

# Guard Him, Joseph

SATB

Sally DeFord

$\text{♩} = 70$

*mf* *rit.*

Soprano/Alto unison:

*mp*  
*a tempo*

1. Guard Him, Jo - seph, as He slum - bers, There be - hind the sta - ble doors,

*mp* *a tempo*

10 12 *div.*

Let no er - rant sound dis - tress Him, Tread thou soft - ly on the floor,  
(Oo, \_\_\_\_\_)

Tenor:

Bass:



Musical score for "Guard Him, Joseph - SATB-2". The score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Lin - ger watch - ful round the man - ger, Hush thy voice and still the beasts, For thou hast with - in thy keep - ing Christ, the in - fant Prince of Peace."

The score is divided into systems. The first system (measures 14-16) features a vocal line with lyrics "Lin - ger watch - ful round the man - ger, Hush thy voice and still the beasts," and piano accompaniment. Dynamics include *mf*, *rit.*, and *ten.*. The second system (measures 18-20) features a vocal line with lyrics "For thou hast with - in thy keep - ing Christ, the in - fant Prince of" and piano accompaniment. Dynamics include *mp*, *a tempo*, and *mf*. The third system (measures 22-24) features a vocal line with lyrics "Peace." and piano accompaniment. The piano part includes a fermata over the final chord.

Men's voices unison:

26 28

*mp*

2. Guard Him, Jo - seph, through the\_ dark - ness, Watch - ing\_ o'er him till the dawn,

*mp*

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of the musical score. It features a bass clef staff for the men's voices unison and a grand staff (treble and bass clefs) for the piano accompaniment. The key signature is two sharps (D major). The vocal line begins at measure 26 and continues through measure 28. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines in both hands. The dynamic marking *mp* (mezzo-piano) is indicated for both parts.

30 32

Bid the shep - herds en - ter\_ meek - ly, Stand in\_ won - der, gaze in awe,

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of the musical score. It continues the vocal and piano parts from the previous system. The vocal line starts at measure 30 and ends at measure 32. The piano accompaniment continues with similar harmonic textures. The dynamic marking *mp* is maintained.

Tenor I & II

34 36

*mf* Trim thy lamp and shield thy\_ can - dle, See they\_ burn all through the\_ night,

*rit. ten.*

Bass I & II

*mf*

*rit. ten.*

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of the musical score. It features four vocal parts: Tenor I & II and Bass I & II, along with the piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in bass clef, and the piano is in grand staff. The key signature remains two sharps. The vocal line begins at measure 34 and continues through measure 36. The piano accompaniment provides accompaniment for the vocalists. The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is used for the vocal parts, and *mf* for the piano. Performance instructions *rit.* (ritardando) and *ten.* (tenuto) are placed above the vocal lines at the end of the system.

38 40

*a tempo*

For thou hast with - in thy keep - ing, Christ the E - ver - last - - ing

42 44

*f* Light.

*f* *mp*

Sop: 46 48

Alto: *mf* 3. Guard Him, — Jo - seph, from all — dan - ger, Keep thy — vi - gil

Ten:

Bass:

*mf*

50

nigh His bed, ——— Let no — harm nor grief be - fall Him,  
 (Oo, ———)

52

Stand thou\_ in a fa - ther's stead, When His mo - ther's arms be\_ wea - ry,

54

56

Hold Him\_ gen - tly *rit.* as thine\_ *ten.* own, *a tempo* For thou hast with -

58

*rit.* *ten.* *a tempo*

60

*rit.*

in thy keep - ing God's own well - be - lov - ed Son.

62

*p a tempo*

God's own well - be - lov - ed Son.

64

66

*rit.*