

FULL SCORE

GWYNETH WALKER

# The Day Is Done

*SATB Chorus, Children's Chorus (SA),  
Flute, Strings, and Percussion*

*Commissioned by The Bach Choir of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania,  
in celebration of the 25th anniversary of Bel Canto Youth Chorus and the  
merger of Bel Canto Youth Chorus with The Bach Choir of Bethlehem*

*Premiered on May 11, 2019 in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania*

### **Program Notes**

The poem “The Day Is Done” speaks of evening as the time when poetry and music come alive. They soothe the cares of day. The soul hears the music of “*celestial harmonies*.” This is “*a benediction that follows after prayer*.”

The musical setting presents the opening, beautiful lyrics in the children’s voices, selected for their lightness and purity of tone. “*The day is done, and the darkness falls from the wings of night*.” These phrases, or slight variations thereof, return as refrains throughout the song, always falling gently.

The verses alternate between the men’s and women’s voices, with the children interjecting refrains or offering commentary in the background. Finally, the children interrupt the SATB dialogue with exclamations of “*a song! a song! a song!*” These lead to the climax of the song given to the children’s chorus singing, “*And the night shall be filled with music*.” All voices then join together in celebration: “*our song shall fill the night*.”

The accompaniment (originally composed for piano, and later adapted for flute, strings, and percussion) delights in text-setting with *sparkling arpeggios* depicting the *celestial harmonies*, and filigree patterns for the star-filled night sky.

—Gwyneth Walker

### **Gwyneth Walker (b. 1947)**

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. She now divides her time between her childhood hometown of New Canaan, Connecticut, and the musical community of Randolph, Vermont.

Walker’s catalog includes over 350 commissioned works for orchestra, chamber ensembles, chorus, and solo voice. A special interest has been dramatic works that combine music with readings, acting, and movement. The music of Gwyneth Walker is published by E. C. Schirmer (choral/vocal/instrumental music) and Lauren Keiser Music (orchestral/instrumental music).

For more information, visit her website at: [www.gwynethwalker.com](http://www.gwynethwalker.com)

### **Available Editions**

Choral Score	8776
Full Score	8776A
Instrumental Parts	8776B

Catalog No. 8776A

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Bel Canto Youth Chorus and the merger of Bel Canto Youth Chorus with The Bach Choir of Bethlehem  
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# The Day Is Done

for SATB Chorus, Children's Chorus (SA), Flute, Strings, and Percussion, or Piano

“The Day Is Done”

Gwyneth Walker

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807–1882)

adapted by the composer

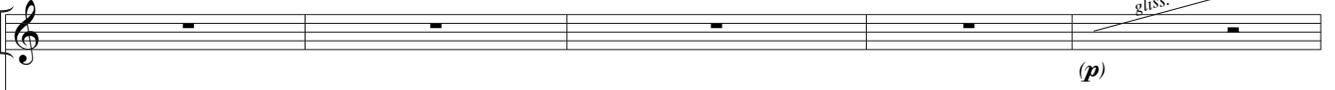
Moderate tempo ♩ = 120

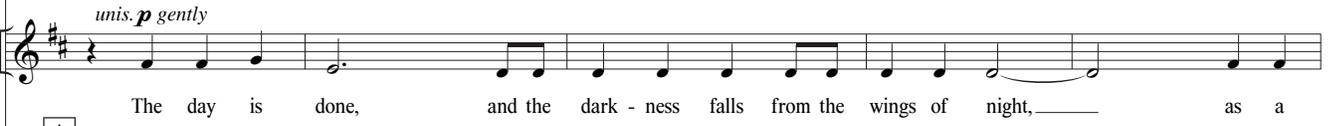
The musical score is arranged in a system with the following parts from top to bottom:

- Flute:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Melody with a *p* dynamic and *gently* marking. A slur covers the first two measures.
- Percussion:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Includes Glockenspiel (soft mallets), Suspended Cymbal, Bongos [2], Triangle, and Low Tom-Tom. Features *p* dynamics and *gentle arpeggios*.
- Children's Chorus:** Two staves, Soprano (S) and Alto (A), both in treble clef. 4/4 time. Contains rests.
- Adult Chorus:** Three staves, Soprano (S), Alto (A), and Tenor/Bass (T/B), all in treble clef. 4/4 time. Contains rests.
- Violins:** Two staves, Violin 1 and Violin 2, both in treble clef. 4/4 time. *div.* (divisi) markings and *p* dynamics. Slurs are present.
- Viola:** Bass clef, 4/4 time. *p* dynamic. Slur.
- Violoncello:** Bass clef, 4/4 time. *p* dynamic. Slur.
- Contrabass:** Bass clef, 4/4 time. *p* dynamic. *pizz.* (pizzicato) and *arco* (arco) markings.

