

# ABBIE BETINIS

**PERUSAL ONLY**  
(PERFORMANCE PROHIBITED)

## THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM

~ SATB a cappella chorus ~

*Text and tune by William Walker, 1835*

THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM. 8, 7 *Wm. Walker*



Ye natane al!, on you I call, Come, near this deliration, And don't refuse this glorious news Of Jesus and salvation. To royal Jews came first the news (Of Christ the great Messiah, As was foretold by prophets old, Isai - ah, Jeremiah.

**PERFORMANCE STRICTLY PROHIBITED.**  
Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance-ready scores at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com). Thank you.

**Abbie Betinis Music Co.**

web: [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com) ♦ phone: +1.612.590.3998 ♦ email: [abbie@abbiebetinis.com](mailto:abbie@abbiebetinis.com)

**PROGRAM NOTE:** (from the premiere performance, Dec 2004)

Abbie Betinis, commissioned to provide an arrangement for this inaugural concert of The Singers—Minnesota Choral Artists, chose to arrange William Walker's shapenote tune, *The Babe of Bethlehem*. She beautifully reworked this simple melody into vintage Betinis: shifting chords, many meters, and colorful moods. Follow along with the text and see how Abbie crafted her exciting arrangement perfectly around the story.

—Matthew Culloton, conductor

The Singers—Minnesota Choral Artists

**PERUSAL ONLY**  
(PERFORMANCE PROHIBITED)

## TEXT

The following text and original shape-note hymn for *The Babe of Bethlehem* is from William Walker's Southern Harmony, first printed in New Haven, Connecticut in 1835, and revised several times since. Two additional verses (not included below, or in this arrangement) also exist.

1. Ye nations all, on you I call,  
Come heed this declaration,  
And don't refuse this glorious news  
of Jesus and salvation;  
To royal Jews came first the news  
Of Christ the great Messiah,  
As was foretold by prophets old,  
Isaiah Jeremiah.

2. To Abraham the promise came,  
And to his seed forever,  
A light to shine in Isaac's line,  
By scripture we discover;  
Hail, promised morn! The saviour born,  
The glorious Mediator,  
God's blessed Word made flesh and blood,  
Assumed the human nature.

3. His parents poor in earthly store,  
To entertain the stranger  
They found no bed to lay his head,  
but in a lowly manger;  
No royal things, as used by kings,  
were seen by those that found him,  
But in the hay the stranger lay,  
with swaddling bands around him.

4. On this same night a glorious light  
to shepherds there appeared,  
Bright angels came in shining flame,  
they saw and greatly feared;  
The angels said, "Be not afraid,  
although we much alarm you,  
We do appear good news to bear,  
as now we will inform you."

5. "The city's name is Bethlehem,  
in which God hath appointed,  
This glorious morn a Saviour's born,  
for him God hath anointed;  
By this you'll know, if you will go,  
to see this little stranger,  
His lovely charms in Mary's arms,  
both lying in a manger."

6. When this was said, straightway was made  
a glorious sound from heaven!  
Each flaming tongue an anthem sung,  
"To you a Saviour's given!"  
In Jesus' name, the glorious theme,  
we elevate our voices,  
At Jesus' birth be peace on earth,  
meanwhile all heav'n rejoices!

- William Walker (1809-1875)

**Perusal score. Performance strictly prohibited.**

**Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance scores at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com). Thank you.**

# THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM

~ for SATB a cappella chorus ~

Premiered by The Singers: Minnesota Choral Artists, December 2004, and recorded on their CD "Shout the Glad Tidings"

To Matthew Culloton, for his faith and dedication.

WILLIAM WALKER  
From Southern Harmony  
(orig. written in shape notes)

ABBIE BETINIS (ARR.)

PERUSAL ONLY  
(PERFORMANCE PROHIBITED)

Stately, with energy  $\text{♩} = 72-84$

Soprano *pp non legato*

Ye na - tions all, — on you I call, Come heed this dec - la - ra - tion, And

6 *mp*

S don't re-fuse — this glo - rious news of Je - sus and — sal - va - tion; To roy - al — Jews came

Tenor: *mp*

To roy - al — Jews came

11 *pp*

S first the — news Of Christ the great — Mes - si - ah, As was fore-told — by proph - ets old, I -

T first the — news Of Christ the great — Mes - si - ah, As was fore-told — by proph - ets old, I -

Copyright © Abbie Betinis (ASCAP), Sept 2004/ rev. June 2005. All Rights Reserved.

