

Gwyneth Walker

All Things Wonderful

*for SATB Chorus, Two Trumpets,
Percussion and Organ*



All Things Wonderful

duration: 4 minutes

Commissioned by the Salisbury Singers, Worcester MA
to honor their Music Director, Dr. Michelle Graveline,
on the occasion of her retirement after 22 years as conductor: 1998-2020

*Premiered by the Salisbury Singers, Bradford Dumont, conductor
Mechanics Hall, Worcester, MA, November 7, 2021*

Notes

Among the many cherished poems offering praise for the natural world, Gerard Manley Hopkins' "Pied Beauty" sits atop the list. *Glory be to God for dappled things – for skies of couple-color as a brinded cow.* The uniqueness of imagery and the universality of message combine to create superb poetry. *Praise him! Glory!*

The second stanza of "Pied Beauty" opens with *All things counter, original, spare, strange...* These words bring to mind the hymn lyrics "All Things Bright and Beautiful" by Cecil F. Alexander. And thus, **All Things Wonderful** was inspired by the combination of these two poems which share similar texts... and a reverence for God in nature.

The Hopkins poetry opens the music. These are delicate words, often performed by solo voices. The entire chorus enters with ensemble singing of *Praise him! Glory!* And the full chorus remains to sing the *All things bright and beautiful* text. Particular delight is taken in creating the musical contrast between *All creatures great* (large, loud, widespread chord) and *small* (Tenors singing quietly on mid-range B \flat). Our Lord has made them all!

All Things Wonderful

Glory be to God for dappled things –
For skies of couple-colour as a brindled cow;
For rose-moles all in stipple upon trout that swim;
Glory! Glory!

Fresh-firecoal chestnut-falls; finches' wings;
Landscape plotted and pieced – fold, fallow, and plough;
And áll trádes, their gear and tackle and trim.
Praise him! Glory!

All things counter, original, spare, strange;
Whatever is fickle, freckled (who knows how?)
With swift, slow; sweet, sour; adazzle, dim;
He fathers-forth whose beauty is past change:
Praise him! Glory!

All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful,
Our Lord has made them all.
Praise him! Glory!

All things bright and beautiful (All...),
Our Lord has made them all (All...),
All things that are so very wise and so wonderful,
All creatures great...and small.
Praise him! Glory!

– text based on “Pied Beauty” (Gerard Manley Hopkins)
and “All Things Bright and Beautiful” (Cecil F. Alexander)
adapted by Gwyneth Walker

The Composer

Widely performed throughout the country, the music of American composer **Gwyneth Walker** is beloved by performers and audiences alike for its energy, beauty, reverence, drama, and humor. Dr. Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947) is a graduate of Brown University and the Hartt School of Music. She holds B.A., M.M. and D.M.A. degrees in Music Composition. A former faculty member of the Oberlin College Conservatory, she resigned from academic employment in 1982 in order to pursue a career as a full-time composer. For nearly 30 years, she lived on a dairy farm in Braintree, Vermont before returning to live in her childhood hometown of New Canaan, Connecticut.

A composer since age two, Gwyneth Walker has always placed great value on writing in a broad array of genres. More than 400 commissioned works for orchestra, chamber ensembles, solo instruments, chorus, and solo voice have been created – all arising from the impetus of performers and collaboration with musicians. Over the decades, she has traveled throughout North America to attend performances of her works and to meet her musician colleagues.

Gwyneth Walker is a proud resident of New England. She was the recipient of the 2000 “Lifetime Achievement Award” from the Vermont Arts Council and the 2018 “Alfred Nash Patterson Lifetime Achievement Award” from Choral Arts New England. In 2020, *her alma mater*, the Hartt School of Music of the University of Hartford, presented her with the Hartt Alumni Award.

Walker’s catalog includes musical works of many sorts: arrangements of traditional folk songs; original music in both vocal and instrumental genres inspired by great American poetry; dramatic works that combine music with readings, acting, and movement; works for student performers of all ages; and large-scale pieces for professional players and ensembles. The music of Gwyneth Walker is published by E.C. Schirmer (choral/vocal/instrumental music) and Lauren Keiser Music (orchestral/instrumental music).

