

Big Night in a Small Town

with
O Little Town of Bethlehem

Words and Music by
DAVE CLARK and
NICK ROBERTSON
Arr. by Dave Clark

1 Driving, with energy ♩ = ca. 110 CHOIR *unis.*

mf

[1-7] Just an or - di - nar - y day, that's

10 how it be - gan, We could nev - er have dreamed what

12 heav - en had planned; With so man - y ways that a

2

14 Sav - ior could come, It's hard to im - ag - ine that's how

16 God sent His Son. It was a *f* big night in a small town, —

19 Beth - le - hem was buzz - in' with the sto - ry go - in' 'round; There were

21 an - gels in the heav - ens, a star was shin - ing down, It was a

2nd time to Coda $\oplus$
(to pg. 2, meas. 37)

23

big night, a big night in a small town.

27

3

mf

There were shepherds who were there in

30

search of a King, Looking like they were scared by

32

some - thing they'd seen; With too man - y tra - v'lers and

34

4

no place to rest, There's more to the sto - ry, but you

36

D.S. al Coda $\oplus$ CODA
(to pg. 1, meas. 17)

5

mf

got - ta know this: It was a town. O

39

*"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie; A -

43

6

bove Thy deep and dream - less sleep, The si - lent stars go

46 *f*
by. It was a [>]big [>]night— in a small— town,—

49
Beth - le - hem was buzz - in' with the sto - ry go - in' 'round; There were

51
an - gels in the heav - ens, a star was shin - ing down, It was a

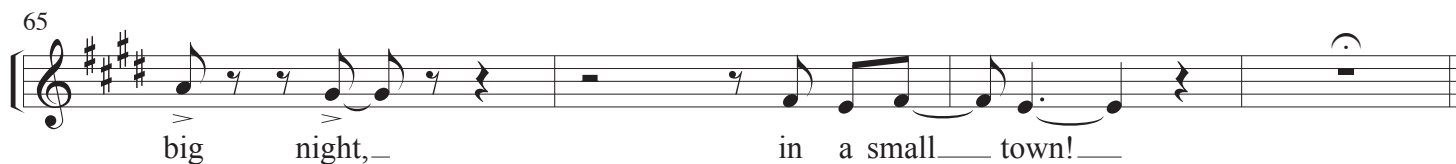
53 7
[>]big [>]night,— a [>]big night! It was a [>]big [>]night— in a small—

56
— town,— Beth - le - hem was buzz - in' with the

58
sto - ry go - in' 'round; There were an - gels in the heav - ens, a

60
star was shin - ing down, It was a [>]big [>]night,— a

62
[>]big [>]night! It was a [>]big [>]night,— a



SCENE 1

(Scene opens with a group of kids playing. They notice MICAH the innkeeper pacing, rubbing his forehead, clearly stressed.)

THOMAS: Hey, isn't that Micah the innkeeper?

ANNA: Yes, Thomas . . . but I've never seen him look like that.

SARAH: What do you mean?

ANNA: Just look at him. He looks like he just lost his best camel.

(Everyone laughs)

EZRA *(timidly approaching)*: Um . . . Micah? Are you OK? Do you need help?

MICAH *(stops pacing, hesitant)*: Oh . . . well . . . I appreciate it, but I'm not sure you'd understand.

DEBORAH: You won't know unless you tell us.

MICAH: Well . . . last night . . .

SARAH: Yes? Last night? What happened?

ANNA: Sarah, shhh. He's talking.

THOMAS: Yeah, give the man a chance.

(Lots of giggles)

MICAH: It's just . . . with the census, everyone's traveling. I had more guests than I've ever seen.

DEBORAH: That sounds good, right?

MICAH: Usually, yes. But I only have so many rooms, and . . .

ANNA: Easy. Rooms full! Send people somewhere else.

(All children laugh)

MICAH: I tried! But then this couple came. They were exhausted . . . and the woman, she was about to have a baby. I panicked, and . . . well . . . I let them stay in the barn.

THOMAS: Wow! Look at you, Mr. Hospitality!

(Everyone laughs)

SARAH: So, this couple . . . did they have names?

MICAH: Mary and Joseph . . . that's all I know. But there were other things happening too. There was this star . . . it was so bright it looked like it was just sitting right on top of the barn.

SARAH: Now THIS is getting interesting!

(More laughs)

ANNA: I still don't see the problem. No room? Barn available? Problem solved.

MICAH: But then . . . more people showed up . . . shepherds . . . out of nowhere . . . like they were looking for something . . . or someone!

