
Christmas Gifts

By
Alexander Campkin

Scored for:

SATB choir *a cappella*. Duration: c. 3 minutes

First performed on 9 December 2009 in The Temple Church, London, by the Oxbridge Singers conducted by the composer.

Text:

Christmas Gifts

Shepherds knocked at a stable door,
Where's the new lamb? they cried.
Thought Mary: I'll let them in anyway

They'll kneel; they'll wonder; they'll adore.

That's not a lamb at all, said one,
That's a BABY, it's not a lamb!
Same difference, said another one,

Let's kneel; let's wonder; let's adore.

Three princes of this world came by,
Seeking someone like themselves.
And they expected other folk

To kneel; to wonder; to adore.

But they had hit the door NEXT DOOR!
And they got a big surprise
When all they found was a woolly lamb -

Well? Kneel; and wonder; and adore!

So at this holy Christmas-tide
May shepherds and kings galore
Find each one what they need to find,

Kneel; wonder; and adore.

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Composer Biography:

Alexander Campkin (b. 1984) studied Music at Oxford University, where he was Choral Scholar, Assistant Organ Scholar, and conductor of the Oxford Chamber Choir and Arcadian Singers of Oxford University. He completed a Masters in Composition at the Royal Academy of Music in 2008, after which he began a Postgraduate Diploma in Vienna at the Universität für Musik. Alexander was a finalist in the 2008 British Composer Awards, and he was highly commended in the BBC Proms Young Composers' Competition. Alexander was recently appointed Composer-in-Residence in Neresheim Abbey in Germany and Composer-in-Residence of the Fulham Camerata; other commissions have been from the Southbank Centre, the Royal School of Church Music, the Manson Ensemble, the Royal Academy String Orchestra, the Kaxan String Quartet and Pusey House Choir, Oxford. His music has received performances by the London Sinfonietta, the BBC Singers, the London Oratory Choir, and in music festivals in the UK and Europe. His music has been the subject of a number of radio broadcasts in the UK, US and South America.

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Allegro (♩ = c. 80)

SOPRANO
1. Shep - herds knocked at a sta - ble door, — Where's the new lamb? they — cried. Thought

ALTO
1. Shep - herds knocked at a sta - ble door, — Where's the new lamb? — they cried. Thought

TENOR
1. Shep - herds knocked at a sta - ble door, — Where's the new lamb? — they cried. Thought

BASS
1. Shep - herds knocked at a sta - ble door, — Where's the new lamb? — they cried. Thought

S.
Ma - ry: I'll let them in a - ny way — They'll kneel; they'll won - der; — they'll a - dore;

A.
Ma - ry: I'll let them in a - ny - way — They'll kneel; they'll won - der; — they'll a - dore;

T.
Ma - ry: I'll let them in a - ny - way — They'll kneel; they'll won - der; — they'll a - dore;

B.
Ma - ry: I'll let them in a - ny - way — They'll kneel; they'll won - der; — they'll a - dore;

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S. — they'll kneel; they'll won - der; they'll a - dore. — 2. That's not a lamb at all, said one, —

A. — they'll kneel; they'll won - der; they'll a - dore. — 2. That's not a lamb at all, said one, —

T. — they'll kneel; they'll won - der; they'll a - dore. — 2. That's not a lamb at all, said one, —

B. — they'll kneel; they'll won - der; they'll a - dore. — 2. That's not a lamb at all, said one, —

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S. *f* That's a ba - by not a lamb! *f* Same dif - fe - rence, said an - o - ther one.

A. *f* That's a ba - by not a lamb! *f* Same dif - fe - rence, said an - o - ther one,

T. *f* That's a ba - by not a lamb! *f* Same dif - fe - rence, said an - o - ther one,

B. *f* That's a ba by not a lamb! *f* Same dif - fe - rence said an - o - ther one,

43

S. *p* *mp* *mf* *f* *p* *mp* *mf* *f*
 — Let's kneel; let's won-der; — let's a - dore; — let's kneel; let's won-der; let's a - dore

A. *p* *mp* *mf* *f* *p* *mp* *mf* *f*
 — Let's kneel; let's won-der; — let's a - dore; — let's kneel; let's won-der; let's a - dore.

