

Drew Morton

MUSIC



Music for Choirs

Advent / Christmas

'Mam Bendithio' (Blessed Mother)

SSAA/SATB

Beautiful ancient plygain melody from Wales (Roedd yn y wlad honno), re-arranged with original English words re-imagining the Annunciation for the modern era.

Performed by choirs in Monmouthshire and Pembroke in December 2015, it created a spell-binding atmosphere in both locations. It works equally well in either arrangement.

Scored for SSAA or SATB unaccompanied.

*The Woman lay alone, her bed thin wisps of straw,
She shiver'd as the owl blew shrill.
Her pillow was a stone, hard was the earthen floor,
The frozen air was sharp and still*

Light

*Flooded her small space uncovering her face
And warming her as if by fire.
Her eyes grew wide with fear, she sensed a presence near
But no-one came to lift her load.*

*Her feet were cold as death, the nails rough, bloodied, torn
Her wanderings had led her here.
A stranger on the road is vulnerable to all;
From hooded eyes she shed a tear.*

He

*Came to her that night and soothed away her fright
By warming her as if his own.
She knew how it would be the sign He'd set her free:
The Seed of God in Man was sown.*

Mam Bendithio

Tune Roedd yn y wlad honno

Andrew E. Morton

trad. arranged Andrew E. Morton

$\text{♩} = 85$

Soprano *mf* 1. The We-man lay a-lone, her bed thin wings of straw, she
2. Her feet were cold as death, the milk rough, blood-ied, tom, her

Soprano *mp* 1. The We-man lay a-lone, her bed thin wings of straw, she
2. Her feet were cold as death, the milk rough, blood-ied, tom, her

Alto *mp* 1. The We-man lay a-lone, her bed thin wings of straw, she
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S. *mp* *mf*
shir - e'd as the owl blew shall Her gil - low was a stone, head
van - der - ings had led her here. A strong - er on the road is

S. *p* *mp*
shir - e'd as the owl blew shall Her gil - low was a stone, head
van - der - ings had led her here. A strong - er on the road is

A. *p* *mp*
shir - e'd as the owl blew shall Her gil - low was a stone, head
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