Please report performances of this piece to Abbie at [abbie@abbiebetinis.com](mailto:abbie@abbiebetinis.com). Online at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com)

**Perusal score. Performance strictly prohibited.**

**Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance scores at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com). Thank you.**



16

S sa - iah Jer - e - mi - ah. Mes - si - ah...

A Mes - si - ah...

T 8 sa - iah Jer - e - mi - ah. To

B mp Of Christ the great Mes - si - ah, mf

21

S (ah...) light

A (ah...) light

T 8 A - bra-ham the pro-mise came, And to his seed for - e - ver, A light to shine in

B

**Perusal score. Performance strictly prohibited.**

**Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance scores at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com). Thank you.**

**PERUSAL ONLY**  
(PERFORMANCE PROHIBITED)

26 *sub mf*

S shine (nn...) Hail! Hail!

S2 shine (nn...) Hail! Hail!

A shine (nn...) Hail!

T I - saac's line, By scrip - ture we dis - co - ver;

B *mf* Hail, -

30 *mp*

S Hail! Hail! Hail! Hail! Hail! Hail!

S2 Hail! Hail! Hail! Hail!

A Hail! Hail! Hail! Hail!

T *mf* Me - di - a - tor, God's

B - prom-ised morn! The sav - iour is born, The glo - rious Me - di - a - tor,

**Perusal score. Performance strictly prohibited.**

**Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance scores at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com). Thank you.**



34

S (oo...) (oo...) Hal - le -

A (oo...) (oo...)

T 8 bless - ed Word — made flesh and blood, As - sumed the hu - man

B (oo...) (oo...)

*mf*

*mp*

37

S lu - jah! His

A Hal-le-lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - - -

T 8 na - - ture. Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - - -

B Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - - -

*f*

*mf*

*p*

*molto*

*mp*

*p*

*molto*

*p*

*molto*

**PERUSAL ONLY**  
**(PERFORMANCE PROHIBITED)**

41

S pa-rents poor in earth - ly store, To en - ter - tain the strang - er *mp*

A *mf* jah! Hal-le - lu! Hal-le - lu! Hal-le - lu! *f* They

T *mf* jah! Hal-le - lu! Hal-le - lu! Hal-le - lu! Hal-le - lu!

B *mf* jah! (ah...)

45

S no bed to lay his head, in a low - ly mang - er; No *f*

A found no bed to lay his head, but in low - ly mang - er; No *mf* *f*

T *mp* no bed to lay his head, in a low - ly mang - er; No *mf* *f*

B *mp* oh... *mf* Hal-le - lu! Hal-le - lu -

**Perusal score. Performance strictly prohibited.**

**Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance scores at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com). Thank you.**

**THIS PAGE**  
has been intentionally  
**LEFT BLANK**  
in the hopes that you might buy this score

Look, see how nice I am? I'm thinking:

**"Please respect composers (and copyright law)  
by paying for this sheet music.**

**...and thank you so very much."**



order sheet music online at:

[www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com)



Joyfully!



57 *f*

S round him.

A *f* On this same night a glo-rious light to shep-herds there ap-pear-ed,

T *f* 8 On this same night a glo-rious light to shep-herds there ap-pear-ed, Bright

B *f* On this same night a glo-rious light to shep-herds there ap-pear-ed, Bright

61

S

A *f* Bright an-gels came in shin ing flame, they saw and great-ly fear-ed;

T *f* 8 an-gels came in shin ing flame, they saw and great-ly fear-ed; The an-gels said,

B *f* an-gels came in shin ing flame, they saw and great-ly fear-ed;

**Perusal score. Performance strictly prohibited.**

**Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance scores at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com). Thank you.**

**PERUSAL ONLY**  
**(PERFORMANCE PROHIBITED)**

66 *pp legato*

S "Be not a - fraid, although we much\_ a - larm\_ you, We do ap - pear\_ good news to

S2 "Be not a - fraid, al - though we much\_ a - larm\_ you, We do ap - pear\_ good

A "Be not a - fraid, although we much\_ a - larm\_ you, We do ap -

T *(f)* "Be not a - fraid, al - though we much\_ a - larm\_ you, We do appear\_ good news to bear, as

B *(f)* al - though we much\_ a - larm\_ you, We do appear\_ good news to bear, as

71 *molto rit*

S bear, as now we will\_ in - form you."

S2 news to bear, as now we will\_ in - form you."

A *cresc.* *molto rit* *mf*  $\leftarrow$  *f* pear\_ good news to bear, as now we will\_ in - form you." in - form you."

T *mp*  $\leftarrow$  *f* *molto rit* now we will\_ in - form you." as now we will in - form you."

B *mp*  $\leftarrow$  *f* *molto rit* now we will\_ in - form you." as now we will in - form you."

