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 Full score and set of parts (AB-033-C4D): \$10.00

THE BURT FAMILY CHRISTMAS CAROLS



ABBIE BETINIS

# Prayer for Peace

*Carol for unison voices and string orchestra*

*(originally for SATB a cappella chorus)*

*This arrangement commissioned by Marian Dolan, for the  
 Naples Orchestra and Chorus; Naples, Florida  
 Premiered December 2007*



In 1922, Rev. Bates G. Burt, a self-taught musician, began composing Christmas carols and sending them as seasonal greeting cards to his friends, family, and parishioners. In 1942, he passed the job of composing the music to his son, Alfred Burt, a jazz trumpeter who had just received his music degree from the University of Michigan. The father-son team produced five carols together before Bates' death in 1948. Alfred Burt went on to write a total of fifteen Christmas carols, including the popular "*Caroling, Caroling*," and "*Some Children See Him*," made famous originally by the Voices of Jimmy Joyce and now recorded by artists all over the world. Since 2001, Abbie Burt Betinis has been continuing this family tradition begun so long ago by Bates, her great-grandfather. Each new carol has used a text relating somehow to the Burt family tradition. "*Prayer for Peace*" was inspired by the Christmas sermons which Bates G. Burt delivered to his Michigan congregation during World War II. (Luckily her family never throws anything away.)

## The Music of Abbie Betinis

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# Prayer for Peace

~ carol for unison chorus and string orchestra ~

Arrangement commissioned by Marian Dolan, for the Naples Orchestra and Chorus  
December 2007

A. B.

ABBIE BETINIS

*Freely, with energy and passion*

The musical score is arranged in two systems. The first system includes staves for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Bass. The second system includes a Choir staff and staves for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Bass. The score is marked with a dynamic of *mp* (mezzo-piano) throughout. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major/D minor) and the time signature is 3/4. The score includes a large watermark reading 'COPYING IS PROHIBITED' diagonally across the page.

5 *mp*

Choir

1. Peace, the breath of peace is near, it calms and cheers, As

(optional doubling)

Vln. I *mp*

Vln. II *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Bass *mp*

2

9

*poco rit.* *a tempo*  
*mf*

Choir we, with eyes of faith, look back-ward through the years... Peace, it was the An-gels' song when

Vln. I *poco rit.* *a tempo*  
*submf*

Vln. II *poco rit.* *a tempo*

Vla. *poco rit.* *a tempo*

Vc. *poco rit.* *a tempo*

Bass *poco rit.* *a tempo*

13

*mp*

*mf* <

Choir He was born, Peace and Good-will to all, they sang, on Christ-mas morn. — Glo -

Vln. I *mp* *mf*

Vln. II *mp* *mf*

Vla. *mp* *mf*

Vc. *mp* *mf*

Bass *mp* *mf*

17

Choir: ria et in ter - ra pax...

Vln. I: *sub mf*

Vln. II: *mf*

Vla.: *mf*

Vc.: *mf*

Bass: *mf*

22

Choir: 2. Love - - - ly, oh so love - ly, the re - flec -

Vln. I: *mp*

Vln. II: *mp*

Vla.: *mp*

Vc.: *mp*

Bass: *pizz.*, *mp*

*poco rit.*

*a tempo*  
*mf*

Choir  
ted star, The star of Hope in ev' - ry eye that sought so far... Far, they sought to

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Bass

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

*mp*

*cresc.*

Choir  
love him: Beth - l'hem, Cal - va - ry, That from their want and fear all peop - le

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Bass

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

33

Choir shall be free. *mf* Glo - - - - - ria et in ter - ra

Vln. I *mf* *mf*

Vln. II *mf* *mf*

Vla. *mf* *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Bass *arco* *mf* *mf*

37

Choir pax...

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *cresc.* *f*

Vc. *cresc.* *f*

Bass *f*

Choir *mp*  
Soft - ly, o'er the snow so soft - ly comes

Vln. I (optional doubling) *mp*

Vln. II *sub f* *sub mp*

Vla. *sub f* *sub mp*

Vc. *sub f* *sub mp*

Bass *sub f*

Choir *poco rit.*  
the sign, A bet - ter peace de - scends to us at Christ - mas - time.

Vln. I *poco rit.*

Vln. II *poco rit.*

Vla. *poco rit.*

Vc. *poco rit.*

Bass *poco rit.*

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in the hopes that you might buy this score

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download an order form from:

[www.abbiebetinis.com/order\\_form.pdf](http://www.abbiebetinis.com/order_form.pdf)

57

Choir *pp*  
 pax... An - gels, o'er the brok - en, spread your sil - ver

Vln. I *pp*  
*sul pont.*

Vln. II *pp*  
*sul pont.*

Vla. *pp*

Vc. (optional doubling) *pp*

Bass

61

Choir *p* *rit.*  
 wings, And help us to keep sa - cred all the love He brings.

Vln. I *p* *rit.* *pp*

Vln. II *p* *rit.* *pp*

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

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

Bass *rit.* *pp*