ANNA: So, now you've got shepherds. Big deal.

MICAH: No, the big deal was we had shepherds without sheep.

SARAH: A mystery! I love it.

(Silly laughter)

ANNA: Real shepherds don't ditch their sheep. They must've had a really good reason.

DEBORAH: Anna's right. Why didn't you just ask them?

(Music begins)

THOMAS: I got a better idea, why don't you just ask the sheep?

Baa Baa Bethlehem

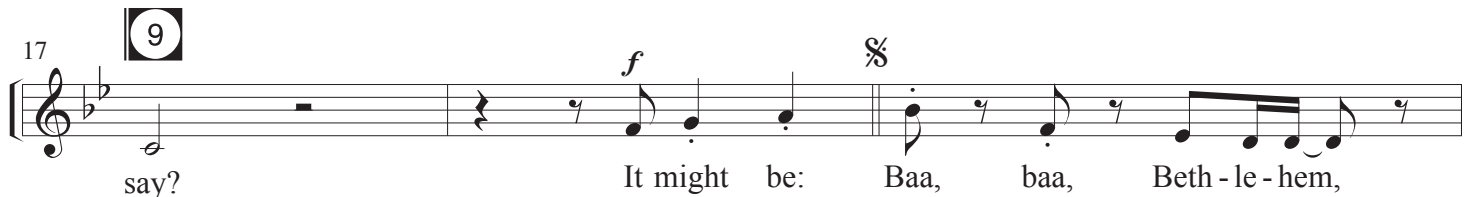
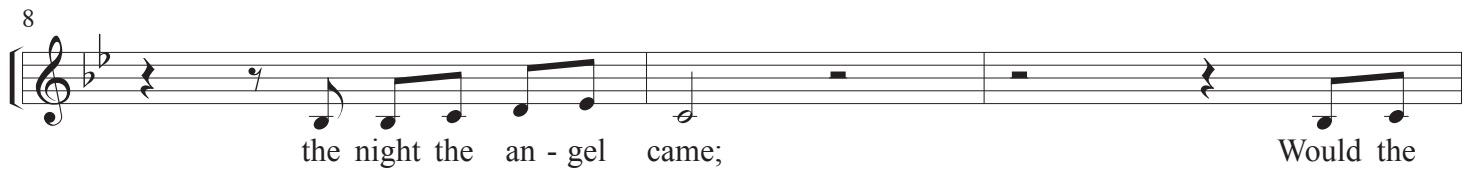
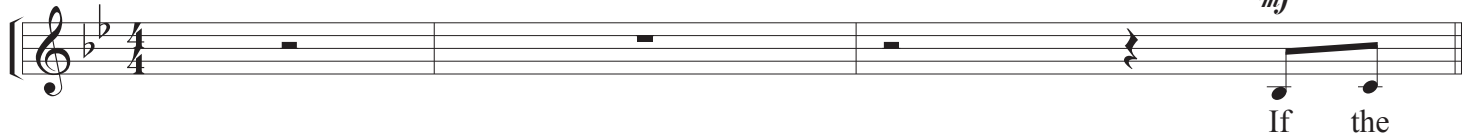
Words and Music by
DAVE CLARK
Arr. by Dave Clark

CHOIR *unis.*

mf

8

"New Orleans" jazz feel, swing 16ths ♩ = ca. 100



20

 how come the shep - herd men— Left us on the hill - side,

22

 we should - 've fol - lowed them; Baa, baa, Ba - by King,-

24

 they went to wor - ship Him,— That's where we would have been,—

26
 2nd time to Coda Φ
 (to pg. 7, meas. 38) 10

 baa, baa, baa, baa, Beth - le - hem.

29
mf

 Would we rec - og - nize the sto - ry we've heard

32

 all our lives, If we could see it thro' their eyes

35
11 D.S. al Coda Φ
(to pg. 6, meas. 19)

 and hear what they would say? It might be:

38 Φ CODA 12

 baa, baa, Beth - le - hem. 2 [39-40] *mf*
 Baa, baa,

*THOMAS: Hey, I got a question for you, how do sheep get to sleep? They COUNT each other!

(Groans and giggles)

THOMAS: Hey, I got another one! Anybody know what a sheep's favorite game is? BAA-sketball!

(More groans)

42 *Narration begins

baa, baa, Beth-le-hem. Baa, baa, baa, baa, Beth-le-hem.

45

Baa, baa, baa, baa, Beth-le-hem. Baa, baa.

