

Text adapted by the composer from a responsorial, based on the "B'rit Milah," and used in All Saints Church's "Sanctuary for Children Celebration"

# Blessed Be the Children

for the Coventry Choir of All Saints Church, Pasadena

Gary Bachlund

$\text{♩} = 54$  **Soprano solo** ,

In ev'-ry birth, God's gift is life;

II 8'

*mp*

Pedal 16'

4 *poco ritardando* , *a tempo* , *poco ritardando*

bless-ed is the gift of life. In ev'-ry child, God's gift is love; bless-ed be this love.

7 *a tempo* 3

Bless-ed \_\_\_\_\_ be the child-ren, \_\_\_\_\_ re - new - ing the cir - cle of the

I "Jeu de clochettes" - *poco staccato*

*mp (sempre)*

10

fam' - ly. Bless-ed is their love; bless-ed is the God of

13

*a tempo*

love.

*mp* *chorus divisi as noted* } *mf*

Love. Bless-ed, bless-ed be

*mf* Bless-ed, bless-ed be

*mf* Bless-ed, bless-ed be

*mf* Bless-ed, bless-ed be

Blessed Be the Children

16 *f*

Bless-ed! Bless ed be God! God! Blessed be God! In ev' - ry God! Blessed be God! In ev' - ry God! Blessed be God! In ev' - ry God! Blessed be God! In ev' - ry

*mf* In ev' - ry

*mf* In ev' - ry

*mf* In ev' - ry

*mf* In ev' - ry

20

birth, bless-ed be the won - der, won-der of life. birth, bless-ed be the won - der, won-der of life. birth, bless-ed be the won - der, won-der of life. birth, bless-ed be the won - der, of life.

*tr*

Blessed Be the Children

25

*poco ritardando*

*come prima*

Bless - ed \_\_\_\_\_ are our

*mp*  
Life. \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*  
Life. \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*  
Life. \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*  
Life. \_\_\_\_\_

28

child - ren, \_\_\_\_\_ ful - fill - ing the pro - mise of new be - ing. \_\_\_\_\_

31

*poco ritardando*

Musical score for measures 31-32. The vocal line features the lyrics "Bless - ed is each life; bless - ed is the gift of". The piano accompaniment consists of a right hand with a flowing sixteenth-note pattern and a left hand with sustained chords.

33

Musical score for measures 33-36. Measure 33 begins with the vocal line "life." and a piano accompaniment of sustained chords. Measures 34-36 feature a choral entry with the lyrics "Life. Bless-ed, bless - ed be". The vocal parts are marked *mp* and *mf*, with the instruction "chorus divisi". The piano accompaniment continues with a sixteenth-note pattern in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand.



45

*mp* *molto legato*

*mp* In each child, a be - gin - ning.

*mp* In each child, a be - gin - ning.

*mp* In each child, a be - gin - ning.

In each child, a be - gin - ning.

53

There lies hope. Won-

In each hope, there lies won - der.

In each hope, there lies won - der.

In each hope, there lies won - der.

In each hope, there lies won - der.

59

der.

Won - der at God's bless - ings! Bless - ings! Bless - ings! *ten.*

Won - der at God's bless - ings! Bless - ings! Bless - ings!

Won - der at God's bless - ings! Bless - ings! Bless - ings!

Won - der at God's bless - ings! Bless - ings! Bless - ings!

*ten.*

66 *come prima*

Bless - ed be all child - ren, bless - ed the

*p.*

69

child-ren. Bless - ed! Bless - ed!

72

*f*

*poco ritardando*

*f* Bless-ed are the child-ren.

*mf* Bless-ed the child-ren, the child-ren of

*mf* Bless-ed the child-ren, the child-ren of

*mf* Bless-ed the child-ren, the child-ren of

*mf* Bless-ed the child-ren, the child-ren of

*poco ritardando*

*ritardando poco a poco al fine*

75

The musical score consists of several parts: a vocal line with lyrics, four vocal harmonies, and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Bless - ed child - ren of God. God. Child - ren of God. God. Child - ren of God. God. Child - ren of God." The piano accompaniment features a flowing eighth-note melody in the right hand and a steady bass line in the left hand. The score concludes with a double bar line and a fermata.

*circa 6' 00"*