T. *p* *mp* *mf* *f* *p* *mp* *mf* *f*
 — Let's kneel; let's won-der; — let's a - dore; — let's kneel; let's won-der; let's a - dore.

B. *p* *mp* *mf* *f* *p* *mp* *mf* *f*
 Let's kneel; let's won-der; — let's a - dore; let's kneel; let's won-der; let's a - dore.

(♩ = ♩)

S. *p* *mp* *mf* *mp*
 3. Three prin-ces of this world came by, — Seek - ing some - one like them - selves. And

A. *p* *mp* *mf* *mp*
 3. Three prin-ces of this world came by, — Seek - ing some-one like them - selves. And

T. *p* *mp* *mf* *mp*
 3. Three prin-ces of this world came by, — Seek - ing some-one like them - selves. And

B. *p* *mp* *mf* *mp*
 3. Three prin-ces of this world came by, — Seek - ing some - one like them - selves. And

63

S. they ex - spect - ted o - ther folk *pp* To kneel; *p* To won - der; *mp* To a - dore; *mf*

A. they ex - spect - ted o - ther folk *pp* To kneel; *p* To won - der; *mp* To a dore; *mf*

T. they ex - spect - ed o - ther folk *pp* To kneel; *p* To won - der; *mp* To a - dore; *mf*

B. they ex - spect ed o - ther folk *pp* To kneel; *p* To won - der; *mp* To a - dore; *mf*

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S. 4. But they had hit the door next door! *mf* And they got a big sur - prise *f* When all they *f*

A. 4. But they had hit the door next door! *mf* And they got a big sur - prise *f* When all they *f*

T. 4. But they had hit the door next door! *mf* And they got a big sur - prise *f* When all they *f*

B. 4. But they had hit the door next door! *mf* And they got a big sur - prise *f* When all they *f*

86

S. found was a wool - y lamb! *p* Well? *mp* Kneel; and won - der; *mf* and a - dore; *p* Well? Kneel; and *mp*

A. found was a wool - y lamb! *p* Well? *mp* Kneel; and won - der; *mf* and a - dore; *p* Well? Kneel; and *mp*

T. found was a wool - y lamb! *p* Well? *mp* Kneel; and won - der; *mf* and a - dore; *p* Well? Kneel; and *mp*

B. found was a wool - y lamb! *p* Well? *mp* Kneel; and won - der; *mf* and a - dore; *p* Well? Kneel; and *mp*

98 *mf* *f* *mf* ($\text{♩} = \text{♩}$)

S. won-der; and a - dore. 5. So at this ho - ly Christ-mas tide, May shep-herds

A. won-der; and a - dore. 5. So at this ho - ly Christ-mas tide, May shep -

T. won-der; and a - dore. 5. So at this ho - ly Christ - mas tide, May shep-herds and

B. won-der; and a - dore. 5. So at this ho - ly Christ-mas tide, May shep-herds

106 *f* *f* ($\text{♩} = \text{♩}$)

S. and kings ga - lore Find each one what they need to find,

A. herds and kings ga - lore Find each one what they need to find,

T. kings ga - lore Find each one what they need to find,

B. and kings ga - lore Find each one what they need to find,

116 *p* *mp* *mf* *f* *p* *mp* *mf* *ff* *mp*

S. Kneel; won-der; and a - dore; kneel, won-der, and a - dore.

A. Kneel; won-der; and a - dore; kneel, won-der, and a - dore.

T. Kneel; won-der; and a - dore; kneel, won-der, and a - dore.

B. Kneel; won-der; and a - dore; kneel, won-der, and a - dore.