48

f
Baa, baa, Beth-le-hem,

50

how come the shep-herd men_ Left us on the hill-side,

52

we should-'ve fol-lowed them;_ Baa, baa, Ba-by King,-

54

they went to wor-ship Him,_ That's where we would have been,-

56

baa, baa, baa, baa, Beth-le-hem.

THOMAS *(adds one more pun)*: Shear genius!
(Everyone laughs)

SCENE 2

(When the scene opens, MICAH the innkeeper has gone back to walking around in circles looking like he's in deep thought.)

ANNA: Wow. That is . . . a lot. Definitely not something you hear every day.
Especially around here. Right, Deborah?

DEBORAH: Yeah, this is Bethlehem. The only thing that ever happens here is what's already happened.

THOMAS: Like yesterday . . .

(Everyone reacts to the "Dad Joke")

SARAH: It just happens again . . .

ANNA: And again . . .

DEBORAH: And again.

(Everyone laughs)

EZRA *(gentle, hopeful)*: Do you think maybe we could help Micah figure this out?

SARAH: I'm in. If nothing else, I want details.

(More laughs)

ANNA: OK. Let's review. Micah's got a full house . . .

THOMAS: . . . and a barn that's suddenly very popular!

DEBORAH: Shepherds . . .

THOMAS: . . . but no sheep!

SARAH: And a young couple . . .

THOMAS: . . . with a baby about to make a big entrance!

EZRA: And a really, really, bright light . . .

THOMAS: . . . hanging right over the barn!

(Everyone laughs. MICAH, still pacing, wanders close enough to hear.)

THOMAS: And he wasn't even a *little* curious what was going on?

MICAH *(stops)*: I heard you. And yes, I get why you'd ask that. Knowing what I know now, of course I would've gone down to the barn. But I didn't know. I just . . . didn't know.

THOMAS: Well, I'm no wise man, but maybe you didn't know because you didn't go look.

(Everyone chuckles)

ANNA: Wait. You said, "*knowing what you know now*". What exactly do you know?

(Music begins)

SARAH: And more importantly, *when* did you know it?

(Lots of giggles)

MICAH: All that matters is I know it now. And someday soon the whole world is going to know it too.

DEBORAH: Then maybe you should start at the beginning!

Come and See What's Happenin'

Words and Music by
GLORIA GAITHER, WILLIAM J. GAITHER,
MICHAEL SYKES and WOODY WRIGHT
Arr. by Dave Clark

14

Country rock ♩ = ca. 97

7

[1-7]

8 MICAH *mf*
Well, must have been some - time__ 'bout close to mid -

10 - night, A big ole' guy came knock - in' at__ my

12 door; He said his wife was just a - bout to have__ a

14 ba - by,__ And that she just could - n't tra - vel an - y -

16 more. I said the rooms had all__ been rent - ed out, But

19 they'd find shel - ter out__ there in the barn;__

12

21



23

15



25

%



27



29

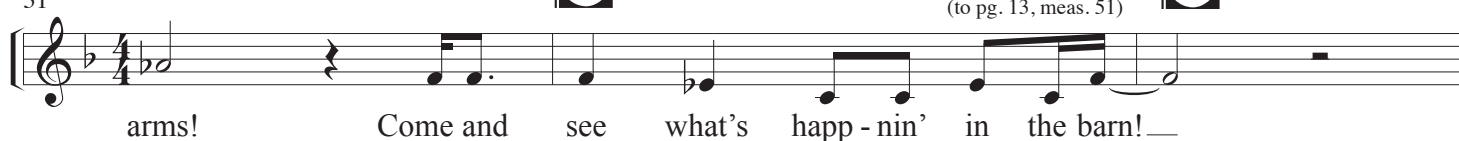


31

18 2nd time

2nd time to Coda (to pg. 13, meas. 51)

