

Commissioned by The Bach Choir in celebration of the 70th birthday of Sir David Willcocks

CHRISTMAS LULLABY

For A Cappella Voices, S.A.T.B.

Words and music by
JOHN RUTTER

mp Clear in the dark - ness a light shines in Beth-le-hem:

p Ah, An - gels are

sing - ing, their sound fills the air. *mp* Wise men have jour - neyed to greet their Mes -

melody

- si - ah; But *p* on - ly a moth - er and ba - by lie there.

melody
pp dolce 'A - ve Ma - ri - a, a - ve Ma - ri - a: Hear the soft -

mf *div.*
lul - la - by the an - gel hosts sing. 'A - ve Ma - ri - a,

mf
lul - la - by the an - gel hosts sing. 'A - ve Ma - ri - a,

mf
lul - la - by the an - gel hosts sing. 'A - ve Ma - ri - a,

mf
lul - la - by the an - gel hosts sing. 'A - ve Ma - ri - a,

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unis. p

a - ve Ma - ri - a, Maid - en, and moth - er of Je - sus our

p

a - ve Ma - ri - a, Maid - en, and moth - er of Je - sus our

p

a - ve Ma - ri - a, Maid - en, and moth - er of Je - sus our

p

a - ve Ma - ri - a, Maid - en, and moth - er of Je - sus our

Ah,

King'. Where are his cour - tiers, and who are his peo - ple? Why does he

melody

div.

Ah,

melody

bear nei - ther scep - tre nor crown? *mp* Shep - herds his cour - tiers, the poor for his

peo - ple, *p* With peace as his scep - tre and love for his crown.

pp dolce

'A - ve Ma - ri - a, a - ve Ma - ri - a: Hear the soft

lul-la-by the an-gel hosts sing. *mf* *div.* 'A-ve Ma-ri-a,

lul-la-by the an-gel hosts sing. *mf* 'A-ve Ma-ri-a,

lul-la-by the an-gel hosts sing. *mf* 'A-ve Ma-ri-a,

lul-la-by the an-gel hosts sing. *mf* 'A-ve Ma-ri-a,

a-ve Ma-ri-a, Maid-en, and moth-er of Je-sus our King'. *p*

a-ve Ma-ri-a, Maid-en, and moth-er of Je-sus our King'. *p*

a-ve Ma-ri-a, Maid-en, and moth-er of Je-sus our King'. *p*

a-ve Ma-ri-a, Maid-en, and moth-er of Je-sus our King'. *p*

p What though your trea-sures are not gold or in-cense? Lay them be-

fore him with hearts full of love. *mf* Praise to the Christ child, and *mf*

praise to his moth-er Who bore us a Sav-our by grace from a-

mp

-bove. 'A - ve Ma - ri - a': Hear, O

p

unis. (mp)

'A - ve Ma - ri - a, a - ve Ma - ri - a':

hear the lul - la - by an - gels sing. 'A - ve Ma - ri - a,

f dolce *div.*

hear the lul - la - by an - gels sing. 'A - ve Ma - ri - a,

f dolce

Hear the soft lul - la - by the an - gel hosts sing. 'A - ve Ma - ri - a,

f dolce

Hear the soft lul - la - by the an - gel hosts sing. 'A - ve Ma - ri - a,

f dolce

a - ve Ma ri a, Maid-en, and moth-er of Je - sus our King.

p *Rall. dim. pp*

a - ve Ma - ri - a, Maid-en, and moth-er of Je - sus our King.

p *dim. pp*

a - ve Ma ri - a, Maid-en, and moth-er of Je - sus our King.

p *dim. pp*

a - ve Ma ri a, Maid-en, and moth-er of Je - sus our King.

p *dim. pp*