

NARRATOR:

But before we move on to our Christmas Day celebrations, we'll picture a cold and clear Christmas Eve, in the frosty countryside. Here the early 20th-century poet Robert Bridges looks back from his own time to the very distant past, and considers what Christmas means to him:

3. Christmas Eve

lines from *Noel: Christmas Eve, 1913* by Robert Bridges (1844-1930)

ALAN BULLARD

Andante (♩ = c. 76) T./B. unis. *p*

Tenor Bass A fros - ty — Chris - tmas Eve when the

Piano *pp* — *poco*

4 stars were shin - ing — Fared I forth a - lone where west - ward falls the

8 S. *p* And from ma - ny a vil - lage in the wa - ter'd val - ley Dis - tant mu - sic,

A. *p* And from ma - ny a vil - lage in the wa - ter'd val - ley Dis - tant mu - sic,

T. *p* hill, And from ma - ny a vil - lage in the wa - ter'd val - ley Dis - tant mu - sic, mu - sic

B. *p* hill, And from ma - ny a vil - lage in the val - ley Dis - tant mu - sic, mu - sic,