Further information concerning Gwyneth Walker and her works is available at:

www.gwynethwalker.com

Music preparation by:

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for SATB Chorus, Two Trumpets, Percussion, and Organ

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With motion (♩ = 132)
[It is suggested that Trumpets be spaced apart, for antiphonal dialogue]

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). It consists of the following parts:

- *Trumpets in C:** Two staves. The first staff (labeled 1) has a melodic line starting with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5. The second staff (labeled 2) has a similar melodic line starting with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5. Both staves include a *mf legato* marking and a triplet of eighth notes in the final measure.
- Percussion:** A single staff with a drum set icon. It features a *Maracas* part starting in the fourth measure, marked with a *p* dynamic and a *poco* hairpin.
- Soprano Alto:** A single staff with a treble clef, containing rests for the first six measures.
- Tenor Bass:** A single staff with a bass clef, containing rests for the first six measures.
- Organ:** A grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with rests for the first six measures.

*Parts for Bb Trumpets are also available

6

1 *lightly tongued*

2 *lightly tongued*

(Mar.)

p *poco* *p* *mf*

12

1

2

Perc.

p *mf*

17

1

2

Perc.

p *p* *mf* *p*

Org.

p a quiet background

21 **A** **Mezzo-Soprano Solo mf espr.*

M-Sop. Solo **Baritone Solo mf espr.* For skies of cou - ple -

Bar. Solo Glo - ry be to God for dap - pled things -

A

Org.

25 **B**

M-Sop. Solo col - our as a brin - ded cow; For rose - moles all in

Bar. Solo

B

Org.

29

M-Sop. Solo Glo - ry!

Bar. Solo stip - ple up - on trout that swim;

Org.

*Soloists may sing from within the chorus.
Walker | All Things Wonderful

33 C

Tpts. 1 *a2*
2 *mf* — *f*

Perc. *Suspended Cymbal*
p — *f*

S
A *All* *mf* — *f*
Glo - - - ry!

T
B *All* *mf* — *f*
Glo - - - ry!

Org. *f*

37

M-Sop. Solo *p delicately*
finch-es wings;

Bar. Solo *mf*
Fresh - fire - coal chest - nut falls;

Org. *p*

41 Cup mute or Hand over bell rem. mute **D**

Tpts. 1 2 *pp*

Bar. Solo

Land - scape plot - ted and pieced - fold fal - low and

Org.

44

M-Sop. Solo

Bar. Solo

plough; _____

And all trades, their

Org.

47

M-Sop. Solo

Bar. Solo

gear and tac - kle and trim. _____ Praise _____

Praise _____ him!

Org.

51 E

Tpts. 1 2 *Open a2*

Perc. *Susp. Cym.*

S A *(Solo)* *All*

T B *All*

Org.

him Glo - - - ry! Glo - - - ry!

Glo - - - ry! Glo - - - ry!

55 F

Tpts. 1 2

S A *in wonderment* *p* *at the beauty of nature*

T B *p*

Org. *p*

All things coun-ter, o -

All things coun-ter, o -

59 **Bongo (with hands)**
a gentle rhythmic pulse

Perc.

S
A
T
B

rig - i - nal, spare, strange; _____ What - ev - er is fick - le,

rig - i - nal, spare, strange; _____ What - ev - er is fick - le,

[Play cue-sized notes only if needed to support chorus]

Org.

63 G

Perc.

S
A
T
B

frack - led (who knows how?) _____ *cresc. poco a poco* With swift, slow;

frack - led (who knows how?) _____ *cresc. poco a poco* With swift, slow;

G

Org.

67 (Bongo)

Perc.