16



34

MICAH
mf

36



38



40



42



45

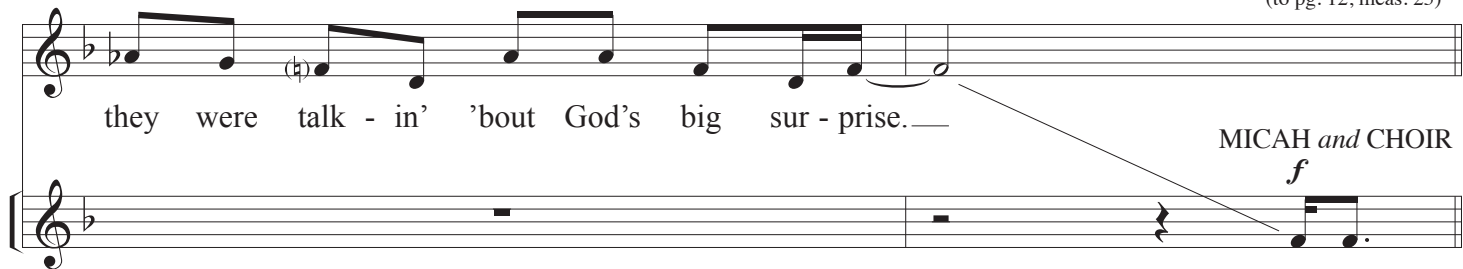


47



49

17

D.S. al Coda 
(to pg. 12, meas. 25)

Come and

51

CODA

CHOIR only



53

I've seen noth - in' like this since

55

Add MICAH

I've been on this farm! Those strang - ers camp - ing out there have a ba -

57

- by in their arms! Come and see what's happ - nin' in the barn!

60

MICAH

f

rit.

3

(6)

Come and see what's happ - nin' in the barn!

CHOIR out

SCENE 3

ANNA: OK, so what's the story?

MICAH: Let me just say it's big! REALLY BIG! Think about it. A baby!
Bethlehem! Shepherds! Any of that sound familiar?

EZRA (*thoughtful*): Micah . . . didn't the Scriptures say something about this?
About a someone special coming?

MICAH (*hesitant*): Well, yes . . . as a matter of fact they did. My father used to
read the stories to me when I was just a boy.

SARAH: C'mon! Tell us.

MICAH: Well . . . long before any of us, before Bethlehem was even on the map,
God made a promise. He said He would send someone to fix what was broken
in the world.

THOMAS: So . . . like a hero?

MICAH: More than that!

DEBORAH: Hey Anna, that sounds important.

ANNA: It is. Go on.

MICAH: The prophets said He would come from the family of King David.

THOMAS (*gestures around*): Well . . . welcome to Bethlehem . . . David's old neighborhood.

(*Everyone laughs*)

SARAH: Wait, this place? This was in the prophecies?

MICAH (*nods*): The scriptures said He "would" come "from Bethlehem," a small . . . quiet . . . overlooked . . .

EZRA: That sounds . . . kind of perfect.

MICAH: They also said He wouldn't come as a king in a palace.

THOMAS: No crown? No parade? That sure sounds like a bad marketing plan to me.

(*Quick laughs*)

MICAH: The prophets said He would come humbly . . . gently . . . a servant.

ANNA: So, not what anyone expected!

MICAH: Exactly. They said He would bring light into darkness.

EZRA (*excited*): Like a star!

(*The kids glance at one another*)

SARAH: OK . . . now you're just making this too obvious.

MICAH: They said shepherds would hear the good news first.

THOMAS: Shepherds? Really? No offense, but they're not exactly headline material.

(*Laughter*)

SARAH (*leaning in*): So, Micah . . . this young couple . . . Mary and Joseph . . . I think I saw them when they came in. She seemed so calm . . . for someone about to have a baby in a barn.

MICAH: The prophets said the mother would be chosen by God. That she would trust Him, even when she didn't understand.

ANNA: That takes some courage.

DEBORAH: A lot of courage.

EZRA: So, what about this man Joseph? If all this was true . . .

SARAH: Yeah . . . what was he thinking?

MICAH (*thoughtful*): Well . . . I imagine he was wondering if he was doing enough. Protecting them. Leading them. Trusting God when nothing looked easy.

THOMAS: So . . . tired, confused, and responsible for everything. Sounds about right to me!

(*Gleeful laughter*)

MICAH: He was from David's family too. He was a carpenter. A man used to fixing things with his hands. Now he was being asked to trust God with something far bigger.

EZRA: Wow! Just wow!

MICAH: The prophets said this baby would be called Immanuel. Ezra, do you know what that name means?

EZRA (*brightening*): God with us.

MICAH: Yes. Not far away. Not distant. Right here . . . in a barn . . . my barn . . . with Mary and Joseph.

SARAH: And shepherds.

THOMAS: And no sheep.

(*Everyone laughs, music begins*)

ANNA (*quiet, sincere*): That sure seems like a strange way for a King to come.

DEBORAH: And an even stranger way to save the world!

