

Let Us Be Merry

Based upon Judea by William Billings (1746-1800)

Christopher Lee Fraley

unaccompanied mixed voices

SATB

(with some S divisi)

Perusal Score

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*My name is Chris Fraley. I'm a composer from Kona, Hawaii (previously from the less sunny Seattle area). **I need your help!** I am looking for choirs to partner with—either as a composer-in-residence, to commission new pieces, or simply to perform music I've already written. Please check out my website www.FraleyMusic.com, call my cell 425-829-9654, or email me at Chris@FraleyMusic.com to discuss possibilities.*

Thank you!

Let Us Be Merry

by

Christopher Lee Fraley

Based upon *Judea* by William Billings (1746-1800)

F. 160

*Commissioned by Gaithersburg Community Chorus
in Celebration of their 25th Anniversary.*

*Premiered December 8th & 9th, 2012
Gaithersburg Community Chorus
Hugh Harvey, director
Gaithersburg, Maryland*

composed by

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Judea . words Anon'.

*A Virgin unspotted y' Prophets foretold, Should bring forth a Saviour which now we behold
To be our Redeemer from Death Hell & Sin, Which Adam's transgression involved us in.
Then let us be merry put sorrow away, Our Saviour Christ Jesus was born on this Day.*

Reproduction of Judea from Billings' The Singing Master's Assistant, published 1778 in Boston.

Instrumentation

SATB (a cappella)

Performance Time

approximately 3'30"

A Virgin, Unspotted

A Virgin, unspotted, by Prophets foretold,
Should bring forth a Saviour which now we behold,
To be our Redeemer from death, hell, and sin,
Which Adam's transgression involved us in.

*Then let us be merry, put sorrow away,
Our Saviour Christ Jesus was born on this day.*

At Bethlem in Jewry a city there was,
Where Joseph and Mary together did pass,
And there to be taxed with many one mo',
For Caesar commanded the same should be so.

To teach us humility all this was done,
Then learn we from hence, haughty pride fro to shun.
A manger's his cradle, who came from above,
The Great God of mercy, of peace, and of love.

Let Us Be Merry

Gaithersburg Community Chorus
25th Anniversary

Traditional

Christopher Lee Fraley (F. 160)
based on *Judea* by William Billings (1746-1800)

Very Jubilantly, ♩ = 60

S

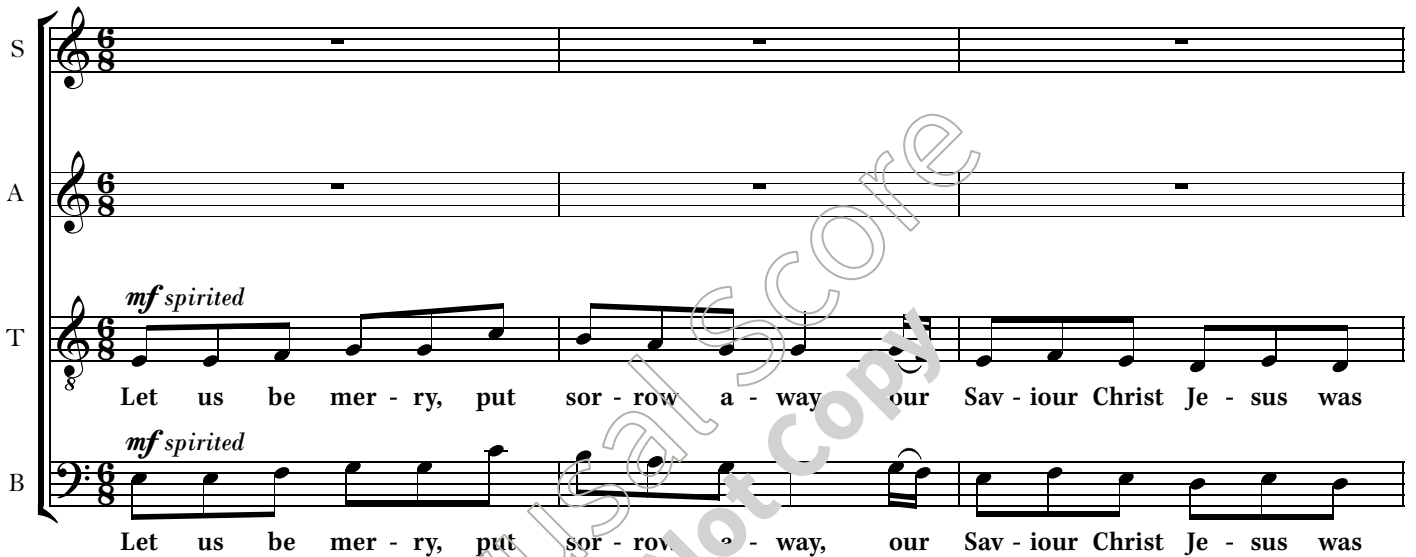
A

T *mf spirited*

B *mf spirited*

Let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a - way our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

