



# Ancient Light

NASA, ESA, CSA, and STScI

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# *Ancient Light*

Wind Band (grade 4.5)

Duration: 5 minutes 20 seconds

## Instrumentation:

Piccolo  
Flute 1, 2, 3  
Oboe 1, 2  
Bassoon 1, 2  
Clarinet in Bb 1, 2, 3  
Bass Clarinet in Bb  
Alto Saxophone in Eb 1, 2  
Tenor Saxophone in Bb  
Baritone Saxophone in Eb

Trumpet in Bb 1, 2, 3  
Horn in F 1, 2, 3, 4  
Trombone 1, 2, 3  
Euphonium  
Tuba

Timpani  
Percussion 1: Vibraphone, Suspended Cymbal  
Percussion 2: Marimba, Suspended Cymbal, Low Tom  
Percussion 3: Glockenspiel  
Percussion 4: Chimes, Bass Drum  
Percussion 5: Tam-tam, Low Tom  
Percussion 6: Snare Drum, Triangle

## Program Note

The cosmos have fascinated and mystified humans since the beginning of time, and I've often felt myself in awe of the sheer depth and magnitude of space. Have you ever looked up into space and wondered how far it extends? Is it endless? There are theories about this, but we don't *really* know. What we do know is that there are millions upon millions of stars and galaxies out there, some of which have been captured by satellite imagery. In December 2021, the James Webb Space Telescope was launched and sent into the dark unknown to take photos of very distant space. The Webb Telescope is able to take photos of deep space as it existed millions of years ago, so we are literally able to peer back into the ancient past of the cosmos. This is possible because when Webb takes a photo in space, it is capturing light that has travelled millions of light years to reach Webb. It's almost incomprehensible the distances that the light travels (and therefore the sheer size of space). It's traveling for millions of years through space to reach us, and the speed of light is quite fast – 186,000 miles per second.

This piece, *Ancient Light* is a reflection on that distant light traveling to us from the unknown depths of space. The music tries to capture the speed and excitement of this light, and its mysterious origins. As we peer into the deep corners of space and time, what mysteries might we find?

*Ancient Light* was commissioned by a consortium organized by the Oregon Band Directors Association and premiered by the 2024 Oregon All-State Band.

*Commissioned by a Consortium Organized by the Oregon Band Directors Association*

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Amber Yester, North Bend High School

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Steve Kessler, North Medford High School

Todd Zimbelman, West Salem High School

Transposed Score

# Ancient Light

Steve Danyew

♩ = 144 Vivace

**Piccolo**  
*p* — *f* \*crescendo through release  
*f* 3  
 flutter  
*mp*

**Flute 1**  
*mp*

**Flute 2+3**

**Oboe 1+2**  
*f* 1. 3

**Bassoon 1+2**

**Clarinet in B♭ 1**

**Clarinet in B♭ 2+3**

**Bass Clarinet**

**Alto Sax 1+2**

**Tenor Sax**

**Baritone Sax**

**Trumpet in B♭ 1**  
 straight mute  
*p* — *f* \*crescendo through release  
*p* — *f*

**Trumpet in B♭ 2+3**  
 2. straight mute  
*p* — *f* \*crescendo through release  
*p* — *f*

**Horn in F 1+2**  
 a2 stopped  
*mp* 3  
*f* \*crescendo through release  
*p* — *f*

**Horn in F 3+4**  
 a2 stopped  
*p* — *f* \*crescendo through release

**Trombone 1**

**Trombone 2+3**

**Euphonium**

**Tuba**

**Timpani**  
 ♩ = 144 Vivace

**Percussion 1**  
 Vibraphone (motor off)  
 firm mallets

**Percussion 2**  
 Marimba  
 firm mallets  
*f*

**Percussion 3**  
 Glockenspiel  
*f* 3

**Percussion 4**  
 Chimes  
 Bass Drum

**Percussion 5**  
 Tam-tam  
 Low Tom

**Percussion 6**  
 Snare Drum  
 Triangle  
*mf*



13

Picc. *f* 3

Fl. 1 *mp* 3

Fl. 2+3 *mf* 3

Ob. 1+2 *f* 1. 3 *mf* 3

Bsn. 1+2 *mp* 3 *mf* 3

B♭ Cl. 1 *mf* 3

B♭ Cl. 2+3 *mf* 3 a2

B. Cl. *mp* 3 *mf* 3

A. Sx. 1+2 *mf* 3

T. Sx. *mp* 3 *mf* 3

B. Sx. *mp* 3 *mf* 3

B♭ Tpt. 1 *mf* 3 senza sord.