5 **A**  
(Glock.)

*gently, ad lib.*

Perc.  *gliss.*  
*(p)*

Ch. S *unis. p gently*  
A   
The day is done, and the dark - ness falls from the wings of night, as a

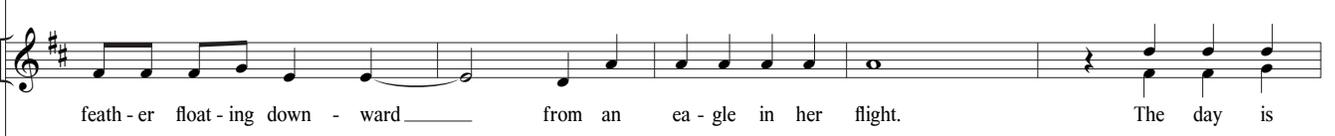
**A**

Vlns. 1 *unis. pizz. arco div.*  
2 *unis. pizz. arco*  
Vla. *pizz. arco*  
Vlc. *pizz. arco pizz. div. arco*  
Cb. *pizz. arco pizz. arco*

**10**

Fl.  *p*

Perc. 

Ch. S   
A *feath - er float - ing down - ward from an ea - gle in her flight. The day is*

Vlns. 1 *pizz. unis. arco pizz. arco*  
2 *pizz. arco pizz. arco*  
Vla. *pizz. arco pizz. arco*  
Vlc. *pizz. unis. arco pizz. div. arco unis.*  
Cb. *pizz. arco pizz. arco*

15

Fl.

Ch. S  
A

done, and the dark - ness falls from the wings of night.

1  
Vlns.

2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

*pizz.* *arco*

*pizz.* *arco*

*pizz.* *arco*

*pizz. div.* *arco unis.*

*pizz.* *arco*

20

Fl.

Ch. S  
A

S  
A

I see the lights of the vil - lage faint through the rain and

1  
Vlns.

2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

**B** Slightly faster ♩ = 132

**B** Slightly faster ♩ = 132

*p*

*pizz.*

*pizz.*

*pizz.*

*pizz.*

*pizz.*

25

Fl.

Perc.

S  
A  
T  
B  
mist, unis. *p*  
and a feel - ing of sad - ness comes o - ver me that my soul can - not re - sist.

Vlns. 1 *arco*  
Vlns. 2 *arco*  
Vla. *arco*  
Vlc. *arco div.* *unis.*  
Cb. *arco*

30 **C**

Fl. *(p)*

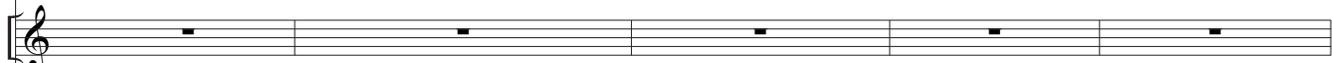
Perc.

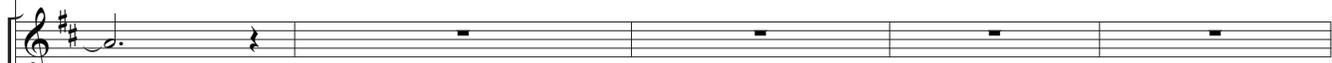
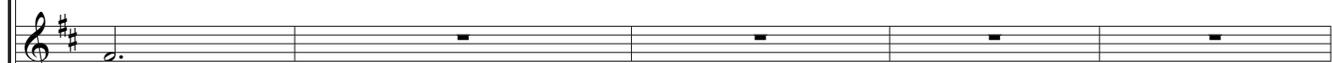
S  
Ch. done . . . . from the wings of night.  
A The day is done, and the dark - ness falls from the wings of night.

Vlns. 1 *pizz.* *arco*  
Vlns. 2 *pizz.* *arco*  
Vla. *pizz.* *arco*  
Vlc. *rolled pizz.* *div. (pizz.)* *arco*  
Cb. *pizz.* *pizz.* *arco*

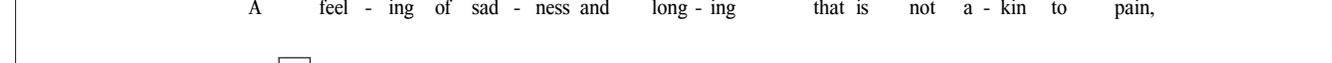
35 D

Fl. 

Perc. 

