

The First Noel

Also available for:
SATB Chorus and Piano

for SAB Chorus and Piano
Duration: 4:30

Traditional
arr. by Michael Pratt, ASCAP

Moderato ♩ = 110

mf

Soprano

Alto

Bass

Piano

f *mf*

The first No - el the
look - ed up and

The first No - el the
look - ed up and

The first No - el the
look - ed up and

an - gel did say was to cer - tain poor shep - ards in fields as they lay: in fields where
saw a star, shin - ing in the east, be - yond them far: and to the

an - gel did say was to cer - tain poor shep - ards in fields as they lay: in fields where
saw a star, shin - ing in the east, be - yond them far: and to the

an - gel did say was to cer - tain poor shep - ards in fields as they lay: in fields where
saw a star, shin - ing in the east, be - yond them far: and to the

Pno.

14

S
they lay keep - ing their sheep on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep. No -
earth it gave great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.

A
they lay keep - ing their sheep on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep. No -
earth it gave great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.

B
they lay keep - ing their sheep on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep. No -
earth it gave great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.

Pno.

21

S
el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra - el. They *mf*

A
el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra - el. They *mf*

B
el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra - el. They *mf*

Pno.

small group - rest join alto on melody

29

S *mp* And by the light of

A *mp* And by the light of

B

Pno. *f* *mp*

36

S that same star three wise men came from the coun - try far; to seek for a

A that same star three wise men came from the coun - try far; to seek for a

B

Pno.

43

S King was their in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went. No -

A King was their in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went. No -

B

Pno.

50

S el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra - el.

A el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra - el. This *mp*

B *mp*
This

Pno. *mp*

58

S

A

B

Pno.

star drew nigh to the north - west; o'er Beth - le - hem it took its

star drew nigh to the north - west; o'er Beth - le - hem it took its

65

S

A

B

Pno.

rest, and there it did both stop and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus

rest, and there it did both stop and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus

73

S

A

B

Pno.

lay. No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra -

lay. No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of Is - ra -

81

S

A

B

Pno.

el.

el.

el.

Then en - tered us in those with

Then en - tered us in those with

Then en - tered us in those with

mf

f

mf

88

S
wise men three, fell rev - e - rent - ly u - pon their knee, and off - ered
one ac - cord sing prai - ses to our hea - ven - ly Lord, that hath made

A
wise men three, fell rev - e - rent - ly u - pon their knee, and off - ered
one ac - cord sing prai - ses to our hea - ven - ly Lord, that hath made

B
wise men three, fell rev - e - rent - ly u - pon their knee, and off - ered
one ac - cord sing prai - ses to our hea - ven - ly Lord, that hath made

Pno.

95

S
there in his pre - sence their gold and myrrh and frank - in - cense. No -
hea - ven and earth of nought, and with his blood man - kind has bought.

A
there in his pre - sence their gold and myrrh and frank - in - cense. No -
hea - ven and earth of nought, and with his blood man - kind has bought.

B
there in his pre - sence their gold and myrrh and frank - in - cense. No -
hea - ven and earth of nought, and with his blood man - kind has bought.

Pno.

The First Noel

102

S el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of

A el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of

B el, No - el, No - el, No - el, born is the King of

Pno.

108

S Is - ra - el. *f* optional repeat Then *ff* el. born is the King of *rit.* Is - ra - el.

A Is - ra - el. *f* Then *ff* el. born is the King of *rit.* Is - ra - el.

B Is - ra - el. *f* Then *ff* el. born is the King of *rit.* Is - ra - el.

Pno. *f* *ff* *rit.*

Meno Mosso

About **The First Noel**

Noel (from the Latin Natalis, meaning birth or birthday) is an old French word and was originally shouted or sung to commemorate the birth of Christ. Telling the story of the first Christmas, or The First Noel, the song is thought to date from as early as the 13th or 14th century when Miracle plays (dramatizations of favorite Bible stories for special holidays) were very popular.

While the tune is very old, originally either French or English, the words were first published in 1833 by William Sandys in his edition of Christmas Carols, Ancient and Modern.

About **Michael Pratt**

Michael Pratt studied composition with Pulitzer Prize winning composers Ross Lee Finney and Leslie Bassett at The University of Michigan. He has taught music in the public schools for many years in Michigan. He has sung with The Toledo Choral Society, Toledo Symphony Chorale, Opera!Lenawee, and The University Musical Society Choral Union of the University of Michigan with whom he has performed with The Detroit Symphony Orchestra, The San Francisco Symphony, The Russian National Orchestra, The Ann Arbor Symphony, The Lansing Symphony, The Grand Rapids Symphony, The Toledo Symphony, The Birmingham, Symphony, The Gabrieli Consort, and The Tallis Scholars. He has played tuba with The Toledo Symphony, Toledo Concert Band, Toledo Opera, University of Toledo Faculty Brass Quintet, Adrian Chamber Brass, Adrian College Faculty Brass Quintet, and since 1981 with the Adrian Symphony Orchestra.