

187 MID-WINTER (CHRISTMAS)

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Gustav Holst

In moderate time

SOPRANO
ALTO

Unison
Harmony
Unison

1. In the bleak mid-winter Frost-y wind made moan,
 2. Our God, heav'n can-not hold-him Nor—earth sus-tain;
 3. E-nough for him, whom che-ru-bim Wor-ship night and day, A
 4. An-gels and arch-an-gels May have ga-thered there,
 5. What—can I give—him, Poor— as I am?

TENOR
BASS

Earth stood hard as i-ron, Wa-ter like a stone:
 Heav'n and earth shall flee a-way When he comes to reign:
 breast-ful of milk, — And a man-ger-ful of hay; E-
 Che-ru-bim and se-ra-phim Thronged—the air: But
 If I were a shep-herd I would bring a lamb;

Snow had fal-len, snow on snow, Snow—on—snow,
 In the bleak mid-winter A sta-ble-place suf-ficed The
 -nough for him, whom an-gels Fall—down be-fore, The
 on-ly his mo-ther In her maid-en bliss
 If I were a wise—man I would do my part; Yet

In the bleak mid-winter, Long—^{long} a—~~as~~ go.
 Lord—God Al-might-y Je—~~sts~~—~~sus~~ Christ.
 ox and ass and ca-mel Which—~~a~~—~~a~~ dore.
 Wor-shipped the Be-lov-ed With—~~a~~—~~a~~ kiss.
 what I can I give him— Give—~~my~~—~~my~~ heart.

This poem, with its tune from the *English Hymnal*
 and *Songs of Praise*, is so much a carol that we feel bound to include it here also.