

When the Son of God Was Born

SSAA Women's Chorus

Sally DeFord

The musical score consists of five staves of music for SSAA Women's Chorus. The key signature is G major (two sharps). The tempo is indicated as $\text{♩} = 64 - 72$. The vocal parts are arranged as follows:

- Top Staff:** Unison (indicated by a bracket under the two top staves) and piano (piano part shown below).
- Second Staff:** Alto (indicated by a bracket under the two bottom staves).
- Third Staff:** Soprano.
- Fourth Staff:** Alto.
- Fifth Staff:** Alto (continuation of the Alto part from the third staff).

Performance dynamics include **p** (piano dynamic), **mf** (mezzo-forte dynamic), **mp** (mezzo-piano dynamic), and **ten.** (tenuto dynamic). Measure numbers are marked above the music at various points: 2, 4, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, and ten. The lyrics are integrated into the vocal parts, describing the scene of the birth of Christ.

dark-ness o'er Ju - de - a, In the si - lence of the night, As Beth - le - hem lay dream-ing 'neath the
still and star-ry skies, Ho-ly an-gels came re - joic - ing, Bright with glo - ry like the dawn, And
set the hea - vens sing - ing when the Son of God was born.

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When the Son of God Was Born (SSAA)-1

mf

25 In the dark - ness o'er Ju - de - a, New - ly kin - dled o'er the earth, A

27

29

31 won - drous star was gleam - ing to pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth, And as wise men came a -

33

36 seek - ing, Hea - ven's light went on be - fore, And set their hearts a - sing - ing when the

38

ten.

ten.

41 Son of God was born.

43

45

Soprano I 47 *rit.* **p** 49 *a tempo* 51

In the sha - dows of a sta - ble, In a man - ger sweet with

Soprano II **pp**

Oo, _____ Oo, _____

Alto **pp**

rit.

p

spa pp

a tempo

53

hay, The Ho ly Child lay sleep - ing 'ere the com - ing of the day, And the

55 *rit.* *mf*

Oo, _____ Oo, _____ And the

spa

rit. *mf*

a tempo

Soprano I & II

58

light of love de - scand - ing 'round the cra - dle of the Lord,

60

Set the world a -

rit.

Alto I & II

a tempo

63

mp

sing - ing, When the Son of God was born.

65

67

rit.

a tempo

mp

p

rit.

pp