

CM9742

Children, Go Where I Send Thee / Traditional African-American Spiritual

Arranged by Kevin Phillip Johnson

SSA Voices and Solo Soprano with Piano and Percussion

and Optional Rapper and Bass Guitar

Duration: 4:05

Children, Go Where I Send Thee

arr. Kevin Phillip Johnson
Rap Crafted by Ayana Davis

KEVIN PHILLIP JOHNSON'S

S O U L F U L
S I N G I N G
S E R I E S



CARL FISCHER
Celebrating 150 Years

Arranger's Notes

This Negro Spiritual was made popular by the Golden Gate Quartet in the 1930s. Willie T. Johnson, the lead singer of the group, was my father. Like him, I use rhythm in exciting new ways to deliver Negro Spirituals to contemporary audiences.

About the Text:

The text of this spiritual has been interpreted in many different ways over the years. Here's a popular interpretation of the text.

- **One** for the little bitty baby born, born, born in Bethlehem: This refers to the infant Jesus.
- **Two** for Paul and Silas: This verse honors Paul and Silas who went on many missionary journeys to spread the teachings of Christ.
- **Three** for the Hebrew children: The three Hebrew children could be Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego.
- **Four** for the four that stood at the door: Many people interpret the four to be the four writers of the Gospel books – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, though this does not explain the part about standing at the door.
- **Five** for the gospel preachers: The five are Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Peter. Paul is already mentioned above, in line two.
- **Six** for the six that never got fixed: Could this mean the sinners who never change their ways?
- **Seven** for the seven that went up to heaven: The seven in heaven could be the seven stars in Ursa Major or the sevenfold spirit of God or the seven early Christian churches or the seven stars in the right hand of Christ mentioned in the Revelation.
- **Eight** for the eight that stood at the gate: This could refer to the eight people who entered Noah's ark (Noah, his wife, their three sons and their wives).
- **Nine** for the nine that dressed so fine: This could refer to the nine orders of Angels in heaven.
- **Ten** for the ten commandments: This refers to the ten commandments given to Moses.

Performance Notes:

- Swing the 8th notes
- Djembe drums should be played freely with flexible precision
- The rap can be optional
- The ending solo can be sung down an octave and can be changed to match the ability of the soloist.
- Do not clap louder than you sing
- If doing choral movement on the piece, pay attention to detail synchronizing movements as much as possible.
- While the rap is words in rhythm, if adding one is not possible for your performance, consider a spoken word of your own choosing

Have fun!
— Kevin Phillip Johnson

For more information and list of works, visit: www.carlfischer.com/kevin-phillip-johnson

7 Instrumentals continue throughout the piece.

Three staves of instrumental music in G major. Each staff contains a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and rests, with the word "clap" written above the staves at the beginning and end of the phrase.

11 **A**

f syncopated style

Chil - dren go where I send ___ thee! _

f syncopated style

Chil - dren go where I send ___ thee! _

f syncopated style

Chil - dren go where I send ___ thee! _

Three staves of vocal music in G major, marked "f syncopated style". The lyrics are "Chil - dren go where I send ___ thee! _".

15 (All Voices, unis.)

A single staff of vocal music in G major with lyrics: "How shall I send ___ thee? I ___ gon - na send ___ thee".

18

A single staff of vocal music in G major with lyrics: "one by one. One for the lit - tle bit - ty ba - by".

21

A single staff of vocal music in G major with lyrics: "wrapped in a swad - dlin' cloth - in' layed down in ___ a man - ger that's".

25 *clap* *clap*

BORN! BORN! BORN!

BORN! BORN! BORN!

BORN! BORN! BORN!

30 *clap* *clap* **Fine**

Born in Beth - le - hem.

Born in Beth - le - hem.

Born in Beth - le - hem.

34 **B** (All Voices, unis.)

Chil - dren go where I send thee!

38

How shall I send thee? I gon - na send thee two by two,

42

two for Paul and Sil - as, one for the lit - tle bit - ty ba - by,

46 D.S. al fine
then to C

wrapped in a swad - dlin' cloth - in' layed down in ___ a man - ger that's

50 C

Chil - dren go where I send ___ thee! _

54

How shall I send ___ thee? I ___ gon - na send thee ten by ten,

58

ten for the ten com - mand - ments.
Nine for the nine _ that dressed so fine,

62

sev-en for the sev-en that went up to heav-en,
eight for the eight that stood at the gate,

82 **D** Solo Rapper

Total measures: 108

Sto - ry that I'm writ-in' seed to sow is nev - er end-in' ev - er -

mp snap fingers on 2nd and 4th beats

Born, _____

mp snap fingers on 2nd and 4th beats

Born, _____

mp snap fingers on 2nd and 4th beats

Born, _____

86

last-in' to ev - er - last-ing and you know it's on to heav-en, you get the God mes-sage in the

born, _____

Born, _____

born, _____

Born, _____

born, _____

Born, _____

89

aim is a les - son and quit the in - stant mes - sin and the mes - sag - es are fes - ter - in'.

