Light a Candle

For SATB choir (with optional semi-chorus) and organ

Music by Liz Lane
Words by Jennifer Henderson
Light a Candle

Were there shepherds on the hillside
at the moment of his birth,
keeping guard beside the sheepfold
in the watches of the night?
Were there angels in the heavens
bending low toward the earth,
singing: 'Peace to all the nations!'
in a sudden, blinding light?

Light a candle burning bright,
keeping watch beside its flame;
in the darkness of the night,
light a candle in his name.

Did they wrap their cloaks around them
in the lonely midnight chill,
they who were not kings or sages
or the rulers of the land?
But if poor men heard the music
in glad tidings of good will,
they were first to see the brightness
of that day and understand.

Light a candle at this dawn
that will set the heart aflame!
On the day that he is born
light a candle in his name.

Jennifer Henderson

Duration: 3 minutes

www.lizlane.co.uk

Commissioned by Faith and Spirituality,
University of the West of England.
First performed at the
University of the West of England Carol Service by the
University Singers, conductor Ian Holmes,
Bristol Cathedral, 13 December 2012.