

to Ruth and Jean, in gratitude

THE LAMB

from *Songs of Innocence*
SSA, accompanied, with flute and oboe*

Text by
WILLIAM BLAKE
(1757-1827)

Music by
MARK SIRETT

Andante (♩ = 80)

SOPRANO I

SOPRANO II
ALTO

FLUTE

OBOE

PIANO

Andante (♩ = 80)

Andante (♩ = 80)

pp
with pedal

4

p

Lit-tle Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who

unis.

Lit-tle Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who

p

4

p

* Flute and oboe: See pages 10 and 11.

8 *mp*
 made thee? Gave thee life, and bid thee feed By the stream and o'er the

made thee? Gave thee life, and bid thee feed By the stream and o'er the

mp *mp*
mp

8 *mp*

12 *mf*
 mead; Gave thee cloth ing of de - light, Soft - est cloth-ing,

mead; Gave thee cloth ing of de - light, Soft - est cloth-ing,

mf

12 *mf* *mp*

16

rit.

mp

a tempo

mf

wool-ly, bright; Gave thee such a ten - der voice, Mak-ing

wool-ly, bright; Gave thee such a ten - der voice, Mak-ing

mp rit.

a tempo

mp

mp rit.

a tempo

mp

16

rit.

a tempo

p.

20

all the vales, the vales re - joice?

all the vales, the vales re - joice?

mf

rit.

mf

mf

rit.

mp

20

mf

rit.

gva

p

24 *a tempo p* *mp* *rit.*

Lit-tle Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know, dost thou know who

Lit-tle Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know, dost thou know who

p a tempo *rit. p* *ten.*

p a tempo *p* *rit.*

24 *a tempo* *rit.*

28 *a tempo*

made thee?

made thee?

a tempo

a tempo *p*

28 *p a tempo*

32

p *mp*

Lit-tle Lamb, I'll tell thee, Lit-tle Lamb, I'll tell thee: He is

Lit-tle Lamb, I'll tell thee, Lit-tle Lamb, I'll tell thee: He is

p *p*

32

36

mf

call - ed by thy name, For He calls Him-self a Lamb. He is

call - ed by thy name, For He calls Him - self a Lamb. He is

mp *mp* *mf*

mp *cresc.* *mf*

40

mp *rit.* *p*

meek, He is mild;_ He be-came a lit - tle, lit-tle

mp *p*

meek and He is mild; He be-came a lit - tle, lit - tle

p rit.

p rit.

40

mp *mp* *p rit.*

44

a tempo *mf*

child. I a child, and thou_ a lamb, We are call - ed, call - ed

mf

child, I a child, and thou_ a lamb, We are call - ed

a tempo *mp* *mf*

a tempo *mp* *mf*

44

a tempo *mf*

48

rit. *a tempo p*

by _____ His name. Lit-tle Lamb, God

3

by His name. Lit-tle Lamb, God

unis.

mp *rit.* *mf* *p* *a tempo*

rit. *mp* *p* *a tempo*

48

rit. *p* *a tempo*

gva

52

mp *rit.*

bless thee! Lit-tle Lamb, Lit-tle Lamb, God bless thee!

bless thee! Lit-tle Lamb, Lit-tle Lamb, God bless thee!

ten.

rit. p

p *rit.*

52

mp *rit.*

56

Meno mosso (♩ = 72)

rit.

The first system consists of two staves. Both staves contain whole rests for the first four measures. In the fifth measure, each staff has a fermata over a whole note G4.

Meno mosso (♩ = 72)

p rit.

The second system consists of two staves. The upper staff begins with a fermata over a whole note G4, followed by a melodic line of quarter notes: A4, B4, C5, B4, A4. The lower staff begins with a fermata over a whole note G3, followed by a melodic line of quarter notes: F3, E3, D3, C3, B2. Dynamics include *p* and *rit.*

Meno mosso (♩ = 72)

rit.

The third system consists of three staves. The top staff continues the vocal line from the second system. The middle staff contains piano accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The bottom staff contains a bass line. Dynamics include *p*, *rit.*, and *pp*. A *gva* (glissando) marking is present in the middle staff.

Ped.

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Andante

FLUTE

4

p

8

mp

mp

13

3

mp rit.

a tempo

mp

20

mf

rit.

mf

p a tempo

25

2

rit.

p

a tempo

3

p

33

p

mp

38

mp

mf

p rit.

a tempo

45

mp

mf

mp

rit.

mf

50

2

p a tempo

rit.

p

56

Meno mosso

2

p rit.

pp

Andante

OBOE

2

p

7

mp

12

3

mp rit. *a tempo*

19

mp *mf* *rit.*

23

mp *p a tempo* *p* *rit.*

28

2

a tempo *p*

35

mp 4

43

p rit. *a tempo* *mp* *mf*

48

rit. *mp* *p a tempo* *p*

54

Meno mosso

rit. *p* *rit.* *pp*

The Lamb

From *Songs of Innocence*

Text by WILLIAM BLAKE (1757–1827)

Music by MARK SIRETT

In 1992, the Ontario Choral Federation established an award for composition to mark the occasion of Ruth Watson Henderson's sixtieth birthday. The first recipient of this award was Mark Sirett for "The Lamb" and "Piping Down the Valleys Wild." Blake's "Cradle Song," composed a year later, was a gift to Ruth and me since Mark wished the Blake songs to be published as a group of three separate pieces under the title *Songs of Innocence*.

Songs of Innocence was given its world premiere in Toronto in April 1997 by the Toronto Children's Chorus, with Virginia Markson, flute; Richard Dorsey, oboe; and Ruth Watson Henderson, piano.

—Jean Ashworth Bartle

Mark Sirett

A native of Kingston, Ontario, Dr. Mark Sirett is a graduate of the University of Iowa in choral conducting and pedagogy.

For six years, Dr. Sirett served as organist and music director of St. George's Cathedral in Kingston. Under his direction, the Girl Choristers won First Prize in the 1966 CBC Competition for Amateur Choirs.

He is currently artistic director of the Cantabile choirs of Kingston, a multi-choir community program, as well as director of Queen's Choral Ensemble and chorumaster of the Kingston Choral Society.