A Strange Way to Save the World

Words and Music by
DAVE CLARK, DON KOCH
and MARK HARRIS
Arr. by Dave Clark

19

Gently ♩ = ca. 71

5

[1-5]

6 CHILD SOLO *mp*

I'm sure he must have been sur - prised

9 at where this road had ta - ken him,

12 'Cause nev - er in a mil - lion lives

15 would he have dreamed of Beth - le - hem;

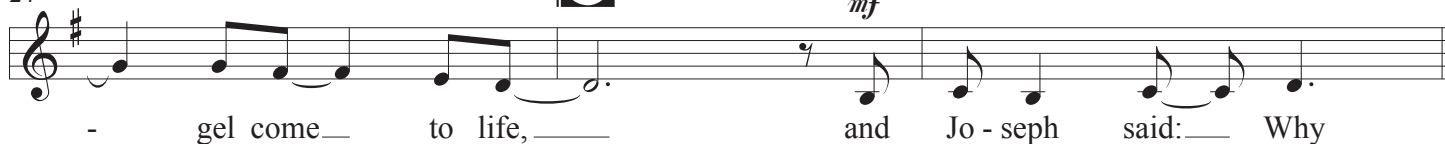
18 But stand - ing at the man - ger, he

21 saw with his own eyes The mess - age from the an -

18

24

20

mf

27

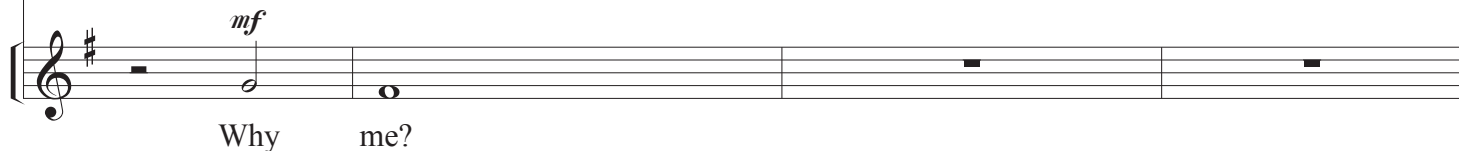
%

me?

CHOIR *unis.*

I'm just a sim - ple man of trade.

Why



31

Him?

with all the ru - lers in the world.

Why

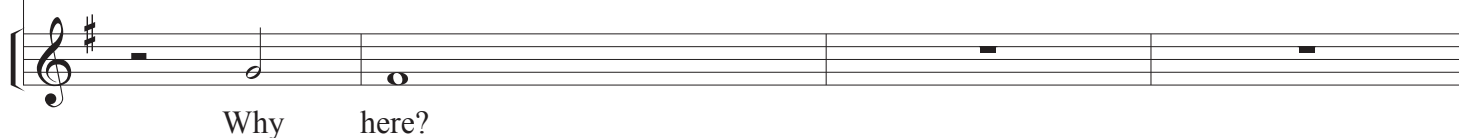


35

here?

in - side this sta - ble filled with hay.

Why

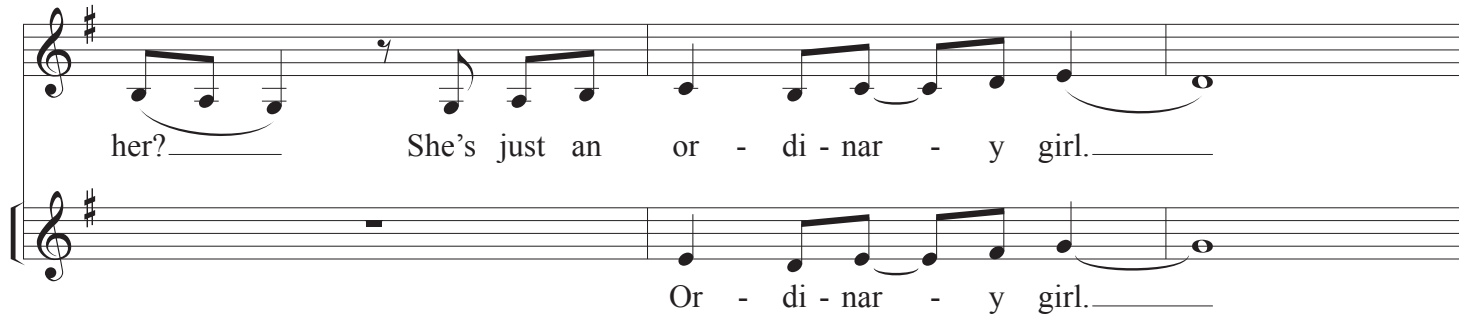


39

her?