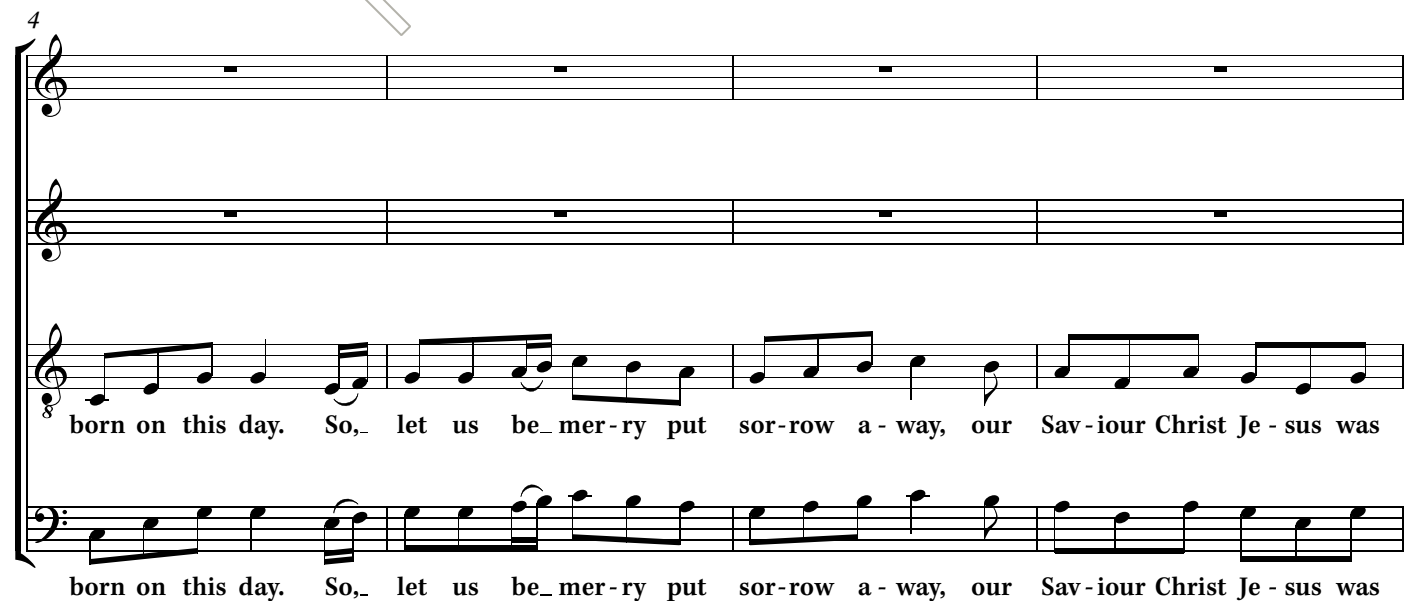
Let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

Musical score for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B) parts. The score is in 6/8 time and begins with the instruction 'Very Jubilantly, ♩ = 60'. The Tenor and Bass parts are marked 'mf spirited'. The lyrics are: 'Let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a - way our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was'.

4

born on this day. So, let us be mer - ry put sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

born on this day. So, let us be mer - ry put sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

Musical score for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B) parts. The score is in 6/8 time and begins with the instruction 'Very Jubilantly, ♩ = 60'. The Tenor and Bass parts are marked 'mf spirited'. The lyrics are: 'born on this day. So, let us be mer - ry put sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was'.

Arrangement (including all changes to melody and harmony)
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(E0-120716-160814)

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Slower, ♩ = 54

mf

8

1. A Vir - gin, un - spot - ted, by Pro - phets fore - told should
born on this day, born, born, born on this day, should

1. A Vir - gin, un - spot - ted, by Pro - phets fore - told should
born on this day. born, born, born on this day, should

mp

mp

Slower, ♩ = 54
mf

Piano (for rehearsal only)

mp

11

bring forth a Sav - iour which now we be - hold, to be our Re - deem - er from
bring forth a Sav - iour which now we be - hold, to be our Re - deem - er from
bring forth a Sav - - - - iour, to be our Re - deem - er from
bring forth a Sav - - - - iour, to be our Re - deem - er from

