

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

Available Editions

Choral Score	8776
Full Score	8776A
Instrumental Parts	8776B

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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”

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807–1882)

adapted by the composer

Gwyneth Walker

Moderate tempo ♩ = 120

Flute
p gently

Percussion
(Glockenspiel,
Suspended Cymbal,
Bongos [2], Triangle,
Low Tom-Tom)
p
Glockenspiel (sft. mlts.)
gentle arpeggios

Children's Chorus
S
A

Adult Chorus
S
A
T
B

Moderate tempo ♩ = 120

Violins
1
2
div.
p

Viola
p

Violoncello
p

Contrabass
pizz. *arco* *pizz.* *arco*
p

The musical score is written for a SATB Chorus, Children's Chorus (SA), Flute, Strings, and Percussion, or Piano. The tempo is Moderate (♩ = 120). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The score is divided into two systems. The first system includes the Flute, Percussion (Glockenspiel, Suspended Cymbal, Bongos [2], Triangle, Low Tom-Tom), Children's Chorus (Soprano and Alto), and Adult Chorus (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass). The second system includes Violins (1 and 2), Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass. The Flute part is marked *p gently*. The Percussion part is marked *p* and includes *Glockenspiel (sft. mlts.) gentle arpeggios*. The Children's Chorus and Adult Chorus parts are marked with rests. The Violins, Viola, and Violoncello parts are marked *div.* and *p*. The Contrabass part is marked *pizz.* and *arco*.

5 **A**
(Glock.)

Perc. *gently, ad lib.*
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.

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

B Slightly faster ♩ = 132

B Slightly faster ♩ = 132

1

Vlns.

2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

25

Fl.

Perc.

(Glock.) 3 3 3 3

(p)

S

A

mist, unis. *p*

T

B

and a feel - ing of sad - ness comes o - ver me that my soul can - not re - sist.

1

Vlins.

2

arco

Vla.

arco

Vlc.

arco div.

unis.

Cb.

arco

30 **C**

Fl.

(p)

Perc.

S

Ch.

A

done . . . from the wings of night.

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

C

1

Vlins.

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,

D

1

2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

arco *mp*

rolled pizz. *mp*

rolled pizz. *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*

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

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

Vlc. *arco*

Cb. *arco*

E

45

Fl.

Ch. S
A

when the day is done, day is done.

1
Vlns.

2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

49

Fl.

Ch. S
A

S
A

T
B

1
Vlns.

2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

F

p
unis. *p* in the background

Ah, Ah,

mf cantabile
Come, read to me some po - em, some sim - ple words that say *mf cantabile*

F

that the

pizz. *div.* *mf* *div.* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

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

K

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

pizz.

p

L
102

Fl.

Perc. Glock.
p

S
p *mf*
Hmm and nights de - void of ease,

Ch.
p *mf*
Hmm and nights de - void of ease,

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

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

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

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

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

L
pizz. unis. *arco* *mf*
1 *mf*
pizz. unis. *arco* *mf*
2 *mf*
Vlns. *pizz.* *arco* *mf*
Vla. *(p)* *arco* *mf*
Vlc. *(p)* *arco* *mf*
Cb. *(p)* *arco* *mf*
rolled pizz. *pizz.*

107

Fl.

(Glock.)

Perc.

S

Ch.

A

S

A

T

B

1

2

Vlns.

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

p

mf

as celestial voices

mp

mf

Ah

Ah

mu - sic of ce - les - tial har - mo - nies.

mu - sic of ce - les - tial har - mo - nies.

mu - sic

Such songs have the pow'r to

mu - sic

Such songs have the pow'r to

unis.

unis.

arco, div.

arco

unis.

M

M

111

Fl.

Perc.

S

Ch.

A

S

A

T

B

1

Vlns.

2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

unis.

p

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

unis.

p

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

unis.

p

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

unis.

p

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

p

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

p

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

div.

pizz. unis.

p

div.

pizz. unis.

p

pizz. div.

unis.

p

rolled pizz.

arco

pizz. div.

unis.

p

pizz.

arco

pizz.

p

117

Fl. *p*

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

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

Ch.
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.

1 *(p)* with exuberance and energy

2 *(p)* with exuberance and energy

Vla. *(p)* with exuberance and energy

Vlc. *(p)* with exuberance and energy

Cb. *(p)* with exuberance and energy

126

Fl. *f*

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

S. *cresc.* song! a song! *f* And the night shall be filled with mu - sic,

Ch. *cresc.* a song! *f* And the night shall be filled with mu - sic,

A. *cresc.* a song! *f* And the night shall be filled with mu - sic,

S. *f* and the *(f)*

A. *f* and the *(f)*

T. beau - ty of your voice. *f* and the *(f)*

B. beau - ty of your voice. *f* and the *(f)*

Vlns. 1 *f* 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Vlc. *f*

Cb. *f*

0

130

Fl.

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

S *p* (*p*)
Ch. Hmm and si-lent-ly steal a -
A *p* (*p*)
Hmm and si-lent-ly steal a -

S *f* *p*
shall fold their tents like phan-toms,
A *f* *p*
shall fold their tents like phan-toms,
T
cares that in-fest the day
B
cares that in-fest the day

1 *rolled pizz.* *Solo (pizz.)* *p*
Vlns. 2 *rolled pizz.*
Vla. *rolled pizz.*
Vlc. *rolled pizz.*
Cb. *pizz.*

135 P

Fl.

Perc. (Bongo) Glock. *f*

S *f*

Ch. way. mu - sic ... high ...

A 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;

Vlns. 1 *arco, gliss.* P *Tutti* *(f)*

Vlns. 2 *arco* *(f)*

Vla. *arco* *(f)*

Vlc. *arco* *(f)*

Cb. *arco* *(f)*

140

Fl. *(f)*

Perc.

Ch.
S chor - us ... sky ...
A chor - us ... sky ...

S stars re - sound the chor - us of voi - ces 'cross the sky. The
A stars re - sound the chor - us of voi - ces 'cross the sky. The
T *p* Ah, *unis.* *f* sky. The
B *p* Ah, *unis.* *f* sky. The

Vlns.
1
2

Vla.

Vlc.

Cb.

Q
144

Fl.

Perc. *Susp. Cym.*
f

Ch.
S. Ah light... We
A. Ah light... We

S. stars re - sound the chor - us; the heavens dance in de - light. We *unis.*
A. stars re - sound the chor - us; the heavens dance in de - light. We
T. stars re - sound the chor - us; the heavens dance in de - light. We
B. stars re - sound the chor - us; the heavens dance in de - light. We

Q

Vlns.
1
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
A lift our voice to - geth - er: our song shall fill the
unis.

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.*
2 *arco*

Vla. *arco*

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

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