She's just an or - di - nar - y girl.

Or - di - nar - y girl.



42

Now, I'm not one to sec - ond - guess what

Oo,

45

an - gels have to say, But this is such a

48

strange way to save the world.

to save the world.

2nd time to Coda $\oplus$
(to pg. 20, meas. 76)

52

[53-54]

CHILD SOLO
mp

To think of how it could have been

57

if Je - sus had come as He de - served,

60

There would have been no Beth - le - hem,

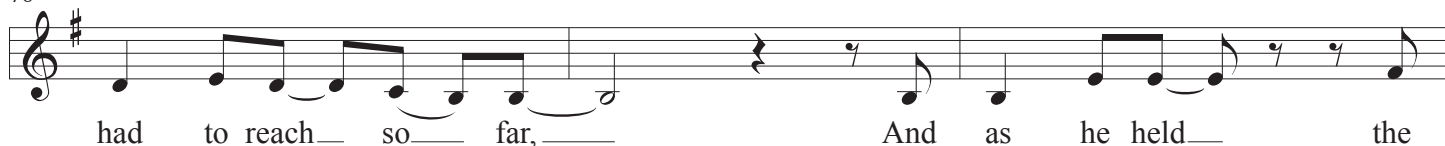
63



66



70



73

22

D.S. al Coda Φ
(to pg. 18, meas. 27)

76

 Φ CODA

CHOIR

mf

23



81

CHILD SOLO

mf

84



87

strange way____ to save the world.____

CHOIR *unis.*
mf

Strange way.____

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 87 to 89. The top staff is for a vocal soloist, and the bottom staff is for the choir. Both staves are in G major (one sharp). The soloist's part begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. There is a measure rest in measure 88, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. The choir's part begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. There are two measure rests in measures 88 and 89.

90

Such a strange way,____ such a

Such a

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 90 to 92. The top staff is for a vocal soloist, and the bottom staff is for the choir. Both staves are in G major. The soloist's part has a measure rest in measure 90, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. There is a measure rest in measure 91, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. The choir's part has measure rests in measures 90 and 91, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4 in measure 92.

93

strange way,____ Such a strange way____

CHOIR *out*

strange way.____

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 93 to 96. The top staff is for a vocal soloist, and the bottom staff is for the choir. Both staves are in G major. The soloist's part begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. There is a measure rest in measure 94, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. The choir's part begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. There are three measure rests in measures 94, 95, and 96.

97

SOLO
mp

to save the world.____

7
[100-106]

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 97 to 106. The top staff is for a vocal soloist. The part begins with a measure rest in measure 97, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. There is a measure rest in measure 98, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. The staff ends with a fermata over a whole note G4. The bottom staff is empty. The block is labeled 'SOLO mp' and '7 [100-106]'.

SCENE 4

(The children and MICAH enter slowly. The barn is still. A soft light rests on the manger. MARY sits nearby. JOSEPH stands close. Jesus is wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in the manger.)

EZRA *(whispering)*: “A baby . . . wrapped in swaddling clothes . . . lying in a manger.”

(The others look down at the baby and see that it is exactly so.)

SARAH: That’s Him.

THOMAS *(quiet, sincere)*: Just like they said.

(Music begins)

MICAH: God kept His promise.

EZRA: He came so small.

SARAH: And so close.

THOMAS *(gentle awe)*: God . . . right here.

(MARY gently adjusts the swaddling cloths. JOSEPH nods, inviting them nearer.)

ANNA *(barely a whisper)*: This is holy.

DEBORAH: What do we do?

ANNA *(simple)*: I just feel like we should worship.

(One by one, they kneel)

MICAH *(soft)*: Glory to God!

ALL *(together, reverent)*: Glory to God!

