

How far is it to Bethlehem

Anthem for Christmas

Frances Chesterton (1869-1938)

Geoffrey Shaw (1879-1943)

Moderato ♩ = 84

Soprano
How far is it to Beth-le-hem? Not ve-ry far?

Alto
Ah, Ah, Ah, Ah,

Tenor
Ah,

Bass
Ah,

Piano (for practice only)

7

S.
Shall we find the sta-ble room, Lit by a star? Can wesee the lit-tle Child, Is He with-in?

A.
Ah, Is He with-in?

T.
Ah, Is He with-in?

B.
Ah, Is He with-in?

Pno.

11

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

A. *p* *mf*
May we go in? May we stroke there,

T. *p* *mf*
May we go in? May we stroke there,

B. *p*
May we go in?

Pno. *mp* *p* *mf*

14

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

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

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

B. *mf* *mp* *p*
Ox, ass, and sheep? Je - sus a - sleep?

Pno. *mp* *p*

17

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

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

T. *mp* If we touch His hand, *p* 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. *f* Just for His sake? Great kings leave pre - cious gifts, —

Pno. *f* *mf*

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. *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; *poco rall.* *p* Here, on His bed of straw, Sleep, chil-dren,

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

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

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

30 **A little slower**, *mp*

S. *mp*
God in His moth-er's arms, Babes in the byre,

A. *pp*
chil - dren, sleep.

T. *pp*
chil - dren, sleep.

B. *p* *pp*
Sleep, child-ren sleep.
Sleep.

Pno. *pp* **A little slower** *mp*

33 *p poco rall.* *pp a tempo*

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*