

How far is it to Bethlehem

Anthem for Christmas

Frances Chesterton (1869-1938)

Geoffrey Shaw (1879-1943)

Moderato ♩=84

Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts are shown in treble clef, while the Bass part is in bass clef. The piano part is in bass clef. The music consists of two systems. The first system starts with a rest followed by a melodic line in the soprano and bass parts. The second system begins with a vocal entry from the alto and tenor parts, followed by the bass part. The piano part provides harmonic support with sustained notes and chords. Dynamics include *pp*, *mp*, and *pp*.

Moderato ♩=84

The score continues with a new section starting at measure 7. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) sing a melody, while the piano part provides harmonic support. The lyrics "Shall we find the sta-ble room, Lit by a star? Can we see the lit-tle Child, Is He with-in?" are repeated. The piano part features sustained notes and chords.

11

S. If we lift the wood-en latch, May we go in? May we stroke the crea-tures there,

A. May we go in? May we stroke there,

T. May we go in? May we stroke there,

B. May we go in?

Pno.

14

S. Ox, ass, and sheep? May we peep like them, and see Je - sus a - sleep?

A. Ox, ass, and sheep? May we see there Je - sus a - sleep?

T. Ox, ass, and sheep? May we see there Je - sus a - sleep?

B. Ox, ass, and sheep? Je - sus a - sleep?

Pno.

17

S. *mp*
If we touch His ti - ny hand, Will He a wake? Will He know we'd come so far,

A. *mp*
If we touch His ti - ny hand, Will He a wake? Will He know we'd come so far,

T. *mp*
If we touch His hand, Will He a wake? Will He know we'd come,

B. *p*
If we touch His hand, Will He a wake Will He know we'd come,

Pno. *mp* *p*

20

S. Just for His sake? *mf* And we have nought.

A. Just for His sake? *mf* And we have nought.

T. Just for His sake? *mf* And we have nought.

B. Just for His sake? Great kings leave pre-cious gifts,

Pno.

23

S. *mp* Lit-tle smiles and lit - tle tears are all we brought. *mf* For all wea-ry chil - dren

A. *p* (hum) *mf* For all wea-ry chil - dren

T. *p* (hum) *mf* For all wea-ry chil - dren

B. *p* *mf* For all wea-ry chil - dren

Pno. *mp* *p* *mf*

27

S. *mp* Ma - ry must weep; *p poco rall.* Here, on His bed of straw, Sleep, chil-dren, sleep.

A. *mp* Ma - ry must weep Here, on His bed of straw, *poco rall.* Sleep, chil-dren,

T. *mp* Ma - ry must weep; *poco rall.* Here, on His bed, *p* Sleep,-

B. *mp* Ma - ry must weep; *poco rall.* Here, on His bed,

Pno. *mp* *poco rall.* *p*

• A little slower

S. God in His moth-er's arms, Babes in the byre,
A. chil - dren, sleep.
T. chil - dren, sleep.
B. Sleep, child-ren sleep.
Pno. Sleep.

A little slower

S. **p** poco rall. **pp** a tempo
Sleep as they sleep who find their heart's de - sire.
A. **p** poco rall. **pp** a tempo
(hum) (hum) (hum) (hum)
T. **p** poco rall. **pp** a tempo
(hum) (hum) (hum) (hum)
B. **p** poco rall. **pp** a tempo
(hum) (hum) (hum) (hum)
Pno. **p** poco rall. **pp** a tempo