

# The Shepherds Recollect

for male voice(s) and guitar (or synth "guitar")

based on  
Luke 2:8-20

text and music by  
Constance Morgenstern

freely, ♩ = ca. 52 at first  
*mf*

Guitar

(Am\*)

A

*mf* A (E)

Shepherd 1/Solo

A night like this, — near Beth - le - hem, with

Shepherds 2 & 3

S2: "Tell the story!"

9

Guitar

(E) (Am)

*accel.*

pl. F pl. G pl. F

S1/Solo

hills and stars — and sheep-- and then an an - gel's speak - ing and an - gels

\*The "guitar" accompaniment is written out as both notes and annotated chords. This allows the part to be approximated with a keyboard (an octave down), as well as to suggest textures for a guitarist. For example, it might be effective to pluck stark notes from the beginning until m. 13. Other textures include plucking with thumb and three fingers, rolling, strumming, or arpeggiating chords. Consider how to support the story.

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The Shepherds Recollect

16 *rit.* *molto rit.* *slightly faster than original tempo* *mp* **B**

Guitar

pl. Am pl. Dm7 rolled E pl.F arp. Am

16 *molto rit.* *slightly faster than original tempo* **B**

S1/Solo

sing, and we are left in won-der, won-der - ing! \_\_\_\_\_ Mes - si - ah

26 *arp. E* *arp. E7* *arp. Am* **F**

Guitar

26 *arp. E* *arp. E7* *arp. Am* **F**

S1/Solo

born? We fast a - greed-- What an - gels said, we had to see! Like a gift, held

26 *f* *mf*

S2 & S3

S2: Yes, we had to see! Mmm \_\_\_\_\_

34 **G** **Am** **Am7** **Dm7** *str. E* *str. F* *str. Am*

Guitar

34 **G** **Am** **Am7** **Dm7** *str. E* *str. F* *str. Am*

S1/Solo

out to us, was their sign: A child with-in a man-ger we ran to find!

34 *mf*

S2 & S3

A child, a man-ger we ran to find!

The Shepherds Recollect

41

Guitar

8

str. G str. F str. E7 str. Am str. E

S1/Solo

"A sta - ble! There!" one shep - herd cried. We

S2 & S3

mf

S2: We

48

Guitar

8

str. E E7 arp. Am pl. F subito p pl. G pl. Am

S1/Solo

reached its door. We peered in - side at a man - ger, then the in - fant,

S2 & S3

reached its door, peered in - side. Mmm

*a bit more slowly*

*subito p*

*subito p*

*subito p*

55

Guitar

8

pl. C pl. Esus4 pl. B7 pl. D pl. Dsus4 pl. Am7 pl. E arp. E

S1/Solo

too! We knelt in front of Heav - en's words come true!

S2 & S3

too! We knelt in front of Heav - en's words come true!

The Shepherds Recollect

65 *mp* **D**

Guitar

8 pl. Am arp. Fmaj7 pl. E arp. E arp. C arp. F pl. Dm7

S1/Solo

65 *p* **D**

S2 & S3

Well, to her, at rest by his man-ger bed, we told, told, told, what the an-gels

S2: we told, told — what the an-gels —

S3: Mmm ————— we told what the an-gels

73

Guitar

8 pl. G7 pl. C pl. C+5 pl. G7 *rit.* pl. G *subito f* F/A

S1/Solo

73 *rit.* *subito f*

S2 & S3

said. She smiled, said soft-ly, our news she'd keep-- while we went prais-ing

said. Mmm ————— while we went prais-ing

said. Mmm ————— while we went prais-ing

81

Guitar

8 C F C Fmaj7 Esus4 E

S1/Solo

81

S2 & S3

God-- \*(speak-ing joy\_) to men, wo-men, chil-dren, and sheep! ———

God-- speak-ing joy, — to men, wo-men, chil-dren, and sheep. ———

God-- speak-ing joy, to men, wo-men, chil-dren, and sheep. ———

\*A soloist should include the words in parentheses.



The Shepherds Recollect

88 *mp* **E** *a bit more slowly*

Guitar (E) (Dm7) (E) (Am) (E)

S1/Solo

S2 & S3

And now, on hill - sides, till God's full dawn, we

S2: Mmm

98 *rit.*

Guitar arp. Am pl. Dm7 *rit.* pl. G pl. F

S1/Solo

S2 & S3

sing to share in the an - gels' song-- for that child and man - ger still con -

S3: an - gels' song. Mmm

105 *molto rit.* *a tempo* *f*

Guitar pl. Am pl. Dm7 *molto rit.* slowly rolled G \*\* pl. C

S1/Solo

S2 & S3

vey how God is bring - ing here His sav - ing way! \_\_\_\_\_

S2: His sav - ing way! \_\_\_\_\_  
His sav - ing way! \_\_\_\_\_

\* Note that this is a G natural, not a G# as in other verses.  
\*\* Damp the strings briskly to establish the downbeat for the singers.

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