

Rise Up Shepherd and Follow

Traditional African-American Spiritual

Arranged by

ROBERT L. JEFFERSON

SATB Voices a cappella

Duration: 2:27

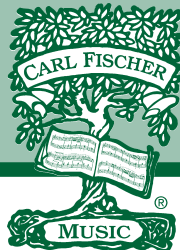
RANGES:



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Program Notes

Rise up Shepherd and Follow is one of the most beautiful of the African-American Christmas Spirituals.

The sopranos should begin the piece by singing the melody in solo style while keeping the tone warm and expressive. In turn, the accompanying parts should provide the sopranos with a full, yet not overpowering harmonic support.

In m. 8, the tenors should maintain the warmth of tone created by the sopranos in their opening statement, followed by the basses in m. 15. Although the sopranos resume the melody in m. 17, the altos should also bring out the counter melody through m. 20.

Even though the dynamic marking is *forte* in m. 25, the urgency of tone should not sound like a “command” but rather, like an announcement of “good tidings of great joy.” And finally, the piece should culminate with the benevolent summons to “follow.”

About the Arranger

Robert L. Jefferson is an experienced vocalist, songwriter, recording artist and pianist. Highly sought as a performer and clinician, he has taught all grade levels, Pre-K–college, and continues to serve as organist and music director for churches of various denominations. He has also performed with major symphonic orchestras and in concert halls throughout the United States and abroad.

Jefferson has presented workshops and clinics at Music Educators National Conferences, churches, colleges and universities. He also served in the United States Air Force Pacific Air Command Ensemble in Tokyo, Japan and was also an Enlisted Choral Conductor for the Soldiers’ Chorus of The United States Army Field Band, Washington, DC.

Jefferson holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Arizona, a Master of Music degree from the University of Houston, and Doctor of Musical Arts degree from the University of Maryland. He has studied with Alma Androzzo, Elena Nikolaidi and François Loup.

His published compositions and arrangements include numerous choral works, works for voice and piano, instrumental works, and textbooks. A leading expert in the study of Gospel Music performance, Dr. Jefferson is the author of the popular and comprehensive book *How to Play Gospel Music*.

Rise up, Shepherd and Follow

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for SSAATTBB Voices *a cappella*

Traditional African-American Spiritual

Arranged by Robert L. Jefferson

Tempo rubato, straight 8ths (♩ = ca. 60)

mf espr.

Soprano

There's a star in the east on Christ-mas morn, rise up shep-herd and

mp espr.

Alto

Star on Christ - mas, rise up shep - herd,

mp espr.

Tenor

Star on Christ - mas, rise up shep - herd,

mp espr.

Bass

Star on Christ - mas, rise up shep - herd,

Tempo rubato, straight 8ths (♩ = ca. 60)

mf

Piano

(for rehearsal only)

mp espr.

4

meno mosso a tempo

fol - low. It will lead to the place of the Sav-ior's birth, rise up shep-herd and

fol - low. Lead to Beth - le - hem, rise up,

fol - low. Lead to Beth - le - hem, rise up,

fol - low. Lead to Beth - le - hem, rise up,

meno mosso a tempo

8 *poco rit.* *a tempo* *mp*

fol - low. Star on Christ - mas, rise up, _____

fol - low. Star on Christ - mas, rise up,

mf fol - low. There's a star in the east on Christ-mas morn, rise up shep-herd and

mp fol - low. Star on Christ - mas, rise up, _____

poco rit. *a tempo*

mf *mp*

12 *rit.*

fol - low. It will lead to the place of the Sav - ior's birth, _____

fol - low. Lead where Christ was born,

fol - low. _____ Lead to the place of the Sav - ior's birth,

fol - low. Lead to Sav - ior's birth,

rit.

rit.

15 *a tempo***Più mosso***mf*

rise up, fol - low. _ Fol - low, fol - low,
 rise up, fol - low. _ Fol - low, fol - low,
 rise up, fol - low. _ Fol - low, fol - low,
 rise up shep-herd and fol - low. _ Fol - low,

Più mosso*mf*

19

poco rit.

rise up shep-herd and fol - low, _ fol-low the star of Beth - le - hem; _
 rise up shep - herd, fol - low, _ fol - low the star of Beth - le - hem;
 rise up shep - herd, fol - low, fol - low the star of Beth - le - hem;
 rise up shep-herd and fol - low, _ fol - low the star of Beth - le - hem;

poco rit.

23

Più mosso

rise up shep-herd and fol - low. _ Fol - low, fol - low, fol - low, _

rise up, fol - low. _ Fol - low, fol - low, _

rise up, fol - low. _ Fol - low, fol - low, _

rise up, fol - low. _ Fol - low, fol - low, _

Più mosso

27

rise up, fol - low. Fol - low the star of

rise up, fol - low. Fol - low the star of

rise up shep-herd and fol - low. _ Fol - low the star of

rise up shep-herd and fol - low, _ fol - low. Fol - low the star of

a tempo
mf *espr.*

a tempo
mf *espr.*

a tempo
mf *espr.*

a tempo
mf *espr.*

Choral

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