

PRELUDE TO BETHLEHEM

for S.A.T.B. voices and piano
with optional flute and PianoTrax CD*

Words by
PHILLIPS BROOKS (1835-1893)

Music based on "Prelude in D minor"
by **MUZIO CLEMENTI** (1752-1832)
Arranged, with new Music, by **RUTH MORRIS GRAY**

Gently (♩ = ca. 126)

FLUTE
(optional)

PIANO

4

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

* Also available for S.A.B. (43202) and S.S.A. (43203). PianoTrax 7 Accompaniment CD available (43182).

Please visit alfred.com/choralparts to download a free flute part.

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7 *mp* 9

O lit - tle

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of music, measures 7 through 9. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and piano accompaniment in the lower staves. The vocal line begins with a whole rest in measure 7, followed by a quarter rest in measure 8, and then the lyrics 'O lit - tle' starting in measure 9. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A dynamic marking of *mp* and a rehearsal mark '9' are present above the vocal staff.

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of music, measures 10 through 12. It features piano accompaniment in the lower staves. The right hand plays a continuous eighth-note pattern, while the left hand provides a bass line. A large red watermark is overlaid on this section.

10

town of Beth - le - hem, how

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of music, measures 10 through 12. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and piano accompaniment in the lower staves. The vocal line has the lyrics 'town of Beth - le - hem, how' across measures 10, 11, and 12. The piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note pattern in the right hand and bass line in the left hand. A large red watermark is overlaid on this section.

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of music, measures 13 through 15. It features piano accompaniment in the lower staves. The right hand continues the eighth-note pattern, and the left hand provides a bass line. A large red watermark is overlaid on this section.

13

still we see thee lie.

The first system of music features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The vocal line begins with a quarter note 'still', followed by a quarter note 'we', a quarter note 'see', a quarter note 'thee' with a sharp sign above it, and a half note 'lie.' with a long horizontal line extending to the right. The piano accompaniment consists of a few notes in the bass clef.

The second system of music shows the piano accompaniment for the first system, with the vocal line above it. The piano part continues with a series of eighth and sixteenth notes in both hands.

16

17

A - bove thy deep and

The third system of music features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The vocal line starts with a half note 'A - bove', followed by a quarter note 'thy', a quarter note 'deep', and a half note 'and'. The piano accompaniment includes a dynamic marking 'mp' (mezzo-piano) above the first measure.

The fourth system of music shows the piano accompaniment for the third system, with the vocal line above it. The piano part continues with a series of notes in both hands, including a dynamic marking 'mp' below the first measure.

The fifth system of music shows the piano accompaniment for the fourth system, with the vocal line above it. The piano part continues with a series of notes in both hands.

19

Musical score for measures 19-21. The score includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "dream - less sleep, the si - lent". The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

22

Musical score for measures 22-24. The score includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "stars go by. _____ Yet". The piano part continues with the eighth-note accompaniment. A dynamic marking of *mp* is present above the vocal line in measure 22.

25

mf 2nd time

in thy dark street shin -

mf 2nd time

This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics 'in thy dark street shin -'. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The music is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first measure is a repeat sign. The dynamics are marked *mf* 2nd time.

Play 2nd time only

mf

mf 2nd time

This system contains the next two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics 'eth the ev - er - last - ing'. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The music is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of one flat (Bb). The dynamics are marked *mf*. The first measure is a repeat sign. The text 'Play 2nd time only' is written above the first measure of the vocal line.

28

eth the ev - er - last - ing

This system contains the final two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics 'eth the ev - er - last - ing'. The bottom staff is a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The music is in 4/4 time and features a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first measure is a repeat sign.

31 *poco rit.* 33 *a tempo*

light. The hopes and

poco rit. *a tempo*

poco rit. *a tempo*

34

fears of all the years are

The hopes and fears are

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37

1. *cresc.*

met in thee to - night.

cresc.

40

mf *decesc.* *mp*

Yet right. Yet

mf *decesc.* *mp*

2. *decesc.*

43

in thy dark street shin -

This block contains the vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 43-45. The vocal line is in a soprano clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature. The lyrics are "in thy dark street shin -". The piano accompaniment consists of two staves, with the right hand playing a melody of eighth and quarter notes and the left hand providing a harmonic accompaniment of chords and single notes.

mp

mp

This block contains the vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 46-48. The vocal line continues with a melodic phrase. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand. The dynamic marking *mp* (mezzo-piano) is present.

46

eth the ev - er - last - ing

This block contains the vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 49-51. The vocal line has the lyrics "eth the ev - er - last - ing". The piano accompaniment continues with the established rhythmic and harmonic patterns.

This block contains the vocal and piano accompaniment for measures 52-54. The vocal line concludes with a final melodic phrase. The piano accompaniment provides a concluding accompaniment for the passage.

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49

51

poco rit.

a tempo

light. _____ The hopes and

light. _____

poco rit. *a tempo*

poco rit. *a tempo*

52

fears of all the years are

The hopes and fears are

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55 *poco rit. e decresc.* *p*

met in thee to -

decresc.

poco rit.

poco rit. e decresc. *p*

58 *a tempo*

night.

p
a tempo

a tempo

61

62 *rit. to end*

Musical notation for measures 61-62. The vocal line (treble clef) has lyrics "Met in thee". The piano accompaniment (bass clef) has a dynamic marking *p*.

Met

in

thee

p

Met in

rit. to end

rit. to end

64

Musical notation for measures 64-65. The vocal line (treble clef) has lyrics "to - night." and "thee to - night." The piano accompaniment (bass clef) has a dynamic marking *p*.

to - night.

thee

to

night.

p