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CLARK WILLIAM LAWLOR

SATB US \$2.95

SATB CHOIR, A CAPPELLA

MUSIC BY CLARK WILLIAM LAWLOR

.....

GIFT OF WINTER

.....

TEXT BY CHARLES ANTHONY SILVESTRI



ENDEAVOR
MUSIC PUBLISHING

Text

Come thou, Wisdom,
Gift of Winter--
Strengthen us to wait
For that which is to come.

Come thou, Healing Snow,
Falling from the highest height--
Blanket the sleeping earth
In purest white.

Come thou, Longest Night,
Summer's twin--
Remind us that joy
Comes in the morning.

Come thou, Ancient Flame,
Powerful and secret--
Kindle our hearths
And mend our hearts.

Come thou, Holy Lady,
Queen of Winter--
Renew us
Even as you turn the year.

Come thou, Spirit of Light,
Eternally born
To make all things new--
Blessed little brother.

-by Charles Anthony Silvestri

About The Composer



Clark William Lawlor (b. 1980) is a software engineer and award-winning composer based in Utah.

Having dropped out of music school in the early 2000s to pursue a more "responsible" career, Clark finally picked up the pen again in 2022 to resume his love of choral composing. Since then, Clark has written several works for choir and has

been the recipient of multiple awards, and his music has been performed all over the world.

In addition to composing, Clark enjoys pickleball and spending time with his wife and 5 children.

About The Poet

Poet, author, composer, and speaker Charles Anthony Silvestri has worked with artists from all over the world to create texts tailor-made for their commissions and specific artistic needs. He enjoys the challenge of solving these creative problems and has provided custom choral texts, opera libretti, program notes and other writing for composers including Eric Whitacre, Ola Gjeilo, Kim Arnesen, and Dan Forrest, and for ensembles ranging from high schools to the Houston Grand Opera, from the King's Singers to the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, from Westminster Choir College to Westminster Abbey.

As a clinician, Silvestri speaks to choirs, classes, and concert audiences about his works, the creative process, the marriage of words and music, and about his collaborative relationships with composers. He is the author of three books, including *A Silver Thread* (GIA 2019), a retrospective of almost 20 years of his lyric poetry. He teaches Ancient and Medieval History at Washburn University and lives in Lawrence, KS.

About the Piece

Each stanza in the poem personifies a different aspect of winter. I wanted to reflect these personality changes in the music while still keeping a common theme throughout. To do this I made each verse rhythmically and melodically similar, but added shifts in color and texture to reflect those changes. This naturally led to multiple key changes, with the tonal center settling back to the opening key at the end. As a composer, I tried to capture the beauty of the "healing snow," the mystery of the "longest night," and the joy of the coming spring.

- Clark William Lawlor

This is an original Latin poem I wrote as an inspiration text for what eventually became Eric Whitacre's "Chelsea Carol." I wanted to evoke Advent, but not necessarily in the Christian sense. There were deep religions before Christianity, of course! However, the first and last stanzas can be interpreted to await the coming of the Christ child.

- Charles Anthony Silvestri

GIFT OF WINTER

for SATB Choir, a cappella

Charles Anthony Silvestri

Clark William Lawlor

Expressive, Rubato (♩ = 56-60) **rit.** *lunga* **a tempo**

mp *ten.*

Soprano
Come thou Wisdom, Gift of Win-ter, Strength-en us to wait For that which is to

Alto
Come thou Wis-dom, Gift of Win-ter, Strength-en us to wait For that which is to

Tenor
Come thou Wis-dom, Gift of Win-ter, Strength-en us to wait For that which is to

Bass
Come thou Wis-dom, Gift of Win-ter, Strength-en us to wait For that which is to

Piano (for rehearsal only)

A

5

come. Come thou, Heal-ing Snow, Fall-ing from the high-est

come. Come thou, Heal-ing Snow, Fall-ing from the high-est

8

come. Come thou, Heal-ing Snow, Fall-ing from the high-est

come. Come thou, Heal-ing Snow, Fall-ing high-est

A

5

B

a tempo (♩ = 60)

più mosso *p* rit. ----- *mf*

height, Blank-et the sleep-ing earth In pur-est white. Come thou, Long - est

p *mf*

height, Blank-et the sleep-ing earth In pur-est white. Come thou, Long - est

p *mf*

height, Blank-et the sleep-ing earth In pur-est white. Come thou, Long - est

p *mf*

height, Blank-et the sleep-ing earth In pur-est white. Come thou, Long - est

B

a tempo (♩ = 60)

più mosso rit. ----- *mf*

rit. -----

14 Night, Sum-mer's twin, re-mind us that joy Comes in the morn-ing.

14 Night, Sum-mer's twin, re-mind us joy Comes in morn-ing.

8 Night, Sum-mer's twin, re-mind us that joy Comes in morn-ing.

14 Night, Sum-mer's twin, re-mind us joy Comes in the morn-ing.

rit. -----

14

C a tempo

18 *f* *più mosso* *mf* *cresc.*

Come thou, An - cient Flame, Pow - er - ful and se - cret Kin - dle our hearths, Kin - dle our