**Perusal score. Performance strictly prohibited.**

**Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance scores at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com). Thank you.**

Maestoso  $\text{♩} = 56-60$

**PERUSAL ONLY**  
**PERFORMANCE PROHIBITED**

76 Solo: *f*

S "The cit-y's name is Beth-le-hem, \_\_\_\_\_ in which God hath \_\_\_\_\_ ap - point - ed,

S 2 \_\_\_\_\_

A *sub mp*  
(oo...)

T *sub mp*  
8 (oo...)

B *sub mp*  
(oo...)

80 Tutti *mp*

S oh... *f* Hal-le - lu-jah!  
*f* Hal-le - lu -

A Solo: *f*  
This glo-rious morn a Sav-iour's born, \_\_\_\_\_ for him God hath \_\_\_\_\_ a - noint - ed;

T *mp* oh... *f* By

B *mp* oh...

**Perusal score. Performance strictly prohibited.**

**Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance scores at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com). Thank you.**

**PERUSAL ONLY**  
(PERFORMANCE PROHIBITED)

84 *mp*

S Hal-le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu - jah! His

S2 *mp* jah! Hal-le - lu - jah! Hal-le - lu - jah! ah... *p*

A *Tutti mp* ah... ah... ah... ah... *p*

T <sup>8</sup> this you will know, if you will go, to see this lit - tle strang - er,

B *mp* His

88 *sweetly* (sop tutti)

S love - ly charms in Mar - y's arms, both ly - ing in a mang - er."

A *pp* oo... oo... oo... *sub f* When

T *pp* oo... oo... oo...

B *sub f* love - ly charms in Mar - y's arms, both ly - ing in a mang - er." When

**Perusal score. Performance strictly prohibited.**

**Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance scores at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com). Thank you.**

**THIS PAGE**  
has been intentionally  
**LEFT BLANK**  
in the hopes that you might buy this score

Look, see how nice I am? I'm thinking:

**"Photocopying this sheet music without my permission is against the law.  
Please support my work by buying directly from me at the link below.**

**...and thank you so very much."**



**order sheet music online at:**

**[www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com)**

**PERUSAL ONLY**  
(PERFORMANCE PROHIBITED)

100

S Hal-le-lu - jah! Hal-le-lu - jah! Hal-le-lu - jah! Hal - le - lu-jah!

S2 jah! Hal-le-lu - jah! Hal-le-lu - jah! Hal - le - lu! Hal-le - lu-jah!

A Je - sus' name, the glo - rious theme, we el - e-vate our voic - es At *ff*

T lu-jah! Hal-le - lu-jah! Hal-le - lu-jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! At *ff*

B Je - sus' name, the glo - rious theme, we el - e-vate our voic - es At *ff*

104 *ff*

S At Je-sus' birth be peace on earth, —

S2 At Je-sus' birth be peace on earth, —

A Je - sus' birth be peace on earth, — mean-while all heav - en *sub p*

T Je - sus' birth be peace on earth, — Mean-while all heav - en, *mp*

B Je - sus' birth be peace on earth, — mean-while all heav - en *sub p*

**Perusal score. Performance strictly prohibited.**

**Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance scores at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com). Thank you.**

**PERUSAL ONLY**  
 PERFORMANCE PROHIBITED

108

*mf* *f*

S Heav - en re - joic - - - - es! Heav - en re - joic - es! Heav - en re -

*mf* *f*

S2 Heav - en re - joic - - - - es! Heav - en re - joic - es! Heav - en re -

*mf* *f*

A Mean - while all heav - en re - joic - - - - es! Heav - en re - joic - es! Heav - en re -

*f*

T At Je - sus' birth\_ be peace on earth, mean - while all heav - en,

*mf* *f*

B Mean - while all heav - en re - joic - - - - es!

112

*ff* *poco rit.*

S joic - es! Sing Hal - le - lu - - - jah! \_\_\_\_\_

*ff* *poco rit.*

S2 joic - es! Sing Hal - le - lu - - - jah! \_\_\_\_\_

*ff* *poco rit.*

A joic - es! Sing Hal - le - lu - - - jah! \_\_\_\_\_

*ff* *poco rit.*

T Mean - while all sing Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, Hal - le - lu - jah! \_\_\_\_\_

*ff* *poco rit.*

B Mean - while all sing Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le, Hal - le - lu - jah! \_\_\_\_\_

**Perusal score. Performance strictly prohibited.**

**Please support the composer's art & livelihood by purchasing performance scores at [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com). Thank you.**