Ch.  
S   
A 

S   
A 

T   
B 

*mp espr.* it re -  
*unis. mp espr.* A feel - ing of sad - ness and long - ing that is not a - kin to pain,

1   
2 

Vla.   
Vlc.   
Cb. 

*arco* *mp*  
*mp*  
*mp*

40

Fl. *mp*

Perc. *pp* Suspended Cymbal gently, as a mist

Ch. S *mp*  
A

S  
A  
T  
B

sem - bles sor - row on - ly as the mist is like the rain.  
Yet there is sad - ness

1 *rolled pizz.* *Solo arco* *Tutti arco*

2 *rolled pizz.* *mp* *Solo arco* *Tutti arco*

Vla. *rolled pizz.* *Solo arco* *Tutti arco*

Vlc. *arco*

Cb. *arco*

E



89

Fl.

Ch. S  
A

Vlns. 1  
2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

94 **K**

Fl.

Perc.

S  
A

T  
B

Vlns. 1  
2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

Triangle

*p*

*mf*

Read from a hum - ble po - et whose songs come from the heart *mf*

as

*pizz.*

*p*

*pizz.*

*p*

*pizz.*

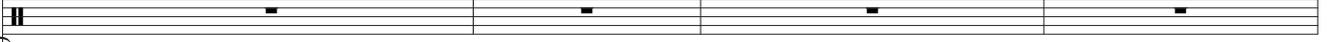
*p*

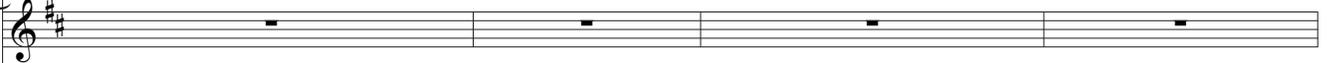
*pizz.*

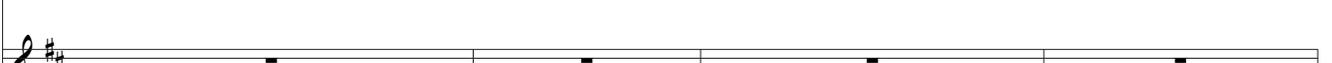
*p*

98

Fl. 

Perc. 

S 

Ch. 

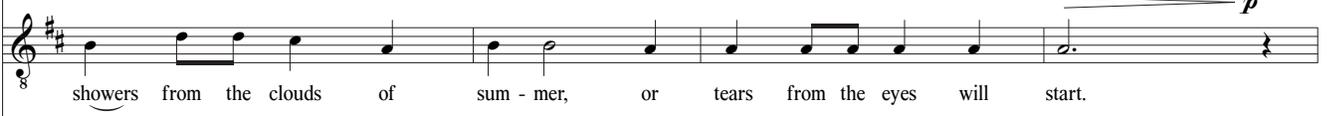
A 

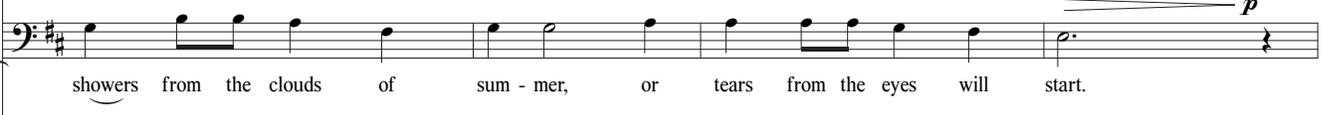
S 

Who,

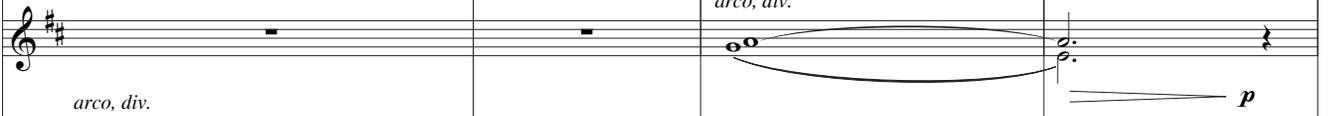
A 

Who,

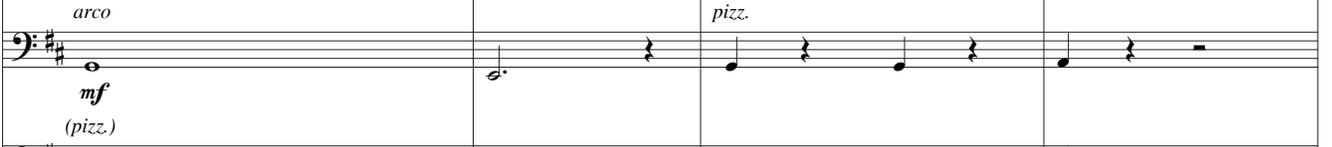
T 

T B 

Vlns. 1 

Vlns. 2 

Vla. 