B♭ Tpt. 2+3 *mf* 3 senza sord. a2

Hn. 1+2 *mp* 3 open *mf* 3

Hn. 3+4 *mp* 3 open *mf* 3 a2

Tbn. 1 *mp* 3 *mf* 3

Tbn. 2+3 *mp* 3

Euph. *mf* *f*

Tuba

13

17

Timp. *mp*

Perc. 1 Vibes *mf*

Sus. Cym. *mf*

Perc. 2 Marimba *mf*

Sus. Cym. *mf*

Low Tom *mf*

Perc. 3 Glk. *f* 3 *mf*

Perc. 4 Chm. *mp*

B.D. *mp*

Perc. 5 Tam-tam (scrape w/ beater) *mf*

Low tom *mp*

Perc. 6 Snare Tri

19

Picc. *mf* 3

Fl. 1 *mf* 3

Fl. 2+3 *mf* 3

Ob. 1+2 *mf* 3

Bsn. 1+2 *f* 3

B♭ Cl. 1 *mf* 3

B♭ Cl. 2+3 *mf* 3

B. Cl. *mf* 3

A. Sx. 1+2 *mf* 3

T. Sx. *mp* 3

B. Sx. *mf* 3

B♭ Tpt. 1 *mf* 3

B♭ Tpt. 2+3 *mf* 3

Hn. 1+2 *mf* 3

Hn. 3+4 *mf* 3

Tbn. 1 *mf* 3

Tbn. 2+3 *f* 3

Euph. *f* 3

Tuba *f* 3

Timp. *mf* *cresc. poco a poco*

Perc. 1 Vibes *mf*

Sus. Cym. *mf*

Perc. 2 Marimba *mf*

Sus. Cym. Low Tom *mf*

Perc. 3 Glk. *mf*

Perc. 4 Chm. B.D. *mp*

Perc. 5 Tam-tam Low tom

Perc. 6 Snare Drum *p*

20 21 22 23 24

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29

Picc. *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Fl. 1 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Fl. 2+3 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Ob. 1+2 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Bsn. 1+2 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

B♭ Cl. 1 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

B♭ Cl. 2+3 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

B. Cl. *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

A. Sx. 1+2 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

T. Sx. *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

B. Sx. *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 2+3 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Hn. 1+2 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Hn. 3+4 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Tbn. 1 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Tbn. 2+3 *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Euph. *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Tuba *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

29

Timp. *p* *ff*

Perc. 1 Vibraphone *mf*

Sus. Cym. *mf*

Perc. 2 Marimba *p* *f*

Sus. Cym. Low Tom *p* *f*

Perc. 3 Glk. *mf*

Perc. 4 Chm. B.D. *p* *f*

Perc. 5 Tam-tam Low tom *p* *f*

Perc. 6 Snare Tri *p* *f*

29 30 31 32 33

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Tempo I (♩ = 144)

39

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2+3

Ob. 1+2

Bsn. 1+2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2+3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1+2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2+3

Hn. 1+2

Hn. 3+4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2+3

Euph.

Tuba

Tempo I (♩ = 144)

39

Tempo I (♩ = 144)

39 Wood mallets

Timp.

Perc. 1  
Vibes  
Sus. Cym.

Perc. 2  
Marimba  
Sus. Cym.  
Low Tom

Perc. 3  
Glk.

Perc. 4  
Chm.  
B.D.

Perc. 5  
Tam-tam  
Low tom

Perc. 6  
Snare Drum  
Tri

Low tom w/sticks

Snare Drum (snares on)

Bass Drum



46

51

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2+3

Ob. 1+2

Bsn. 1+2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2+3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1+2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2+3

Hn. 1+2

Hn. 3+4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2+3

Euph.

Tuba

46

51

Timp.

Perc. 1  
Vibes

Sus. Cym.

Perc. 2  
Marimba  
Sus. Cym.  
Low Tom

Perc. 3  
Glk.

Perc. 4  
Chm.  
B.D.

Perc. 5  
Tam-tam  
Low tom

Perc. 6  
Snare  
Tri

52

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2+3

Ob. 1+2

Bsn. 1+2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2+3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1+2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2+3

Hn. 1+2

Hn. 3+4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2+3

Euph.

Tuba

52

Timp.

Perc. 1  
Vibes  
Sus. Cym.

Perc. 2  
Marimba  
Sus. Cym.  
Low Tom

Perc. 3  
Glk.

Perc. 4  
Chm.  
B.D.

Perc. 5  
Tam-tam  
Low tom

Perc. 6  
Snare  
Tri

Snare Drum  
snares off

*mp*



64

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2+3

Ob. 1+2

Bsn. 1+2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2+3

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1+2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2+3

Hn. 1+2

Hn. 3+4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2+3

Euph.

Tuba

64

Timp.

Perc. 1  
Vibes

Sus. Cym.

Perc. 2  
Marimba  
Sus. Cym.  
Low Tom

Perc. 3  
Glk.

Perc. 4  
Chm.  
B.D.