Jubilantly

14

death, hell, and sin, which Ad - am's trans - gres - sion in - vol - vèd us in. Then *f*

death, hell, and sin, which Ad - am's trans - gres - sion in - vol - vèd us in. Then *f*

death, hell, and sin, which Ad - am's trans - gres - sion in - vol - vèd us in. Then *f*

death, hell, and sin, which Ad - am's trans - gres - sion in - vol - vèd us in. Then *f*

Jubilantly

17

let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

20

born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry put sor - row a - way, our_

born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry put sor - row a - way, our

born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry put sor - row a - way, our

born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry put sor - row a - way, our

23

rall.

breve , *slower*

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this, born on this day.

rall. *breve* , *slower*

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this, born on this day.

rall. *breve* , *slower*

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this, born on this day. 2. At

rall. *breve* , *slower*

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this, born on this day. 2. At

rall. *breve* , *slower*

26

Slower, ♩. = 50

a ci - ty there was, and Ma - ry to - geth - er did pass, and
 a ci - ty there was, and Ma - ry to - geth - er did pass, and
 Beth - lem in Jew - ry a ci - ty there was, where Jo - seph to - geth - er did pass, and
 Beth - lem in Jew - ry a ci - ty there was, where Jo - seph to - geth - er did pass, and

Slower, ♩. = 50

30

distinctly, poco marcato

there to be tax - ed with man - y one mo', for Cae - sar com - mand - ed the
distinctly, poco marcato
 there to be tax - ed with man - y one mo', for Cae - sar com - mand - ed the
distinctly, poco marcato
 there to be tax - ed with man - y one mo', for Cae - sar com - mand - ed the
distinctly, poco marcato
 there to be tax - ed with man - y one mo', for Cae - sar com - mand - ed the
distinctly, poco marcato

Broadly, Slightly Faster

mf reverently

33

same should be so. Our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day, our_

same should be so. Our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day, our_

same should be so.

same should be so.

Broadly, Slightly Faster

mf reverently

36

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day. Our_ Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day. Our_ Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

Our_ Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

Our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

39 **molto rit.**

born on this day, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this, born on this, *molto rit.*

born on this day, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this, born on this, *molto rit.*

born on this day, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this, born on this, *molto rit.*

born on this day, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this *molto rit.*

born on this day, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this *molto rit.*

born on this day, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this *molto rit.*

42 **Reverently, ♩ = 80**

born on this day. All this was

born on this day. 3. To teach us hu - mil - i - ty all this was done, then

born on this day. 3. To teach us hu - mil - i - ty all this was done, then

day. born on this day! Then

Reverently, ♩ = 80

(melody)

48

done, from thence, haugh-ty pride fro to shun. A man - ger's his
 learn we from thence, haugh-ty pride fro to shun. A man - ger's his
 learn we from thence, haugh-ty pride fro to shun. A man - ger's his
 learn we from thence, pride to shun. A man -

53

cra - dle, who came from a - bove, the Great God of mer - cy, of
 cra - dle, who came from a - bove, the Great God of mer - cy, of
 cra - dle, who came from a - bove, the Great God of mer - cy, of
 - ger, came from a - bove, the Great God of mer - cy, of

58

peace, and love, the Great God of mer - cy, of peace, and so
 peace, and love, the Great God of mer - cy, of peace, and of
 peace, and love, the Great God of mer - cy, of peace, and of
 peace, and love, the Great God of mer - cy, of peace, and of

63 **Jubilantly**
mf spirited

Let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was
 love! Let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a -
 love!
 love!

Jubilantly
mf spirited

66

born on this day. So, let us be merry put sor-row a-way, our way, our Sav-iour Christ Je-sus was born on this day. So, let us be-

69

Sav-iour Christ Je-sus was born on this day. born, born, mer-ry put sor-row a-way, our Sav-iour Christ Je-sus was born on this Put sor-row a-

mf spirited

Even More Jubilantly

72

f

born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a - way, our -

f

day. Then let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a - way, our

f

- way on this day. Then let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a - way, our

mf spirited

f

Born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry, put sor - row a - way, our

f

Even More Jubilantly

75

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry put

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry put

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry put

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry put

78

sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this, born on this,
sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this, born on this,
sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this, born on this,
sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this, born on this,

81

born on this, born on, Then let us be mer - ry put sor - row a - way, our
born on this, born on, Then let us be mer - ry put sor - row a - way, our
born on this, born on, Then let us be mer - ry put sor - row a - way, our
born on this, born on, Then let us be mer - ry put sor - row a - way, our

84

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry put

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry put

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry put

Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day. Then let us be mer - ry put

87

sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

sor - row a - way, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was

89

rit. **molto rall.**

born on this, born on, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day!

born on this, born on, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day!

born on this, born on, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day!

born on this, born on, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day!

born on this, born on, our Sav - iour Christ Je - sus was born on this day!