Vlc. 

Cb. 

L

102

Fl.

Perc. Glock. *p*

S *p* *mf*

Ch. Hmm and nights de - void of ease,

A *p* *mf*

A Hmm and nights de - void of ease,

S *mf* *mf*

through long days of la - bor, and nights de - void of ease, still heard in the soul the

A *mf* *mf*

through long days of la - bor, and nights de - void of ease, still heard in the soul the

T *mf* *mf*

and nights de - void of ease, still heard in the soul the

B *mf* *mf*

and nights de - void of ease, still heard in the soul the

L

Vlns. 1 *pizz. unis.* *arco* *mf*

Vlns. 2 *pizz. unis.* *arco* *mf*

Vla. *pizz.* *arco* *mf*

Vlc. *(p)* *arco* *mf*

Cb. *(p)* *arco* *mf*

*rolled pizz.*

*pizz.*



111

Fl.

Perc.

S. *unis.*  
 qui - et ... care ... and come like a ben - e - dic - tion that fol - lows af - ter *p*

Ch. A. *unis.*  
 qui - et ... care ... and come like a ben - e - dic - tion that fol - lows af - ter *p*

S. *unis.*  
 qui - et ... care ... and come like a ben - e - dic - tion that fol - lows af - ter *p*

A. *unis.*  
 qui - et ... and come like a ben - e - dic - tion that fol - lows af - ter *p*

T. *p*  
 qui - et the rest - less pulse of care, Hmm that fol - lows af - ter

B. *p*  
 qui - et the rest - less pulse of care, Hmm that fol - lows af - ter

Vlins. 1 *div.* *pizz. unis.*  
*p*

Vlins. 2 *div.* *pizz. unis.*  
*p*

Vla. *pizz. div.* *unis.*  
*p*

Vlc. *rolled pizz.* *arco* *pizz. div.* *unis.*  
*p*

Cb. *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.*  
*p*

N

117  
Fl. *p*

Perc. Low Tom-Tom (sft. mlts.) *p*

S *(p) with exuberance of celebratory song*  
Ch. prayer. a song! a song! a song! a song! a

A *(p) with exuberance of celebratory song*  
prayer. a song! a song! a song! a song!

S *mf*  
prayer. Then read from a trea - sured vol - ume the

A *mf*  
prayer. Then read from a trea - sured vol - ume the

T  
prayer.

B  
prayer.

N

1 Vlns. *(p) with exuberance and energy*

2 Vlns. *(p) with exuberance and energy*

Vla. *(p) with exuberance and energy*

Vlc. *(p) with exuberance and energy*

Cb. *(p) with exuberance and energy*

*(p) with exuberance and energy*



130

Fl.

Perc. *f* *p* Bongo (hands)

S  
Ch. *p* (*p*)  
A *p* (*p*)  
S *f* *p*  
A *f* *p*  
T  
B

shall fold their tents like phan-toms,  
shall fold their tents like phan-toms,  
cares that in-fest the day  
cares that in-fest the day

rolled pizz. Solo (*pizz.*) *p*  
rolled pizz.  
rolled pizz.  
rolled pizz.  
pizz.

135

**P**

Fl.

Perc. (Bongo) Glock. *f*

Ch. *f* way. mu - sic ... high ...