Perc. 5  
Tam-tam  
Low tom

Perc. 6  
Snare  
Tri

64 65 66 67 68 69

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70

Picc. *p* — *ff*

Fl. 1 *f* 3 3

Fl. 2+3 *f* 3 3 a2

Ob. 1+2 *f* 3 3

Bsn. 1+2 *ff* a2 b2

B♭ Cl. 1 *f* 3 3

B♭ Cl. 2+3 *f* 3 3

B. Cl. *ff*

A. Sx. 1+2 *p* — *ff* a2

T. Sx. *ff*

B. Sx. *ff*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *ff* a2

B♭ Tpt. 2+3 *ff* a2

Hn. 1+2 *ff* a2

Hn. 3+4 *ff* a2

Tbn. 1 *ff* a2

Tbn. 2+3 *ff* a2 b2

Euph. *ff*

Tuba *ff*

70

Timp. *ff*

Perc. 1 Vibes Sus. Cym. *f* 3 3

Perc. 2 Marimba Sus. Cym. Low Tom *f* 3 3

Perc. 3 Glk. *f*

Perc. 4 Chm. B.D. *f* Bass Drum

Perc. 5 Tam-tam Low tom

Perc. 6 Snare Tri *mf* Triangle









Picc. *fp* *ff*

Fl. 1 *ff* 3 3

Fl. 2+3 *f* *ff* 3 3

Ob. 1+2 *f* *ff* 3 3

Bsn. 1+2 *ff*

B♭ Cl. 1 *ff* 3 3

B♭ Cl. 2+3 *ff* 3 3

B. Cl. *ff*

A. Sx. 1+2 *ff* *f*

T. Sx. *ff* *f*

B. Sx. *ff* *f*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *f* 3 3 *ff* 3 3

B♭ Tpt. 2+3 *ff*

Hn. 1+2 *ff*

Hn. 3+4 *ff*

Tbn. 1 *ff*

Tbn. 2+3 *ff*

Euph. *ff*

Tuba *ff*

Timp. *(vibes)*

Perc. 1 Vibes *(mar.)*

Sus. Cym. *(mar.)* *p* *f* *Sus. cymbal*

Perc. 2 Marimba *(mar.)* *p* *f*

Sus. Cym. *(mar.)*

Low Tom *(mar.)* *p* *f*

Perc. 3 Glk. *p* *f*

Perc. 4 Chm. B.D.

Perc. 5 Tam-tam Low tom *p* *f*

Perc. 6 Snare Tri



106

Picc. *p* *f*

Fl. 1 *mf* *p*

Fl. 2+3 *mf* *p*

Ob. 1+2 *mf* *p*

Bsn. 1+2 *p*

B♭ Cl. 1 *mf* *p*

B♭ Cl. 2+3 *mf* *p*

B. Cl. *pp* *mf* *p*

A. Sx. 1+2 *p* *pp* *mf*

T. Sx. *p* *pp* *mf* *p*

B. Sx. *p* *pp* *mf* *p*

106

B♭ Tpt. 1 *pp* *mf*

B♭ Tpt. 2+3 *pp* *mf*

Hn. 1+2 *p* *pp* *mf*

Hn. 3+4 *p*

Tbn. 1 *pp* *mf* *p*

Tbn. 2+3 *pp* *mf* *p*

Euph. *pp* *mf* *p*

Tuba *pp* *mf* *p*

106

Timp.

Perc. 1  
Vibes  
Sus. Cym.

Perc. 2  
Marimba  
Sus. Cym.  
Low Tom *mf*

Perc. 3  
Glk. *p* *f*

Perc. 4  
Chm.  
B.D.

Perc. 5  
Tam-tam  
Low tom

Perc. 6  
Snare  
Tri

106 107 108 109 110 111

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118

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2+3

Ob. 1+2  
*mf*

Bsn. 1+2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2+3  
*mp*

B. Cl.

A. Sx. 1+2  
*mp*

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2+3

Hn. 1+2  
*p*

Hn. 3+4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2+3

Euph.

Tuba

118

Timp.

Perc. 1  
Vibraphone

Sus. Cym.  
*mp*

Perc. 2  
Marimba  
Sus. Cym.  
Low Tom  
*mf*

Perc. 3  
Glk.

Perc. 4  
Chm.  
B.D.

Perc. 5  
Tam-tam  
Low tom

Perc. 6  
Snare  
Tri









142

Picc. *f*

Fl. 1 *f*

Fl. 2+3 *f* a2

Ob. 1+2 *f*

Bsn. 1+2 *f*

B♭ Cl. 1 *f*

B♭ Cl. 2+3 *f* a2

B. Cl. *f*

A. Sx. 1+2 *f*

T. Sx. *f*

B. Sx. *f*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *f*

B♭ Tpt. 2+3 *f*

Hn. 1+2 *f*

Hn. 3+4 *f*

Tbn. 1 *f*

Tbn. 2+3 *f*

Euph. *f*

Tuba *f*

142

Timp.

Perc. 1 Vibes *f*

Sus. Cym. *f*

Perc. 2 Marimba *f*

Sus. Cym. Low Tom *f*

Perc. 3 Glk. *mf*

Bass Drum *f*

Perc. 4 Chm. B.D. *f*

Perc. 5 Tam-tam Low tom *f*

Perc. 6 Snare Tri *f*

Vibraphone

Sus. cymbal scrape w/ beater *f*