

21. The three kings

Words: from a poem, *The Three Kings*
by Edith Nesbit (1858–1924), altd.

Music: Alison Willis (b. 1971)

Rhythmically and with movement $\text{♩} = c. 80$

ORGAN
or
PIANO

mf

Ped.

4

mf

When the star in the East_ was lit to shine the three kings jour-neyed to

mf

8

Pa-le-stine; They came from the ut-ter-most parts of the earth with long trains la-den with

mf

legato

12 *f*

gifts of worth. Bring - ing gold to crown him king, _____

f

15 *mp*

ru - bies and i - vo - ry, pre - cious things and fran - kin - cense for a

mp

18 *p*

great God's breath, myrrh to swee - ten the day of death. _____

p

21 *mf*

Now

mf

25

when they had tra - velled a - ma - ny days through tan - gled fo - rests and

28

de - sert ways, by an - gry seas and by paths thorn - set on Christ - mas Vi - gil the

legato

32 three kings met. *f*

three_ kings met. Then the first king said: 'By

35 *mp*

some ill spell have our feet been led, now I see in the dark-ness the

38 *p*

fools we are_ to fol - low the light of a ly - ing star.'_ The

41

se - cond king lift - ed sad eyes and said, — 'It was but a dream and the

p

44

pp intensely

dream is sped. Let us fool no more, but like kings and men each

(opt.) (-) (-)

pp intensely

pp molto legato

47

poco rit. *mp* //

get him home to his lands a - gain!'

poco rit. *mp* //

Then
mp

49 **Poco meno mosso** ♩ = c. 144

Musical notation for measures 49-52. The vocal line is mostly rests, with a single note in measure 52. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and arpeggiated figures in the left hand.

Poco meno mosso ♩ = c. 144

Musical notation for measures 49-52. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and arpeggiated figures. The dynamic is marked *mp*.

Man.

spake the third, 'So ve-ry far ye have fol-lowed the light of the ra-diant star, be-

Musical notation for measures 53-56. The vocal line begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and ends with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment features chords and arpeggiated figures.

Mm
(mouth closed)

Musical notation for measures 53-56. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and arpeggiated figures. The dynamic is marked *p*.

Musical notation for measures 53-56. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and arpeggiated figures.

-cause for a while ye see it not, shall its faith - ful shin-ing be all for-got? To-

Musical notation for measures 57-60. The vocal line begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The piano accompaniment features chords and arpeggiated figures.

Nn
(mouth open)

Musical notation for measures 57-60. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and arpeggiated figures. The dynamic is marked *mp*.

Musical notation for measures 57-60. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and arpeggiated figures. The dynamic is marked *mf*.