A. *f* way. mu - sic ... high ...

S. *f* The

A. *f* my song shall rise on high. The

T. *f* For the night shall be filled with mu - sic; my song shall rise on high.

B. *f* For the night shall be filled with mu - sic;

*arco, gliss.*

**P**

Vlins. 1 *Tutti* *(f)*

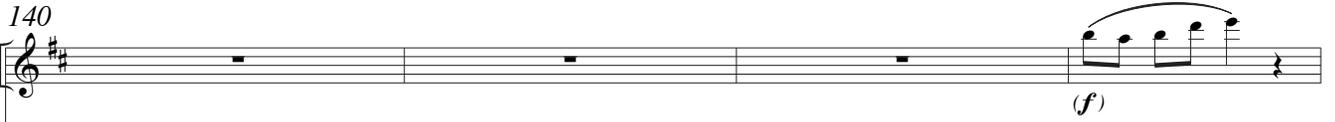
Vlins. 2 *arco* *(f)*

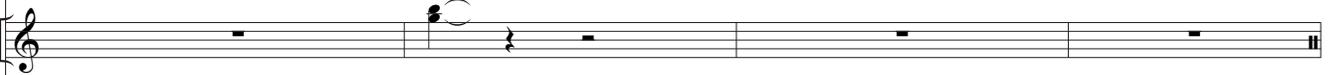
Vla. *arco* *(f)*

Vlc. *arco* *(f)*

Cb. *arco* *(f)*

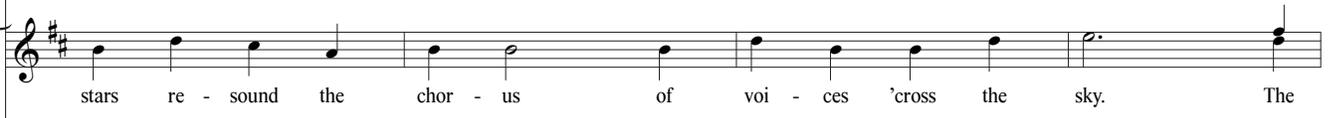
140

Fl. 

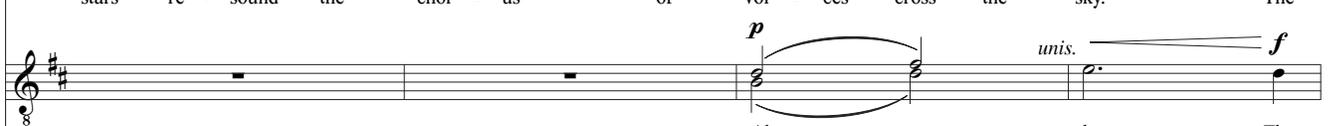
Perc. 

Ch. S 

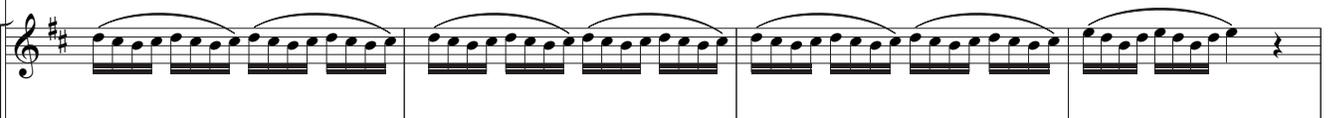
Ch. A 

S 

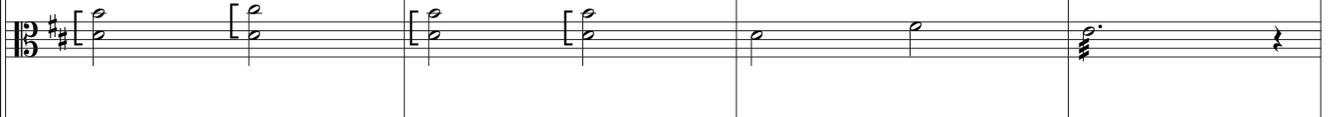
A 

T 

B 

Vlns. 1 

Vlns. 2 

Vla. 

Vlc. 

Cb. 



144

Fl.

Perc. *Susp. Cym.*  
*f*

Ch. S *Ah*

A *Ah*

S

A

T

B



Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Vlc. *div.*

Cb.

148 *rit.* , **Slower**

Fl.

Perc. *Bongos*  
*Low Tom-Tom*  
*p* ————— *f*

Ch.  
S lift our voice to - geth - er: our song shall \_\_\_\_\_ fill ...  
A lift our voice to - geth - er: our song shall fill ...

S lift our voice to - geth - er: our song shall \_\_\_\_\_ fill the  
*unis.*  
A lift our voice to - geth - er: our song shall fill the

T lift our voice to - geth - er: our song shall \_\_\_\_\_ fill ...

B lift our voice to - geth - er: our song shall fill ...

*rit.* **Slower**

1 *rolled pizz.*

Vlns. 2 *rolled pizz.*

Vla. *rolled pizz.*

Vlc. *rolled pizz.* *arco*

Cb. *pizz.* *arco*

152

Fl. *rit.*

Perc. Glock. *f*

Ch. S night, night, shall fill the night.

A night, night, shall fill the night.

S night, shall fill the night.

A night, shall fill the night.

T night, night, shall fill the night.

B *unis.* night, night, shall fill the night.

Vlns. 1 *arco* *rit.* *div.*

Vlns. 2 *arco*

Vla. *arco*

Vlc. *div.* *unis.* *div.* *unis.* *div.* *unis.* *div.*

Cb.







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