

Program notes

“Born in Bethlehem” is a *numbers song*, similar to “The Twelve Days of Christmas.” Each group traveling to the Nativity, or associated with Jesus, is presented in ascending numerical order, from one to twelve. [“One for the little bitty Baby...Twelve for the Twelve Apostles”] Once the complete set has been introduced, the numbers are performed in reverse order, in a frantic race (*prestissimo*) from twelve to one. This is an energetic song!

The Clarinet plays a featured role, enhancing the message of the lyrics. For example, the phrase “Children, go where I send thee” is matched by the Clarinet scampering up a scale as children setting forth on a trip. And the next line, “How shall I send thee?” has the Clarinet/children coming back down the scale, returning home.

Available editions

Score	8794
Clarinet Part	8794A

Performance option

The following works may be performed jointly to form a multi-movement work: *The Friendly Beasts and Other Christmas Carols*

1. **Born in Bethlehem:** 8794
2. The Friendly Beasts: 8795
3. Angels Singing: 8796

Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)

For biographical information visit:
www.gwynethwalker.com

Born in Bethlehem

for SATB Chorus, Clarinet in B-flat, and Piano

Traditional
G. Walker, alt.

Gwyneth Walker
(ASCAP)

Emphatically, unrushed ♩ = 80
as a “call to action”

Clarinet

lightly tongued

f

5

Cl.

10

Cl.

14

Cl.

molto rit.

A **Faster** ♩ = 112 (steady tempo)

separate (but not too dry)

f

slight pedal

18

22 *f* spirited, with energy

S
A

Chil - dren go where I send thee! _____

f spirited, with energy

T
B

Chil - dren go where I send thee! _____

26 (going forth) (returning home)

Cl.

f

S
A

How shall I send thee? _____

T
B

How shall I send thee? _____

[B] Soprano Solo

30 *mf*

S

I'm gon-na send thee one by one, one for the lit-tle bit-ty Ba - by that was

[B]

mf lightly

34 C

Cl. *f*

S *All f*

A *f*

T *f*

B *f*

born, born, born in Beth - le - hem.

f

C

38

Cl.

S

A

T

B

43

Cl.

S
A

f spirited, with energy

Chil - dren go where I send thee!

f spirited, with energy

T
B

Chil - dren go where I send thee!

47

(going forth)

f

Cl.

S
A

How shall I send thee?

(returning home)

T
B

How shall I send thee?

51 **D**

Cl.

Solo *mf*

T

8 I'm gon-na send thee two by two, two for Paul and Si - las,

B

Solo *mf*

I'm gon-na send thee two by two, two for Paul and Si - las,

D

mf

55

Cl.

f

Soprano Solo (same as at letter B)

mf

S

A

one for the lit-tle bit-ty Ba - by that was born, born,

All f

T

B

born, born,

f

59 E

Cl.

S A
born in Beth - le - hem.

T B
born in Beth - le - hem.

E

64

Cl.

S A
*f*spirited, with energy
Chil - dren go where I

T B
*f*spirited, with energy
Chil - dren go where I

69

(going forth) (returning home)

Cl.

f

S
A

send thee! _____ How shall I send thee? _____

T
B

send thee! _____ How shall I send thee? _____

74 **F**

Cl.

2 Soli (distinct from solo at letter B)

mf

S

I'm gon-na send thee three by three, three for the He - brew chil - dren,*

Solo *mf*

A

I'm gon-na send thee three by three, three for the He - brew chil - dren,*

F

mf

*Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego

78

Cl.

S
A

T
B

mf

2 Soli (same as at letter D)

Solo *mf*

(same as at letter B)

one for the lit-tle bit-ty Ba-by that was

two for Paul and Si-las,

82 **G**

Cl.

S
A

T
B

f

All *f*

born, born, born in Beth-le-hem.

G

H Joyfully

86

Cl.

S
A

T
B

H Joyfully

90

Cl.

95

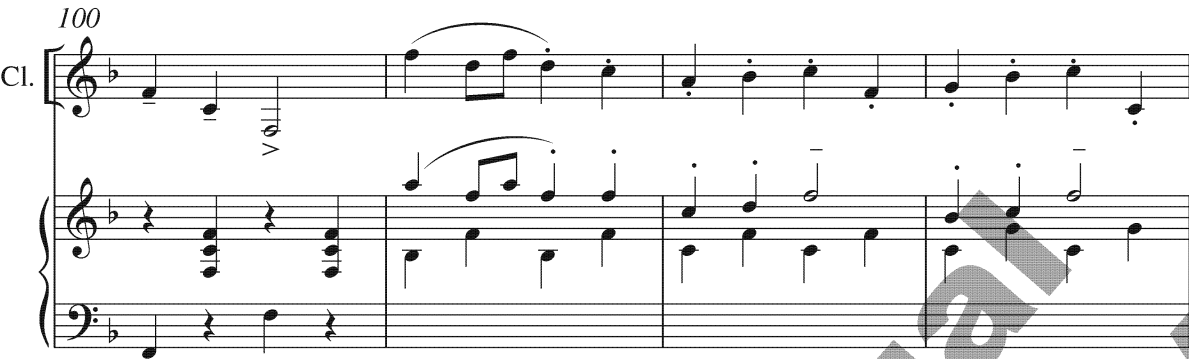
Cl.