Gratitude Medley

includes
 Away in a Manger
 Gratitude
 O Come, All Ye Faithful

Arr. by Dave Clark

24 Rubato ♩ = ca. 74 In two feel ♩ = ca. 74

[1-3] [4-9]

10 25 CHOIR *unis.* *"Away in a Manger"
mp

A - way _____ in a man - ger, no

14

crib for _____ a bed, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid

18

down His _____ sweet head; The stars _____ in the sky _____ looked

22

down where _____ He lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a -

26 26 *mp*

sleep on _____ the hay. Be

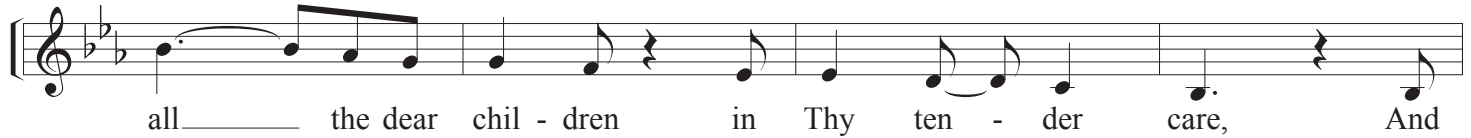
31

near _____ me, Lord Je - sus, I ask Thee _____ to stay Close

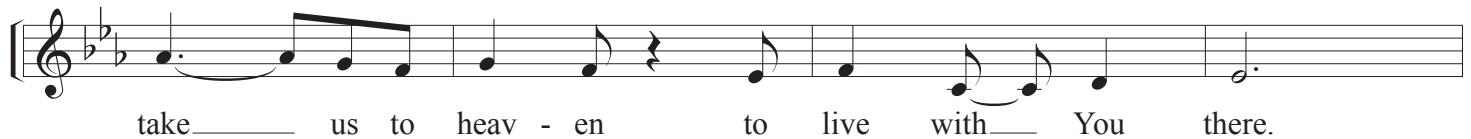
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39



43

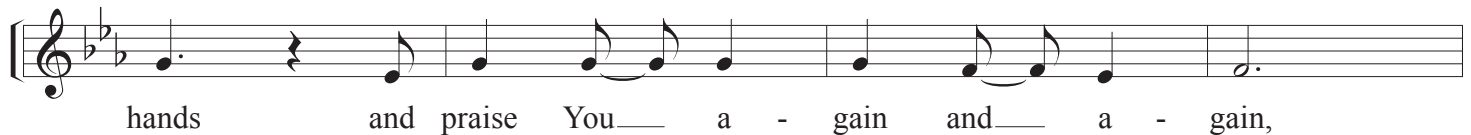


47

27



51



55



60



66



70

King Ex - cept for — a heart sing - in' hal -

75

le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

82

28

f

*"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

jah! — 1. O come, let us a - (2.) He a - lone is

87

dore wor - Him, thy, O For come, He let a - lone a is - dore wor - Him, thy, O For

90

29

1

come, let us a - dore wor - Him, — Christ — the He a - lone a is - wor - thy, —

93

(to pg. 25, meas. 86)

f

2

mf

Lord. 2. For Christ — the Lord.

SCENE 5

(The CHILDREN and MICAH look up at the sky. The star still shines, but the night feels different, quieter, fuller.)

EZRA: Something feels . . . changed!

SARAH: Yeah! Like Bethlehem didn't move, but we did.

THOMAS: I don't think you can experience a miracle like this and stay the same.

ANNA *(slow, thoughtful)*: I keep thinking . . . He didn't come just so we would have a great story to tell. He came so things could be different . . . so WE could be different.

MICAH *(nodding)*: The prophets said He would bring light. Light doesn't just shine, it shows the way.

EZRA: And it warms you.

SARAH: And helps you see what really matters.

THOMAS: So, this isn't the end of the story.

MICAH: Oh, no. It's just the beginning.

ANNA: A beginning where we would have life because He came.

THOMAS: Less about the barn . . . more about the heart.

MICAH *(with a smile)*: Every time someone experiences the life, the love, the peace, *(music begins)* the hope He brings . . . it's like this night just keeps happening.

EZRA: Over and over.

ANNA: Not just in Bethlehem.

DEBORAH: Everywhere!