born, _____

born, _____

born, _____

92

Soft - en - ing our hearts and it's reach-in' all the peop - le. We do this in the streets and

Born, _____ born, _____

Born, _____ born, _____

Born, _____ born, _____

95

un - der-neath the steep - le. Rath - er talk the talk but the young ones walk the walk. They are

Born, _____

Born, _____

Born, _____

98

craw - lin in the dark but my voice it is the torch. Drink the milk eat the meat fal - lin'

born, _____ Born, _____

born, _____ Born, _____

born, _____ Born, _____

101

at the Sav-ior's feet. The sin-ner take a peek ev-ry - bo - dy take a peek at the

born, _____

born, _____

born, _____

104

heart of the mat-ter he's the King of the Kings. Mar-ried to the church I got the

Born, _____ born, _____

Born, _____ born, _____

Born, _____ born, _____

107

Lord of the rings. Gold streets where I'm dan - cin', Fath - er got man - sions,

Born, _____

Born, _____

Born, _____

110
 beaut - y in God im - a - gine. What do you fath - om? You heard this

born, _____ Born, _____
 born, _____ Born, _____
 born, _____ Born, _____

113
 sto - ry to grow. Hey!, so it's time to go! hey!

cresc.
 born, _____
cresc.
 born, _____
cresc.
 born, _____

116
 hey! You heard this sto - ry to grow. Love and light so it's time to go!

born, _____ born, _____
 born, _____ born, _____
 born, _____ born, _____

Unplanned promotional use only

120

hey! You heard this sto-ry to grow. Love and light so it's time to go!

E

f div. *change snapping for clapping*

born, _____ I'm gon-na send thee ten by ten,

f div. *change snapping for clapping*

born, _____ I'm gon-na send thee ten by ten,

f *change snapping for clapping*

born, _____ I'm gon-na send thee ten by ten,

124

ten for the ten com - mand - ments. said it's Nine for the nine_ that dressed so fine,

ten for the ten com - mand - ments. said it's Nine for the nine_ that dressed so fine,

ten for the ten com - mand - ments. said it's Nine for the nine_ that dressed so fine,

128

eight for the eight that stood at the gate, sev-en for the sev-en that went up to heav-en,

eight for the eight that stood at the gate, sev-en for the sev-en that went up to heav-en,

eight for the eight that stood at the gate, sev-en for the sev-en that went up to heav-en,

132

stop clapping

six for the six that nev-er got fixed said he nev-er got fixed
stop clapping *mf*
 six for the six that nev-er got fixed said he nev-er got fixed
stop clapping *mp*
 six for the six that nev-er got fixed said he

136

f *resume clapping*

Five for the gos - pel preach - ers,
f *resume clapping*
 Five for the gos - pel preach - ers,
mf *f* *resume clapping*
 nev-er got fixed said he nev-er got fixed! Five for the gos - pel preach - ers,

140

four for the four that stood at the door, three for the Heb - rew chil - len'
 four for the four that stood at the door, three for the Heb - rew chil - len'
 four for the four that stood at the door, three for the Heb - rew chil - len'

144

two for Paul and Sil - as, one for the lit - tle bit - ty ba - by,
 two for Paul and Sil - as, one for the lit - tle bit - ty ba - by,
 two for Paul and Sil - as, one for the lit - tle bit - ty ba - by,

148 *ff*
 wrapped all up in swad - dlin' clothes! *f* > layed down in ___ a man - ger that's

148 *ff*
 wrapped all up in swad - dlin' clothes! *f* > layed down in ___ a man - ger that's

148 *ff*
 wrapped all up in swad - dlin' clothes! *f* > layed down in ___ a man - ger that's

152 **Solo Soprano** *ff*
 Born ___ to us ___ a child_

ff stop clapping BORN! *clap* BORN!

ff stop clapping BORN! *clap* BORN!

ff stop clapping BORN! *clap* BORN!

155
 ___ is born ___ and the gov - ern - ment

clap BORN! *clap*

clap BORN! *clap*

clap BORN! *clap*

158

will be on his shoul - ders. and they will

BORN! _____ BORN! _____

BORN! _____ BORN! _____

BORN! _____ BORN! _____

clap

clap

clap

3

161 *ff*

call Him Won - der - ful Coun - sel - or

BORN! _____

BORN! _____

BORN! _____

clap

clap

clap

164

Al - migh - ty God! Ev - er - last - ing Fath - er!

BORN! *clap* *div.* BORN!

BORN! *clap* BORN!

BORN! *clap* *div.* BORN!

Coda

Slow ♩ = 80

f espr., ad lib., melismatic

168 Chil - dren go where I send thee. How shall I send thee? ³

p Ooh

p Ooh

p Ooh

ISBN 978-1-4911-6155-5



9 781491 161555 >



CARL FISCHER
www.carlfischer.com

CM9742

UPC



6 80160 92020 4