## Also by Abbie Betinis . . .

**PERUSAL ONLY**  
(PERFORMANCE PROHIBITED)

### The Burt Family Carols Series:

(Abbie is the grand-niece of composer Alfred Burt, and carries on his tradition of writing a new carol every Christmas)

<b>Behind the Clouds</b>	<b>SATB a cappella</b>	<b>Abbie Betinis Music Co.</b> AB-059-C8
<b>Hail, Christmas Day!</b>	<b>SATB a cappella</b>	<b>Fred Bock Music</b> F2354
<b>Prayer for Peace</b>	<b>SATB a cappella, s./t. solos</b>	<b>Fred Bock Music</b> F2358
<b>Run, Toboggan, Run</b>	<b>SATB div., a cappella</b>	<b>Fred Bock Music</b> F2356
<b>Song of the Pines</b>	<b>SATB a cappella</b>	<b>Abbie Betinis Music Co.</b> AB-041-C5

### Selected Choral Works:

<b>Abraham Lincoln Walks at Midnight</b> Text: Vachel Lindsay	<b>TTBB, piano, snare drum</b>	<b>Abbie Betinis Music Co.</b> AB-061-00
<b>The Babe of Bethlehem, arr.</b> Text and tune: William Walker in <u>Southern Harmony</u>	<b>SATB div., a cappella</b>	<b>Abbie Betinis Music Co.</b> AB-031-01
<b>Bar xizam (Upward I rise)</b> Text: Hâfez (in Persian)	<b>SATB div., s. a. t. b. solos, a capp.</b>	<b>Abbie Betinis Music Co.</b> AB-052-02
<b>Dormi, Jesu (Sleep Jesus)</b> Text: traditional (in Latin)	<b>SATB a cappella</b>	<b>G. Schirmer</b> Cat. No. 50486936
<b>Carmina mei cordis (Songs of my heart)</b> Text: Aeterna lux divinitas & Angele Dei (in Latin)	<b>SATB div., a cappella</b>	<b>Abbie Betinis Music Co.</b> AB-030-01
<b>Cedit, Hyems (Be gone, winter!)</b> Text: Prudentius (in Latin)	<b>SATB div. (or SSAA div.), flute</b>	<b>G. Schirmer</b> Cat. No. 50486492
<b>Chant for Great Compassion</b> Text: traditional Chinese	<b>SSAA div., a cappella</b>	<b>Abbie Betinis Music Co.</b> AB-057-01
<b>Jerusalem Luminosa</b> Text: Thomas a Kempis (in Latin)	<b>SA a cappella</b>	<b>Kjos Music</b> Cat. No. 6323
<b>Long Time Trav'ling</b> Text: traditional American shape-note texts	<b>SATB div., tenor solos, a capp.</b>	<b>Santa Barbara Music Pub.</b> SBMP-702
<b>Spell of the Elements</b> Text: Elizabeth Jennings	<b>SATB double chorus, piano</b>	<b>Abbie Betinis Music Co.</b> AB-053-00
<b>Yhinx: An Ancient Greek Love Charm</b> Text: Theocritus & ancient Greek stone (in Greek)	<b>TTBB a cappella, t. t. b. solos</b>	<b>Abbie Betinis Music Co.</b> AB-018-01



Reviewed as “audacious... edgy and thrilling,” the music of Abbie Betinis is being performed increasingly in the United States and abroad. Born in 1980, Abbie has been commissioned by more than 40 music organizations including the Dale Warland Singers, Cantus, The Rose Ensemble, and The Schubert Club. A 2009 McKnight Fellow, she has also won a Jerome Commissioning Grant, the Craig and Janet Swan Composer Prize, and awards from the American Composers Forum, ASCAP, Minnesota Music Educators Association and the Sorel Organization. Ms. Betinis studied composition at St. Olaf College, the University of Minnesota, and the European American Musical Alliance in Paris, France, where faculty from Juilliard and the Paris Conservatory teach harmony and counterpoint in the tradition of Nadia Boulanger. Abbie’s music is primarily self-published (Abbie Betinis Music Co) and is distributed internationally, with additional scores published by Fred Bock Music, Graphite Publishing, Kjos, Santa Barbara Music Publishing, and, most recently, in G. Schirmer’s *Dale Warland Series*.

Since 2005, Abbie has been Composer-in-Residence for The Schubert Club. She has also held residencies with The Singers—Minnesota Choral Artists and The Rose Ensemble. A three time cancer survivor, she lives in St. Paul, Minnesota.

## Abbie Betinis Music Co.

web: [www.abbiebetinis.com](http://www.abbiebetinis.com) ♦ phone: 612-590-3998 ♦ email: [abbie@abbiebetinis.com](mailto:abbie@abbiebetinis.com)