

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.

rit.

Oboe 8'

Gt: Organ Foundations

S/A

(Alto)

Why —

mp

Pn.

R.H.

R.H.

mp

Org.

a tempo

The musical score is arranged in three systems. The first system (measures 1-7) features a Piano part with a treble and bass staff, an Organ part with a single treble staff, and a Soprano/Alto part with a single treble staff. The Piano part begins with a *mf* dynamic. The Organ part includes a *mf* Chimes section. The second system (measures 8-14) continues the Piano and Organ parts, with the Organ part marked *rit.* and *Oboe 8'*. The third system (measures 15-19) includes the Soprano/Alto part with the lyrics "Why —" and a *mp* dynamic, and the Piano and Organ parts. The Piano part has two *R.H.* (Right Hand) markings. The Organ part is marked *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.

Org.

Ped.

Gt.

Harmonic Flute 8'

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 30 through 33. The Soprano/Alto (S/A) vocal line begins with the lyrics 'have the an - gels sing;'. The piano (Pn.) accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. The organ (Org.) and pedal (Ped.) parts provide harmonic support. A guitar (Gt.) and a Harmonic Flute 8' are also present, with the flute playing a sustained note.

34

S/A

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

T/B

Pn.

Org.

Ped.

Gt.

Sw.

Strings 8'

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 34 through 37. The Soprano/Alto (S/A) vocal line continues with the lyrics 'end - less - ly cre-at - ing?'. The Tenor/Bass (T/B) vocal line enters in measure 35. The piano (Pn.) accompaniment continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. The organ (Org.) and pedal (Ped.) parts provide harmonic support. A guitar (Gt.), a Sw., and a Strings 8' are also present, with the Sw. and Strings 8' playing a sustained note.

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

T/B

Pn.

Org.

shepherds 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.



52

S/A

mf

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

T/B

ing?

mf

Pn.

52

Org.

Gt. Chimes *mp* (Opt.)

52

Sw. Strings/Flutes

Ped.

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

69

Org. Gt: Organ Foundations

73

S/A

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

73

Sw.

Strings/Flutes *mf*

Org.

73

Ped.

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 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

T/B

Pn.

Org.

Ped.

rit. *mf* *a tempo*

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

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 vocal parts (S/A and T/B) have lyrics: "Sav-ior's voice do we hear? Why on that crude cra - dle did a star shine bright and". The piano part (Pn.) features a melodic line with a crescendo leading to a *mf* dynamic and a tempo change to *a tempo*. The organ part (Org.) and pedal part (Ped.) provide harmonic support. Performance markings include *rit.* (ritardando) and *mf* (mezzo-forte).

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 more active line 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's right hand, and 'faster' for the piano's right hand towards the end of the phrase.

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'*