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Bryan Kelly

The Oxen

carol for unaccompanied mixed voices

ENCÔRE
publications

also available by Bryan Kelly

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five carols for unaccompanied mixed voices

AVEVERUM CORPUS
for unaccompanied mixed voices

CARIBBEAN PSALM
for sopranos and organ/piano

CHRISTMAS MUSIC
for solo organ

EASTER MUSIC
for solo organ

FOR THE FALLEN
for unaccompanied mixed voices

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for solo organ

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five carols for unaccompanied mixed voices

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(i) Evening Service for mixed voices and organ
(ii) Evening Service for sopranos and organ

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five easy dances for cello and piano

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for unaccompanied mixed voices

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carol for mixed voices and organ

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Holy Communion Order One (Traditional Language) for mixed voices and organ

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for solo organ

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Evening Service for mixed voices and organ

PRAISE HIS NAME IN THE DANCE
for mixed voices and organ

PRAYER OF ST FRANCIS
for mixed voices and organ

PRECES, RESPONSES & THE LORD'S PRAYER
for unaccompanied mixed voices

SIX LITTLE CHORALE PRELUDES
for solo organ

SONATINA
for solo organ

THE LINDEN TREE
carol for soprano solo and unaccompanied mixed voices

The Oxen

Words: Thomas Hardy (1840–1928)

Music: BRYAN KELLY

Gently *mf*

SOPRANO
ALTO
TENOR
BASS

for rehearsal only

'Now they are all on their
'Now they are all on their
Christ - mas Eve, and twelve of the clock. 'Now they are all on their
Now they are all on their

4 *cresc.* *f*

knees,' An el - der said as we sat in a flock By the em-bers of hearth - side,

cresc. *f*

knees,' An el - der said as we sat in a flock By the em - - bers, the

cresc. *f*

knees,' An el - der said as we sat in a flock By the em - - - bers, the

cresc. *f*

knees, An el - der said as we sat in a flock By the em - - bers,

8 *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

em - bers of hearth - side, em - bers of hearth - side ease. We

p *mf* *p*

em - - - bers, the em - bers of hearth - side ease.

p *mf* *p*

em - - - bers, the em - bers of hearth - side ease.

p *mf* *p*

em - - - bers, em - bers of hearth - side ease.

p *mf* *p*

em - - - bers, em - bers of hearth - side ease.

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11

pic-tured the meek mild crea-tures where. They dwelt, they dwelt in their straw - y

mf

dwelt in their straw - y

mf

They dwelt in their straw - y

mf

dwelt in their straw - y

14 *cresc.* *f*

pen, Nor did it oc - cur to one of us there_ To doubt they were kneel - ing,

cresc. *f*

pen, Nor did it oc - cur to one of us there_ To doubt_____ to

cresc. *f*

pen, Nor did it oc - cur to one of us there_ To doubt,_____ to

cresc. *f*

pen, Nor did it oc - cur to one of us there_ To doubt,_____

18 *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

doubt they were kneel - ing, doubt they were kneel - ing then._____ So_

p *mf* *p* *mf*

doubt,_____ to doubt they were kneel - ing then._____ So_

p *mf* *p* *mf*

doubt,_____ to doubt they were kneel - ing then._____ So_

p *mf* *p* *mf*

doubt,_____ to doubt they were kneel - ing then._____ So_

21

fair— a fan - cy few would weave In these years! Yet, I feel, If some-one said on

fair— a fan - cy few would weave In these years! Yet, I feel, If some-one said on

fair— a fan - cy few would weave In these years! Yet, I feel, If some-one said on

fair— a fan - cy few would weave In these years! Yet, I feel, If some-one said on

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24

Christ-mas Eve, 'Come; see the ox - en kneel 'In the lone - ly bar - ton by

Christ-mas Eve, 'Come; see the ox - en kneel 'In the lone - ly bar - ton by

Christ-mas Eve, 'Come; see the ox - en kneel 'In the lone - ly bar - ton by

Christ-mas Eve, 'Come; see the ox - en kneel 'In the lone - ly bar - ton by

28

mf *cresc.*
 yon - der comb Our child - hood used to know, I should go with him

mf *cresc.*
 yon - der comb Our child - hood used to know, I should go with him

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mf *cresc.*
 yon - der comb Our child - hood used to know, I should go with him

mf *cresc.*
 yon - der comb Our child - hood used to know, I should go with him

32

f
 in the gloom, Hop - ing it might be, hop - ing it might be,

f
 in the gloom, Hop - ing, hop - ing, hop - ing, hop - ing,

f
 in the gloom, Hop - ing, hop - ing, hop - ing, hop - ing,

f
 in the gloom, Hop - - ing, hop - - ing,

35

rit. *a tempo*
p

S. *dim.*
hop - ing it might_ be so.

A. *dim.*
hop - ing it might_ be so.

T. *mf* *Solo*
8 *p* *dim.*
hop - ing it might_ be so.

B. *dim.*
hop - ing it might_ be so.

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38

mp *p* *pp*

twelve of the clock, twelve of the clock.