

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

Organ

mf Chimes

Pn.

Org.

Gt: Organ Foundations

rit. Oboe 8'

S/A

Pn.

Org.

(Alto)

Why —

mp

R.H.

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.

20

Harmonic Flute 8'

mp

S/A

25

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

Pn.

Org.

25

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.

Strings 8'

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

T/B

Pn.

Org.

shep-herds wor - ship - ping? While a mil-lion, mil - lion gal - ax-ies through — all the heav - ens
(ax)

43

T/B

Pn.

Org.

Ped.

Soft 16' + Flute 8'

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*

Org. 73

Ped. 73

Sw. *mf* Strings/Flutes

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

mp

T/B

from the fall res - ur - rec - tion brings

Pn.

Org.

Ped.

A capella

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 did 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 has 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 for the hymn 'I Wonder Why'. It features five staves: 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 the lyrics: 'clear; For a sac - ri - fice__ e - ter - nal draw-ing all His chil - dren__ near?'. The piano part includes performance markings: 'decresc.' (decrease) and 'Brightly' (marked with an accent). The organ part also has a 'decresc.' marking. The pedal part provides a bass line. The score concludes with a final measure in measure 120.

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-