f *mf* *cresc.*

Come thou, An - cient Flame, Pow - er - ful and se - cret, Kin - dle our hearths, Kin - dle

f *mf* *cresc.*

Come thou, An - cient Flame, Flame, Pow - er - ful and se - cret, Kin - dle our hearths,

f *mf* *cresc.*

Come thou, An - cient Flame, Kin - dle hearths, Kin - dle

C a tempo

18 *più mosso* *mp*

hearth, Kin - dle our hearth, Kin - dle our hearth And

mp

our hearth, Kin - dle our hearth, Kin - dle our hearth And

mp

Kin - dle our Kin - dle our hearth, Kin - dle our hearth And

mp

hearth, Kin - dle hearth, Kin - dle our hearth And

22

rit.

D a tempo
p

26

mend our hearts. Come thou, Ho - ly La - dy, Queen of

mend our hearts. Come thou Ho ly La dy, Queen of

mend our hearts. Ho - ly La - dy, Queen of

mend our hearts. Come thou Queen of

rit.

D a tempo

26

30

Win - ter, Queen of Win - ter, Oh Re - new us, Queen of

Win - ter, Queen of Win - ter, Oh Re - new us, Queen of

Win - ter, Queen of Win - ter, Oh Re - new us, Queen of

Win - ter, Queen of Win - ter, (oh, Queen of Win - ter,) Oh

30

34

Win - ter, Re - new us, Queen of Win - ter, Re - new us, E - ven as you

Win - ter, Re - new us, Queen of Win - ter, oo Re - new us, E - ven as you

Win - ter, Re - new us, Queen of Win - ter, oo Re - new us, E - ven as you

Oh

34

39

(non rit.) **E** *mf*

poco cresc.

turn, turn, turn the year. Come thou, Spir - it of

turn, turn, turn, the year. Come thou, Spir - it of

turn, turn, turn the year. Come thou, Spir - it,

turn, turn, the year. Come thou, Spir - it,

39

(non rit.) **E**

più mosso

mp

43

Light, E - ter - nal - ly born To make all things new, Bless - ed lit - tle broth - er

Light, E - ter - nal - ly born To make all things new, Bless - ed lit - tle broth - er

Spir - it of Light, E - ter - nal - ly born To make all things new, Bless - ed lit - tle broth - er

Spir - it of Light, E - ter - nal - ly born To make all things new, Bless - ed broth - er,

più mosso

mp

43

rit.

47

born to make all things new, Bless - ed lit - tle broth - er Bless - ed lit - tle broth - er.

born to make all things new, Bless - ed lit - tle broth - er Bless - ed lit - tle broth - er.

lit - tle broth - er, Bless - ed broth - er, Bless - ed lit - tle broth - er.

lit - tle broth - er, Bless - ed broth - er, Bless - ed lit - tle broth - er.

rit.

47

F a tempo (very rubato)

rit.-----

51 *p* *ten.* *ten.* 3

Come thou Wis-dom, Gift of Win-ter, Strength-en us to wait For that which is to come.

p *ten.* *ten.* 3

Come thou Wis-dom, Gift of Win-ter, Strength-en us to wait For that which is to come.

p *ten.* *ten.* 3

Come thou Wis-dom, Gift of Win-ter, Strength-en us to wait For that which is to come.

p *ten.* *ten.* 3

Come thou Wis-dom, Gift of Win-ter, Strength-en us to wait For that which is to come.

F a tempo (very rubato)

rit.-----

51

a tempo (less rubato)

55 *mp* *f* 3

Come thou, Heal-ing Snow, Fall-ing from the high-est height,

mp *f*

Come thou, Heal-ing Snow, Snow, Fall-ing high-est height,

mp *f* 3

Come thou, Heal-ing Snow, Snow, Fall-ing from the high-est height,

mp *f*

Come thou, Heal-ing Snow, Fall-ing high-est height,

a tempo (less rubato)

55

G *più mosso*

59 *p* *mp*

Blank - et the sleep - ing earth _____ In pur - est, Blank - et the sleep - ing earth _____ In pur - est,

p *mp*

Blank - et the sleep - ing earth _____ Blank - et the sleep - ing earth _____

p *mp*

Blank - et the sleep - ing earth _____ Blank - et the sleep - ing earth _____

p *mp*

Blank - et the sleep - ing earth _____ Blank - et the sleep - ing earth _____

G *più mosso*

59

rit. -----

63 *mf* *mp* *p*

Blank - et the sleep - ing earth Blank - et the earth _____ In pur - est white.

mf *p*

Blank - et the sleep - ing earth Blank - et the earth _____ white.

mf *p*

Blank - et the sleep - ing earth Blank - et the earth _____ white.

mf *p*

Blank - et the sleep - ing earth Blank - et the earth _____ white.

rit. -----

63