I

I

100

Cl.



104

J (*a tempo*)

Cl.

S
A

f

Chil - dren go where I send thee! _____

T
B

f

Chil - dren go where I send thee! _____

J (*a tempo*)



107

(*going forth*)

(*returning home*)

Cl.

(*f*)

S
A

How shall I send thee? _____

T
B

How shall I send thee? _____



111 **K**

Cl. *mf* [four]

4 Singers (distinct from the 2 soloists at letter D)

T *mf* I'm gon-na send thee four by four, _____ four for the four that

B *mf* I'm gon-na send thee four by four, _____ four for the four that

K

116 [four] [five]

Cl. *mf* any 5 Singers

S A *mf* Five for the gos-pel preach - ers, _____

T stood at the door* _____

B stood at the door* _____

mf

* The four men who carried their crippled friend to Jesus for healing.

L

121

Cl.

[six]

6

any 6 Singers

(mf)

T

Six for the six that nev - er got fixed**

(mf)

B

Six for the six that nev - er got fixed**

L

125

Cl.

[seven]

7

any 7 Singers

mf

S

Sev - en for the sev - en that went up to Heaven,*

mf

A

Sev - en for the sev - en that went up to Heaven,*

**Six sinners who never changed their ways.
* Seven stars in Ursa Major.

M
129

Cl. [eight]

any 8 Singers

mf

T
8
Eight for the eight that stood at the gate,**

mf

B
Eight for the eight that stood at the gate,**

M

133

Cl. shimmering

any 9 Singers

mf

S
Nine for the nine that dressed so fine!*

mf

A
Nine for the nine that dressed so fine!*

(a sigh of admiration) *p*

(a sigh of admiration) *p*

Reo. _____ Reo. _____ Reo. _____

**The eight people who entered Noah's ark.

* The nine orders of angels in Heaven.

138

Cl.

S

A

T
B

All *f* firmly, with conviction

Ten for the Ten Com - mand -

(Leo.)

142

Cl.

S
A

T
B

ments,

rit.

146

Cl.

S

A

T

B

f

f

f

*Eleven for the eleven deriders,

*Eleven for the eleven deriders,

P *a tempo* (♩ = 112)

149

Cl.

S

A

T

B

p

cresc.

f

f

they were born,

they were born,

P *a tempo* (♩ = 112)

p

cresc.

f

Ped.

*Deriders may have originally been "the writers," as in the writers of the Gospel.

154

Cl.

S
A

T
B

born, born in Beth - le - hem.

born, born in Beth - le - hem.

159

Cl.

S
A

T
B

p sub. *mf*

p sub. *mf*

164

p *mf*

R

168

Cl. *p* *mf*

S *p* (more rhythm than pitch) *mf*

A *p* (more rhythm than pitch) *mf*

T *p* (more rhythm than pitch) *mf*

B *p* (more rhythm than pitch) *mf*

Chil - dren, chil - dren, chil - dren, chil - dren,

Chil - dren, chil - dren, chil - dren, chil - dren,

R

172

Cl. *rit.* *f*

S *f*

A *f*

T *f*

B *f*

chil - dren, chil - dren, GO WHERE I SEND

chil - dren, chil - dren, GO WHERE I SEND

rit. *f*

8vb

2nd

177 (rit.) **S** Start very slowly, *accel. poco a poco* (to m. 202)

Cl. *gliss.* *tr*

S A THEE!

T B THEE!

Bass Solo *p* I'm gon - na send thee

(rit.) **S** Start very slowly, *accel. poco a poco* (to m. 202)

gliss.

p

(*8va*)

181 (accel.)

Cl.

S A Solo *p* 'leven for the 'leven de -

T B Solo *p* (Solo) twelve by twelve, twelve for the Twelve A - pos - tles,

(accel.)

185 (*accel.*) **T** Less slowly (*accel.*)

Cl.

S
A
rid - ers, *a few voices* Nine for the nine that

T
B
a few voices Ten for the Ten Com - mand - ments,

(*accel.*) **T** Less slowly (*accel.*)

189 (*accel.*) **Faster** (*accel.*)
(original tempo $\text{♩} = 112$)

Cl.

S
A
dressed so fine, *All mp* *All mp* Seven for the seven that

T
B
Eight for the eight that stood at the gate,

(*accel.*) **Faster** (*accel.*)
(original tempo $\text{♩} = 112$)

with pedal

193 (accel.) Quickly (accel.)

Cl.

S A

T B

(accel.) Quickly (accel.)

197 (accel.) U Very quickly (accel.)

Cl.

S A

T B

(accel.) U Very quickly (accel.)

(accel.) As fast as possible! ($\text{♩} = 132$ at least)

201

Cl.

S
A

chil - dren, One for the lit-tle bit-ty

T
B

Two for Paul and Si - las,

(accel.) As fast as possible! ($\text{♩} = 132$ at least)

205

Cl.

S
A

Ba - by that was born, born, born in Beth - le -

T
B

born, born, born in Beth - le -

(V)

210

Cl.

S

A

T

B

hem!

ff

rit.

8va

4:15