

In honor of my father, The Rev. Dr. August T. Mennicke, 1931-2002

Now the Green Blade Rises

SATB *divisi*,
with opt. Keyboard

John M. Crum

David Mennicke

♩ = 42

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Keyboard (opt.)

Div. p

Div. p

Div. p

p

(Ped.)

Ah,

Ah, now,

Now,

Text: by John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872-1958, *alt.*, from *The Oxford Book of Carols*, Copyright © 1928 Oxford University Press. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
Tune: NOËL NOUVELET, a French carol (PD).

PERFORMANCE NOTES: Careful attention to the printed dynamics and tempo will help communicate the mystery and joy of this text. The piece may be performed unaccompanied, or doubled on any keyboard instrument. Smaller choirs may begin at measure 11 or leave out the divided parts, singing only four parts and leaving the rest for the keyboard. Measures 3-10 may be performed by keyboard alone as an instrumental introduction. If these measures are sung, all tenors could sing with the basses in measure 3; all sopranos could join the altos in measure 5.

To scale the piece back to SATB voicing, any of these cuts is permissible: 1) The baritone part in measures 11-14, 21-22, 25-34, 36, and/or 40-41 may be omitted; 2) The Soprano 2 part in measures 9-10 may be omitted; 3) In the final two measures, the first tenor and one or both of the soprano parts may be omitted. If both soprano parts are left out, the sopranos should sing the melody line in the alto part, and all altos can sing the alto 2 part, ending on the A♯.

After the introduction, the faster tempo of the verses should be sung and felt in two half note beats to a measure (half note = 54). It may be helpful for the director to conduct measures 35 to the end in fast quarter notes.

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grain that sleeps un - seen; Love is come a - gain like
 sleeps; Love is come a - gain like
 sleeps un - seen; Love a - gain, a -
 sleeps, Love a -

26

wheat a - ris - ing green. Love come a - gain,
 wheat a - ris - ing green. Love come a - gain,
 ris - ing green. Love come a -
 ris - ing green. Love come a -

wheat a - ris - ing green, wheat a - ris - ing green,
 ris - ing, wheat a - ris - ing green, wheat a - ris - ing
 ris - ing green, a - ris
 ris - ing green, a - ris

mp *mf* *mp*
Unison

wheat a - ris - ing green, wheat a - ris - ing green.
 green, wheat a - ris - ing green, wheat a - ris - ing,
 ing.
 ing.

p *pp* *p* *pp* *pp* *pp* *Div.*

f *Div.*

Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;

f *Div.*

Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;

f *Div.*

Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;

f

Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;

Love a - gain, a - ris - ing green.

46 *ff* *rit.*

ff Love is come a - gain — like wheat a - ris - ing green.

ff *rit.*

ff Love is come a - gain — like wheat a - ris - ing green.

ff *rit.*

ff Love a - gain a - ris - ing green.

ff *rit.*

ff Love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

ff

Love — a - gain, a - ris - ing green.

rit.