

# I sing the birth

for Soprano Solo, SATB Chorus unaccompanied

Ben Jonson (1572–1637)

Stephen Chatman

**Gently flowing**  $\text{♩} = 58$

*p*

Soprano  
Alto

Tenor  
Bass

*p*

I sing the birth, was borne to - night, The au - thor both of life and light: The

5 *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

an - gels so — did sound it, And, like the rav - ished shep - herds said, Who saw the light,

10 *slightly slower* **Tempo primo** ( $\text{♩} = 58$ ) *pp* *intense p*

and were a - fraid, Yet searched, and true they found it, they found it. The Son of

15 *mp* *poco rit.* *a tempo* *p*

God, th'e - ter - nal king, That did us all sal - va - tion bring, — And freed our soul — from

*mp* *p*

20 *mp*  $\rightrightarrows$  *p* *mp*  $\rightrightarrows$  *p*

dan - ger, He whom the whole world could not take, The Word, which heav'n and earth did make,

25 *rit.* *a tempo* ( $\text{♩} = 58$ ) *mp*

Sop. Solo *rit.* *a tempo* ( $\text{♩} = 58$ ) *mp*

S A *rit.* *a tempo* ( $\text{♩} = 58$ ) *mp*

T B *mp*

The Fa - ther's  
Was now - laid in a man - ger. The Fa - ther's wis - dom willed it

30

wis - dom, the Son's o - be - dience no, the Fa -  
so, The Son's o - be - dience knew no No; Both wills were in one

34 *mf* *mp* slightly slower *mf* *mp* *p* slightly slower

ther's wis - dom, the Fa - ther's wis - dom,  
sta - ture, And, as that wis - dom had de - creed, The Word was now made flesh in -

