

# Choral music for Christmas

## Lullaby

Ken Johnston

### VOCAL SCORE

for SATB voices  
with piano and (optional) strings

Text: George Wither (17<sup>th</sup> century)

Original version (2 part voices and piano) composed 1994

This version, 2002

Duration of piece: 5'

Versions of this piece are also available for the following voice combinations:

2 part (2<sup>nd</sup> part optional)  
SSA (or SAA)  
SAB

Each version has the same accompaniment options as above

For each version, a FULL SCORE and a VOCAL SCORE (voices + piano) is available

String parts are available separately

Vocal score -  
SATB

# Lullaby

Words -  
George Wither (17th century)

for SATB voices and piano with (optional) strings\*

Music -  
Ken Johnston

**Gently** ♩ = 60

(altos only) *p*

1) Sweet ba-by sleep, \_\_\_\_\_ what ails my dear?

*pp*  
(with pedal)

5

What ails my dar- ling thus\_ to cry? Be still my child, \_\_\_\_\_ and lend thine ear,

9

S My pret-ty lamb \_\_\_\_\_ for-bear to weep,

A To hear me sing thy lul-la- by... mm

T  
B *pp*

\* In this vocal score the string parts are not shown.

Duration: 5'

13

S *poco cresc.*  
Be still my dear, \_\_\_\_\_ sweet ba-by sleep. Sweet ba-by then \_\_\_\_\_ for-bear to weep,

A *poco cresc.*  
mm

T *poco cresc.*

B *poco cresc.*

17

S **A**  
Be still my babe, \_\_\_\_\_ sweet ba-by sleep..

A

T

B

*pp*

Ped.

21 *pp*

S A

T B (TB unison) *p*

2) When God with us \_\_\_\_\_ was dwel-ling here, In lit-tle babes he took

25

S A

T B — de- light. Such in-no- cents \_\_\_\_\_ as thou, my dear, Are ev-er pre - cious

29 **B** *p*

S A My pret-ty lamb \_\_\_\_\_ for-bear to weep, Be still my dear, \_\_\_\_\_

T B (TB div.) *p*

in his sight.

33 *poco cresc.*  
 Sweet ba - by then for - bear to weep,  
 — sweet ba - by sleep. — ah

*poco cresc.*  
*poco cresc.*

36 Be still my babe, — sweet ba - by — sleep. — [C]

*p*

*mp*

*p*

*ped.*

40 *p*  
 3) The wants that he did then sus - tain

*mp*

*p*  
 3) The wants that he did then sus - tain

43

S  
A  
T  
B

Have pur - chased wealth, my babe, — for thee, — And by his tor - ments\_

Have pur - chased wealth, my babe, for thee, — And by his tor - ments\_

46

S  
A  
T  
B

— and his pain\_ Thy rest and ease se - cur-ed be. My pret-ty lamb\_

— and hispain Thy rest and ease se - cur-ed be. My pret-ty lamb\_

D

50

S *poco cresc.*  
— for-bear to weep, Be still my dear, sweet ba-by sleep. Sweet ba-by then

A *poco cresc.*  
— for-bear to weep, Be still my dear, sweet ba-by sleep. ah

T *poco cresc.*  
— for-bear to weep, Be still my dear, sweet ba-by sleep. ah

B

54

S  
— for - bear to weep, Be still my babe,

A *p*  
Be still my babe, sweet ba - by sleep,

T *p*  
sweet

B

57 *p*

S — sweet ba - by\_\_ sleep, — sweet ba - by\_\_ sleep.

A — — — — — sweet ba - by\_\_ sleep. —

T — — — — — ba - by\_\_ sleep, — — — — — sweet ba - by\_\_ sleep. —

B — — — — — *p* sweet ba - by\_\_ sleep. —

60 **E** *mp*

S — My pret - ty\_\_ lamb\_\_ for - bear to weep, — Be still my dear,

A *mp* — — — — — My pret - ty\_\_ lamb\_\_ for - bear to weep, — Be still my dear, —

(AT unis.) *mp* — — — — — My pret - ty\_\_ lamb\_\_ for - bear to weep, — Be still my dear, —

T — — — — — My pret - ty\_\_ lamb\_\_ for - bear to weep, — Be still my dear, —


B — — — — — My pret - ty\_\_ lamb\_\_ for - bear to weep, — Be still my dear, —

63

S *poco cresc.*  
sweet ba - by sleep. Sweet ba - by then for - bear to weep,

A *poco cresc.*  
— sweet ba - by sleep. Sweet ba - by then for - bear to weep,

T *poco cresc.*  
— sweet ba - by sleep. ah



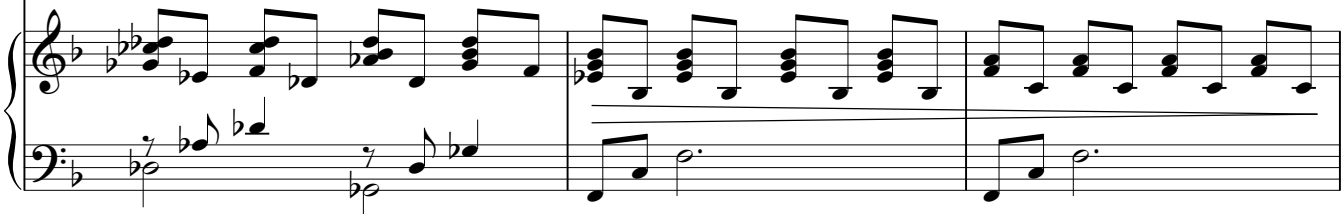
The piano accompaniment for measures 63-65 features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a bass line with occasional rests in the left hand. The music is in a minor key and includes a *poco cresc.* dynamic marking.

66

S  
Be still my babe, sweet ba - by sleep,

A  
Be still my babe, sweet ba - by sleep,

T  
Be still my babe, sweet ba - by sleep,



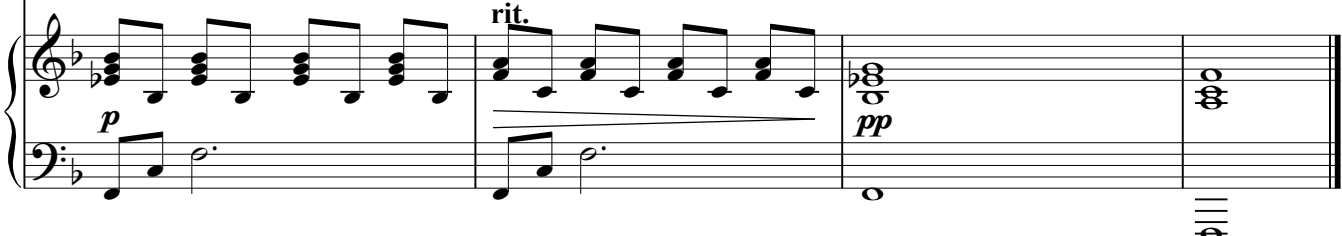
The piano accompaniment for measures 66-68 continues with the eighth-note accompaniment. It includes a *poco cresc.* dynamic marking and a key signature change to two flats (B-flat major/D-flat minor) starting in measure 67.

69

S *p* *rit.* *pp*  
sweet ba - by sleep, sweet ba - by sleep.

A *p* *pp*  
sweet ba - by sleep, sweet ba - by sleep.

T *p* *unis. pp*  
sweet ba - by sleep, sweet ba - by sleep.



The piano accompaniment for measures 69-71 features a *p* dynamic marking, a *rit.* (ritardando) marking, and a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic marking. The music concludes with a final chord in the right hand and a sustained bass note in the left hand.