S
A
T
B

(cresc.) *(p)* *poco* *mf*

sweet. sour; a - daz - zle, dim; He fath - ers forth whose

(cresc.) *mf* *Bass 2 p*

sweet. sour; a - daz - zle, dim; Ah,

Org. *Play* *mf* *mf*

71

S *unis.*

beau - ty is past change; Praise

A beau - ty is past change; Praise

T *mf* beau - ty is past change; Praise him!

B *mf* beau - ty is past change; Praise him!

Org. *mf*

75 H

Tpts. 1 2 *a2* *mf* *f*

Perc. *Susp. Cym.* *p* *f*

S
— him! Glo - - - - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry! —

A
— him! Glo - - - - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry! —

T
8
Glo - - - - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry! —

B
Glo - - - - ry! Glo - ry! Glo - ry! —

Org. H

79 I

Tpts. 1 2

S *mf cantabile*

A *mf cantabile unis.*

T *mf cantabile*

B *mf cantabile unis.*

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, All crea - tures great and

Org. I *mf*

83 *p*

S *p*

A small, All things wise and won-der - ful, Our Lord has made them

T *p*

B small, All things wise and won-der - ful, Our Lord has made them

Org. *p*

87 **J**

Tpts. 1 2

Perc. **Bongo (with hands)** *p* *mf* *p* **Susp. Cym.**

S A *mf* all. Praise him! Glo -

T B *mf* all. Praise him! Glo -

Org. **J** *mf* *Play*

for rehearsal only...

91

Tpts. 1 2 *f*

Perc. *f*

S A *f* - ry!

T B *f* - ry!

Org. *f*

95 **K**

Tpts. 1 *(f)*

Tpts. 2 *(f)*

Org. **K**

99

Tpts. 1

Tpts. 2

Perc. Tom-Tom *p*

S *mf*
A Ah, _____

T *mf*
B Ah, _____

Org.

103 L

Tpts. 1 2

Perc. *f* *Susp. Cym.* *f*

Opt. Desc. *f* *celebratory* *Opt. Descant (a few voices)* *f* Ah _____

S A *f* *celebratory*
All things bright and beau-ti - ful, _____ Our Lord has made them

T B *f* *celebratory*
All things bright and beau-ti - ful, _____ Our Lord has made them

L [Play cue-sized notes only if needed to support chorus]

Org.

107 *Free measure* *Slowly, grandly* (♩ = ca. 100) *a2*

Tpts. 1 2 *f* *a2* *f*

Perc. *f* *Tom-Tom* *f*

Opt. Desc. *rejoin section* Ah _____ *ecstatic: recite slowly on pitch*
(conduct each syllable)

S A *f*
all, _____ All things that are so all crea - tures great. . .
very wise and so wonderful,

T B *f*
all, _____ All things that are so all crea - tures great. . .
very wise and so wonderful,

Free measure *Slowly, grandly* (♩ = ca. 100) *Play* *f*

Org. *f*

M
a tempo (♩ = 132)

Tpts. 1 *111*
 2 1. Hand over bell +2. (Hand over bell)

Perc. (Tom-Tom) *pp* barely audible
 Bongo (with sticks) *pp*

S *p*
 A (Alto) ...small.

T *p sub.*
 B and small. Praise

M
a tempo (♩ = 132)

Org. *p*

With gathering energy

Tpts. 1 *116*
 2 Open *a2* *p* *a2* *mf*

Perc. *mf*

S *p* *cresc.*
 A Praise him! Praise him!

T *cresc.*
 B him! Praise him! Glo -

With gathering energy

Org. *mf* *f*

120 *rit.*

Tpts. 1 *f* *ff*

Tpts. 2 *f* *ff*

Perc. (Bongo) *f* Tom-Tom *p* *f* Susp. Cym. *ff*

S *ff*

A *ff* *unis.*

T *ff* *unis.*

B *ff* *unis.*

Org. *f* *rit.*

Glo - - - - ry! Glo - - - - ry!

Glo - - - - ry! Glo - - - - ry!

- - - - ry! Glo - - - - ry!

- - - - ry! Glo - - - - ry!

4:00
 August 2, 2021
 New Canaan, Connecticut