

For Roland and Lenore Strommen

The Shepherd King

Mary Nelson Keithahn

Dorothy Christopherson

Majestically (♩ = 120)

Piano

Unison
*Group I
mf

4

1. We thought a king would wear a crown and sit up - on a

8

throne. He'd hold the world with - in one hand and call it all his

*Performance option: Divide the choir into 2 groups and sing stanzas 1 and 3 antiphonally.

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Group II

12

own. He'd use his scep-ter to com - mand his sub - jects to o -

poco rit. e dim.

16

bey, and they would bow their heads in fear and turn their eyes a -

poco rit. e dim.

Slightly faster ($\text{d} = 126$)

20 *f* All

way. 2. Yet God ___ sent us a shep-herd king to rule with love, not

f

24 *mp*

fear; a shep-herd king who gent-ly calls to us, "Come here, come here." We

mp

cresc.

29

see the kind-ness in his eyes, the smile up - on his face, and

tenderly

as he wel-comes us, we feel at home in his em - brace.

tenderly

mp

Tempo I
slight rit. Group I *mf*

3. We

slight rit. *mf*

41

know if we were lost, a - lone, or sick, and in great

44

pain, this shep - herd king would seek us out to

47

Group II

bring us home a - gain, and wheth - er we were

50

right or wrong, would treat us all the same be -

53

poco rall.

cause he loves us as his own and knows us each by

poco rall.