

That First Christmas Night

Narrator *That First Christmas Night... Angels... Wisemen... Shepherds... a town named Bethlehem....the Christ Child upon the manger hay....All are images from a very special night, *That First Christmas Night*....the story we share with you this night in word and music.*

Music #1 Mary's Song (Instrumental Underscore)

Narrator In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God, to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph. He was of the House of David. Her name was Mary.

Gabriel Greetings, favoured one! The Lord is with you.

Narrator Mary was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.

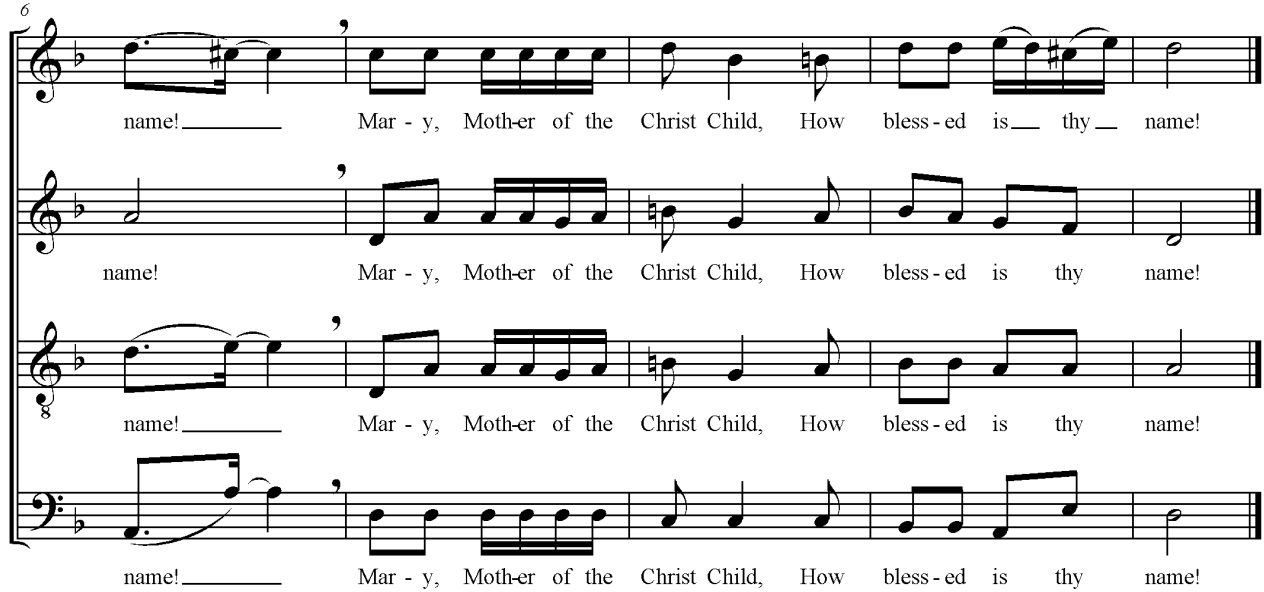
Gabriel Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.

Music #2 Mary's Song (Chorus)

The musical score for the chorus of Mary's Song is written for four voices: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. The music is in 2/4 time and B-flat major. It begins with a 'vamp till cue' section for the Soprano part, followed by the main melody. The lyrics are: 'Mar - y, Moth-er of the Christ Child, How bless-ed is thy'. The Soprano part has a fermata over the first measure of the main melody. The Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts enter with the melody in the second measure. The Tenor part has an '8' below the first note of the main melody.

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name! Mar - y, Moth-er of the Christ Child, How bless-ed is thy name!

name! Mar - y, Moth-er of the Christ Child, How bless-ed is thy name!

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name! Mar - y, Moth-er of the Christ Child, How bless-ed is thy name!

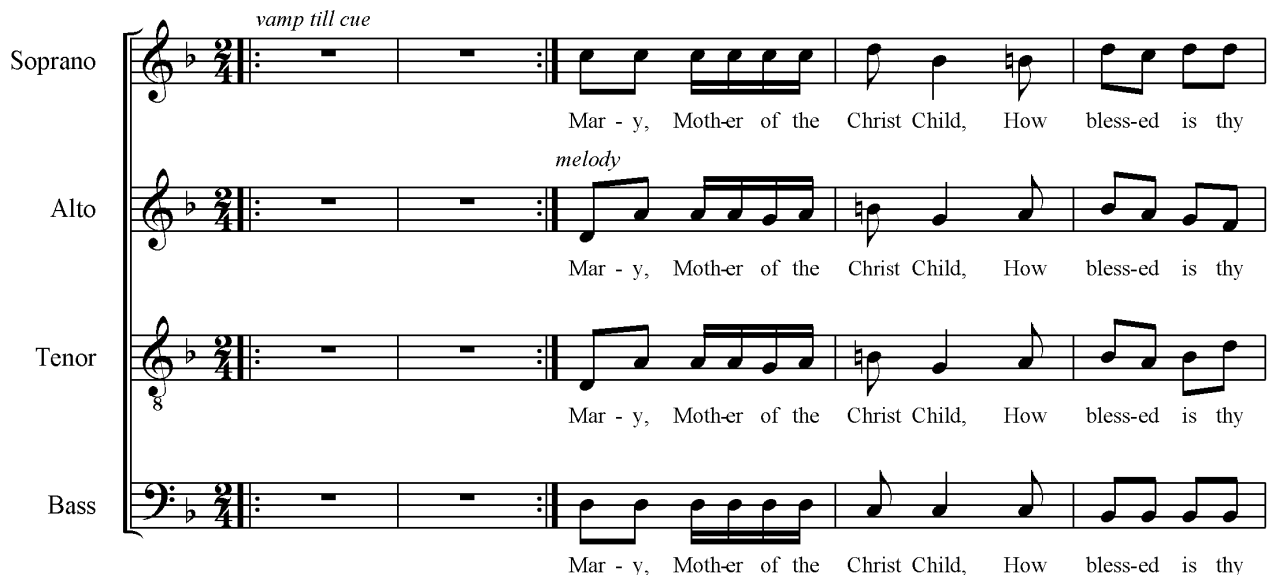
Narrator An angel of the Lord also appeared to Joseph in a dream.

Angel Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.

Narrator All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.'

Music #3 Mary's Song (Chorus)

vamp till cue



Soprano *melody* Mar - y, Moth-er of the Christ Child, How bless-ed is thy

Alto Mar - y, Moth-er of the Christ Child, How bless-ed is thy

Tenor Mar - y, Moth-er of the Christ Child, How bless-ed is thy

Bass Mar - y, Moth-er of the Christ Child, How bless-ed is thy