

CTS-1110 SATB

LOOK TOWARD THE BRIGHTEST STAR

Claude T. Smith



**CLAUDE T. SMITH
PUBLICATIONS, INC.**

Claude T. Smith Publications, Inc.
10709 W. 118th Terr, Overland Park, KS 66210
claudetsmith.com

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ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Claude T. Smith was born in Monroe City, Missouri on March 14, 1932. He began his undergraduate degree at Central Methodist College in Fayette, Missouri, eventually enlisting in 1952 and serving in the 371st U.S. Army Band during the Korean War. After his service, he completed his Bachelor of Music Education degree at the University of Kansas in Lawrence.

Smith composed over 200 works for band, orchestra, choir, solos, small ensembles as well as three method books for band and orchestra. His compositions have been commissioned and performed by leading musical organizations throughout the world including the U.S. Air Force Band, the “President’s Own” U.S. Marine Band, the U.S. Navy Band, and the U.S. Army Field Band. His solos were written for noted artists such as “Doc” Severinsen, Dale Underwood, Brian Bowman, Warren Covington, Gary Foster, Rich Matteson, and Steve Seward.

Sacred choral music was a deep passion of Smith as he directed church choirs for five years in Cozad (NE), 10 years in Chillicothe (MO), and 10 years in Raytown (MO). Many of his choral anthems were written for his church choirs and for Missouri and Nebraska All-State Choirs, Bands, and Orchestras.

Smith was active as a clinician and guest conductor throughout the United States, Australia, Canada, and Europe. He received many awards for his contributions to music education and for his work in composition including numerous ASCAP Composers Award. Following his death, he was awarded the National Band Association Academy of Wind and Percussion Arts (AWAPA) Award (1987), honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from Central Methodist College (1988), Missouri Bandmasters Association Hall of Fame (1988), Kappa Kappa Psi Distinguished Service to Music Medal (1988), Missouri Music Educators Association Hall of Fame (1992), and named School Director of the Year from the Christian Instrumental Directors Association (1994).

Smith was a member of the Music Educators National Conference (now NAfME), Missouri Bandmasters Association, National Band Association, American Bandmasters Association, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and served as past president of the Missouri Music Educators Association.

Claude T. Smith passed away on December 13, 1987 in Kansas City, Missouri having completed a Christmas concert at church with his choir and orchestra. His wife, Maureen Faye Smith and his daughter, Pam Smith Kelly, along with Pam’s husband, Jim, founded Claude T. Smith Publications, Inc. in 1993. C.L. Barnhouse Co. became the exclusive distributor for his instrumental works in 2016 with Claude T. Smith Publications, publishing his choral works, biography and recordings. Claude T. Smith Publications is dedicated to keeping the music of Claude T. Smith and many composers and arrangers available and in the hearts of musicians worldwide.

PROGRAM NOTES

LOOK TOWARD THE BRIGHTEST STAR is a dynamic Christmas anthem of medium difficulty which will inspire your choir and your audience. True to Smith’s compositional style, the work begins with an SATB chorale, followed by a feature for the tenors and basses, splitting into three parts. The women build on the momentum and lead the full chorus into a majestic ending. that Claude T. Smith wrote and dedicated to his choir at Blue Ridge Presbyterian Church in Raytown, Missouri. It premiered on December 5, 1982. While known primarily as an instrumental composer, Claude directed a church choir for over twenty-five years in Cozad, Nebraska, Chillicothe, Missouri, and Kansas City, Missouri. While in his years in Raytown, Missouri, Claude started a tradition for his choir where he arranged and crafted a special Christmas service with a small orchestra and his choir.



Look Toward the Brightest Star

Claude T. Smith, ASCAP

Moderato

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It begins with a piano introduction in 4/4 time, marked Moderato. The piano part starts with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic and includes a ritardando (rit.) section. The vocal part enters at measure 4, marked 'a tempo' and mezzo-piano (mp). The lyrics are: 'Look to - ward the bright - est star, let its light show forth the proph - e - cy. Look to -'. The piano accompaniment continues with a forte (f) dynamic and a ritardando (rit.) section, followed by a piano (p) section and a mezzo-piano (mp) section. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

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4 3

11

rit.

ward the bright - est star, let its glow be clear for

14 15 a tempo

all to see. What the star fore - tells let the an - gels sing of the

17 *rit.* *mf* a tempo

birth of our great King. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

rit. *mf*

20 *Men only* *mf*

lu - ia! Shout prais - es and re - joice! Through His

23

light the world is sav - ed, and His peo - ple — will be

mf

26

cleansed and healed. Through His light the world will join as one and His

(b)

29 *rit.* *p* 31 *rubato*

grace and trust will be re - vealed. What the star fore - tells let the

32 *rit.* *p rubato*

an - gels — sing of the birth of our great — King. — Al - le -

35 *a tempo* *rit.* *f* *rit.*

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Shout prais - es — and — re - joice!

39 *a tempo* 41

42 *mf* *rit.* *f*

45 *Soprano* *p* 46 *Lento, rubato*

Let His ra - di - ance give faith and hope to

Alto

p

48 *rit.*

all in search of car - ing love. Let His pres - ence bind our

rit.

51 *rit.* *mf*

hearts in peace like that of the soar - ing dove. What the

54 *a tempo* *mf*

light fore - tells let the an - gels sing of the birth of our great

57 *rit.* *p* *mf* 59 *a tempo*

King. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

60 *rit.*

lu - ia! Shout prais - es and re - joice.

mf

63 *a tempo*

molto rit.

66 *Descant: a few Sopranos*

f

67 *Maestoso*

f

Choir: unison

Look to - ward the bright - est star ——— let ——— its

69

light show — forth the proph - e - cy, Look to - ward the bright - est

72

rit.

star, let its glow be — clear for all to see. What the

(S. T.)

(A. B.)

p (S.A.)

p (T.B.)

rit.

p

75 Andante rubato

rit.

light fore - tells let the an - gels sing of the birth of our great —

rit.

78 *f* *ten.* *ten.* **79** **Maestoso**

King. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Shout

81 *rit.* *ten.* *ten.* *accel., cresc.*

prais - es and re - joice! Look to - ward the bright - est

rit. *accel., cresc.*

84 *p*

star. Look to - ward the bright - est star. Shout loud

fp *fp*

87 *cresc., molto rit.* *mf*

prais - es and re - joice, Al - le - lu - ia!

cresc., molto rit. *mf*

90 *allarg.* *f* *ff*

A - men! A - men!

allarg. *f* *ff*

Sample - Not For Performance

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