

At Candlemas

Text by Charles Causley
(1917–2003)

For Barry Creasy

Music by Peter Owens
(b.1960)

Un poco largo $\text{♩} = 48$

Soprano *f*
'If Can - dle - mas _____ be fine and clear

Alto *f*
'If Can - - - dle mas ___ be fine and clear

Tenor *f*
'If Can - - - dle mas be ___ fine and clear

Bass *f*
'If Can - - - dle mas be fine and clear There'll

2 *mf*
S There'll be two win - ters in that year'; But all the day the drum-ming sun
A There'll be two win - ters ___ in that year'; But all the day the drum - ming sun ___
T There'll be two win - ters in that year'; But all the day the drum - ming sun ___
B be two win - ters in that ___ year'; But all the day the drum - ming sun ___

4 *f* *mf* *mp*
S Braz-ened it out that spring had come, And the tall el-der on the scene Un-
A Braz-ened it out that spring had come, And the tall ___ el-der on the scene ___ Un-
T Braz-ened it out that ___ spring had ___ come, And the tall el-der on the scene Un -
B Braz-ened it out that ___ spring had come, And the tall el-der on ___ the scene Un -

6 *mf*

S -fold-ed the first leaves of green. But when a - no - ther morn-ing came

A -fold-ed the first leaves of green. But when a-no - ther morn-ing came

T -fold-ed the first leaves of green. But when a-no - ther morn-ing came

B -fold-ed the first leaves of green. But when a-no - ther morn-ing came With

8 *mp*

S With frost, as Can - - - dle - mas with flame, The

A With frost, as Can - dle - mas with flame, The

T With frost, as Can - dle - mas with flame, The

B frost, as Can - - - dle - mas with flame, The

9 *p*

S sky was steel, there was no sun, The el - der leaves were dead and gone.

A sky was steel, there was no sun, The el-der leaves were dead and gone.

T sky was steel, there was no sun, The el - der leaves were dead and gone.

B sky was steel, there was no sun, The el - der leaves were dead and gone.

11 *pp* ³ *p*

S Out of a cold and crust-ed eye The stiff pond stared up at the sky,

A *pp* ³ *p*

A Out of a cold and crust-ed eye The stiff pond stared up at the sky, And

T *pp* ³ *p*

T Out of a cold and crust-ed eye The stiff pond stared up at the sky,

B *pp* ³ *p*

B Out of a cold and crust-ed eye The stiff pond stared up at the sky, And

13 *mf* *mp* *mf* **Pochiss. rit.**

S And on the scarce-ly breath-ing earth A kill-ing wind fell from the north; But

A *mf* *mp* *mf*

A on the scarce-ly breath-ing earth A kill - ing wind fell from the north; But

T *mf* ³ *mp* *mf*

T And on the scarce-ly breath - ing earth A kill - ing wind fell from the north; But

B *mf* *mp* *mf*

B on the scarce-ly breathing earth A kill-ing wind fell from the north; But

16 **Tempo 1** *f* *mf* **Rit.**

S still with-in the el-der tree The strong sap rose, though none could see.

A *f* *mf*

A still with-in the el-der tree The strong sap rose, though none could see.

T *f* *mf*

T still with-in the el-der tree The strong sap rose, though none could see.

B *f* *mf*

B still with - in the el-der tree The strong sap rose, though none could see.