

I Wonder Why

A Christmas Chaismus

Lyrics by Gail H. Johnsen

Hymn melodies by Ralph V. Williams, George Careless

Arr. by Becky Jo Hepworth

$\text{♩} = 100$

Piano

mf

Organ

mf Chimes

Pn.

Org.

8

8

8

rit.

Oboe 8'

Gt: Organ Foundations

S/A

Pn.

Org.

15

15

15

(Alto)

Why —

mp

R.H.

R.H.

mp

a tempo

20

S/A

did God choose a man - ger to — com-fort a ho - ly King? Why — did He choose small

Pn.

Org.

Harmonic Flute 8'

mp

25

S/A

Is - ra-el for — such a sa — cred — thing? Why — did He choose — this pale blue earth to —

Pn.

Org.

Ped.

mp

Soft 16' + Flute 8'

(Glo-ry, glo - ri - a.)

30

S/A

have the an - gels sing; When — there are count - less — worlds in space He is

Pn.

30

Org.

Ped.

Gt.

Harmonic Flute 8'

34

S/A

end - less - ly cre-at - ing? Why our Milk - y Way's vast ed - ges for His

T/B

mf

Pn.

mf

34

Org.

Ped.

Gt.

mf Sw.

34

Strings 8'

39 on - ly earth-ly Off - spring; Then — on a lit - tle gal - ax - y to find

T/B

Pn.

Org.

wing; Why this great vi - car - i - ous__ gift to us from a Fa - ther All__ Know -

48

(vi-)

T/B

Pn.

Org.

Ped.

48

48

48

52

S/A

T/B

Pn.

Org.

Ped.

mf

I know of star - lit__ set - tings, the Sav - ior's hum - ble birth, and of__ the tem - ple

ing?

Gt.Chimes

mp

(Opt.)

Sw. Strings/Flutes

mf

58

S/A

teach - ing while He was in — His — youth. I know of tire - less — tra - vels down

T/B

Pn.

Org.

Ped.

mf

dust - y Naz-a-rene — roads; He said that e - ven — fox - es and birds have bet - ter a - bodes.

(that)

63

T/B

Pn.

Org.

f

Org. 69 Gt: Organ Foundations

S/A 73

f I've read — of — might-y mir-a-cles that — I can-not — ig-nore, Yet there — in — grim Geth-

T/B

can - not ig-nore,

Pn. *f*

Sw. 73

Strings/Flutes *mf*

Org. 73

Ped. 73 *mf* + Sw-Pd

79

S/A

sem - a - ne He bled from ev - 'ry pore. I know His life and death will re -

rit. *a tempo*

T/B

his life and death

Pn.

Org.

Ped.

84

S/A

deem us from the fall, And still His res - ur - rec - tion brings new life to us all. Why —

A capella *mp*

T/B

from the fall — res - ur - rec - tion brings

Pn.

Org.

Ped.

90

S/A

T/B

with a mil - lion gal - ax - ies did He come to this sin - ful sphere? Why _

94

S/A

T/B

on the fringe of our u - ni - verse did _ Je - sus vol _ un -

97

S/A

T/B

teer? _ Why, oh why with worlds un - num - bered do we me - rit this God - ly _ seer; Who _

mf

Pn.

mf

97

Org.

Ped.

mf

102

S/A

came from realms of glo - ry con - de - scend - ing to be here? *f* Why on this pain - ful

T/B

Pn.

Org.

102

Gt:
Foundations 8, 4', & 2' *f*

107

S/A

plan - et the Good Shep - herd ap - pear? In Ju - de - a's ti - ny Zi - on, why a

T/B

ti - ny Zi - ion

Pn.

Org.

107

Ped.

112

S/A

rit. *mf* *a tempo*

Sav-ior's voice do we hear? Why on that crude cra - dle did a star shine bright and

T/B

Pn.

112

Org.

112

Ped.

The musical score is written for five parts: Soprano/Alto (S/A), Tenor/Bass (T/B), Piano (Pn.), Organ (Org.), and Pedal (Ped.). The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score begins at measure 112. The S/A part has lyrics: "Sav-ior's voice do we hear? Why on that crude cra - dle did a star shine bright and". Performance markings include "rit." (ritardando) and "mf" (mezzo-forte) for the S/A part, and "a tempo" (return to tempo) for the Pn. and Org. parts. The Pedal part provides a bass line for the entire section.

117

S/A

clear; For a sac - ri - fice__ e - ter - nal draw-ing all His chil - dren__ near?

T/B

Pn.

decresc.

Brightly

faster

Org.

117

Ped.

117

117

The musical score is written for five parts: Soprano/Alto (S/A), Tenor/Bass (T/B), Piano (Pn.), Organ (Org.), and Pedal (Ped.). The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score begins at measure 117. The vocal parts have lyrics: 'clear; For a sac - ri - fice__ e - ter - nal draw-ing all His chil - dren__ near?'. The piano part features a melodic line in the right hand and a rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. The organ part provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The pedal part plays a steady bass line. Performance instructions include 'decresc.' (decrescendo) for the vocal parts and piano, 'Brightly' for the piano, and 'faster' for the piano's final phrase. The score ends with a double bar line.

122

S/A

T/B

Pn.

Org.

Ped.

mf *a tempo* Cos-mic ques-tions, age-less an-swers: I know

rit. *mf* *a tempo*

Sw. *mf* *a tempo*

128

S/A

T/B

Pn.

Org.

Je-sus o-beyed His Fa-ther's will; I know He is the Son of God, The great-

132

S/A King, Im - man - u - el. *a tempo* Al - le - lu - ia! (A) (S) Al - le - lu - ia!

T/B real. Al - le - lu - ia! (B) (T) Al - le - lu - ia!

Pn. *rit.*

Org. *rit.*

136

S/A Al - le - lu - ia! *decresc.*

T/B *decresc.*

Pn. *rit.* *mp* *molto rit.* *p* *8va*

Org. *p* *rit.* *molto rit.*

Ped. *p* Soft 16' + Flute 8'

Gt: Harmonic Flute 8'