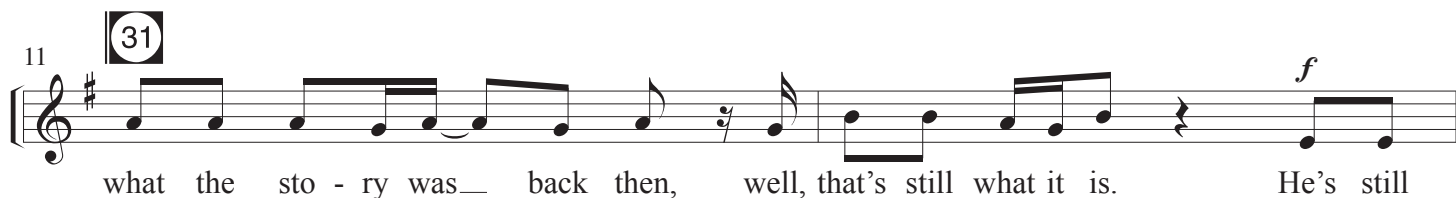
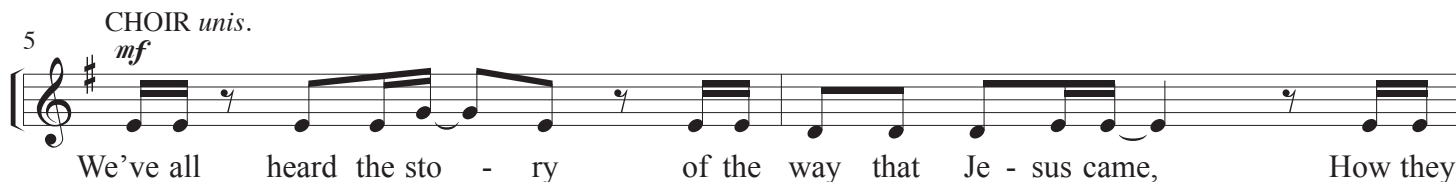
THOMAS: What do you say we all go tell the story.

All Over Again

Words and Music by
DAVE CLARK
Arr. by Dave Clark

30

Rock feel ♩ = ca. 75



17

Ev - 'ry time_ a seek - er comes to give their heart_ to Him, That's

19

where the Christ - mas sto - ry starts all o - ver a - gain._____

22

Go tell it, tell_ it on the moun - tain,

24

Go tell it, tell_ it in the streets; Go tell the Christ - mas sto - ry to

26

ev - 'ry - one you meet. Go tell it, tell_ it on the moun - tain,

28

Go tell it, tell_ it in the streets; Go tell the Christ - mas sto - ry to

30

ev - 'ry - one you meet. He's still wait - ing, He's still sav - ing, He's still

32

call - ing us_ to - day; He's still mov - ing, He's still prov - ing, He's still

34

wor - thy of__ our praise. Ev - 'ry time__ a seek - er comes to

36

give their heart to Him, That's where the Christ - mas sto - ry starts all

38

o - ver a - gain.____ That's where the Christ - mas sto - ry starts all

40

o - ver a - gain._____ [42-43]

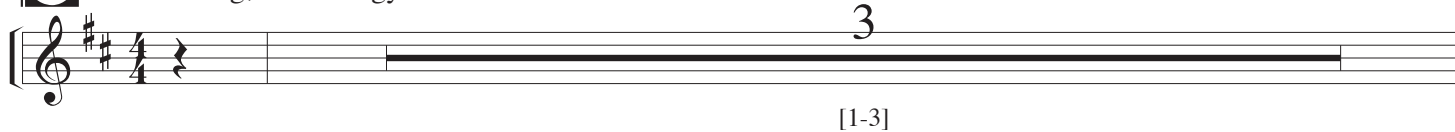
Big Night in a Small Town (Reprise)

with
O Little Town of Bethlehem

Words and Music by
DAVE CLARK and
NICK ROBERTSON
Arr. by Dave Clark

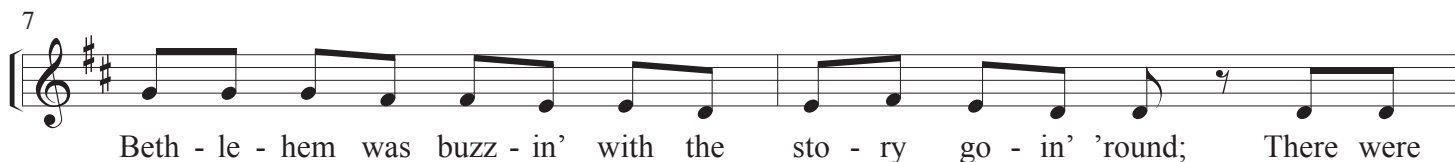
35

Driving, with energy ♩ = ca. 110



CHOIR *unis.*

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21 **37**

si - lent stars go by. It was a big night in a small

24

town, Beth - le - hem was buzz - in' with the

26

sto - ry go - in' 'round; There were an - gels in the heav - ens, a

28 **38**

star was shin - ing down, It was a big night, a

30

big night! It was a big night in a small town,

33

Beth - le - hem was buzz - in' with the sto - ry go - in' 'round; There were

35

an - gels in the heav - ens, a star was shin - ing down, It was a

37

big night, a big night! It was a big night,

40

a big night, in a small town!