begins with a dynamic of *molto cresc.* The lyrics "all the twink' - ling, star - - - ry host," "star - - ry host," and "star - - ry host:" are repeated again. The bass staff provides harmonic support throughout the section.

44

f

Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels

Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels

44

Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels

44

Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels

f

molto cresc. & rit.

ff

44

49

ffff

heav'n can boast.

heav'n can boast.

49

heav'n can boast.

49

heav'n can boast.

stretto

49

54

54

54

f *dim.* *mf* *f*

ff

(top notes like little bells)

subito pp

molto rit.

molto dim.

rit.

ppp

60 (blur with pedal)

8