

# If I Had Been in Bethlehem

Solo with optional obbligato for C instrument

Sally DeFord

♩ = 80-90 *freely*

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a prominent bass line with a steady eighth-note rhythm. The vocal line begins with a rest for two measures, followed by a melodic phrase starting on a half note. The score is divided into systems, with measure numbers 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12 indicated. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *Sra* (sforzando). The piece concludes with a final chord in the piano part.



16 *mp* 18

*S<sup>va</sup>*

If I had been in Beth - le - hem the

20 22

night of Je - sus' birth, And heard a - far the an - gel's joy - ful

*S<sup>va</sup>*

24 26

song of peace on earth, If I had seen the shep - herds come to

28 30

seek the ba - by fair, I think I would have fol - lowed them and

32 *mp* 34 *mf*

knelt be - side them there. If

36 38 If

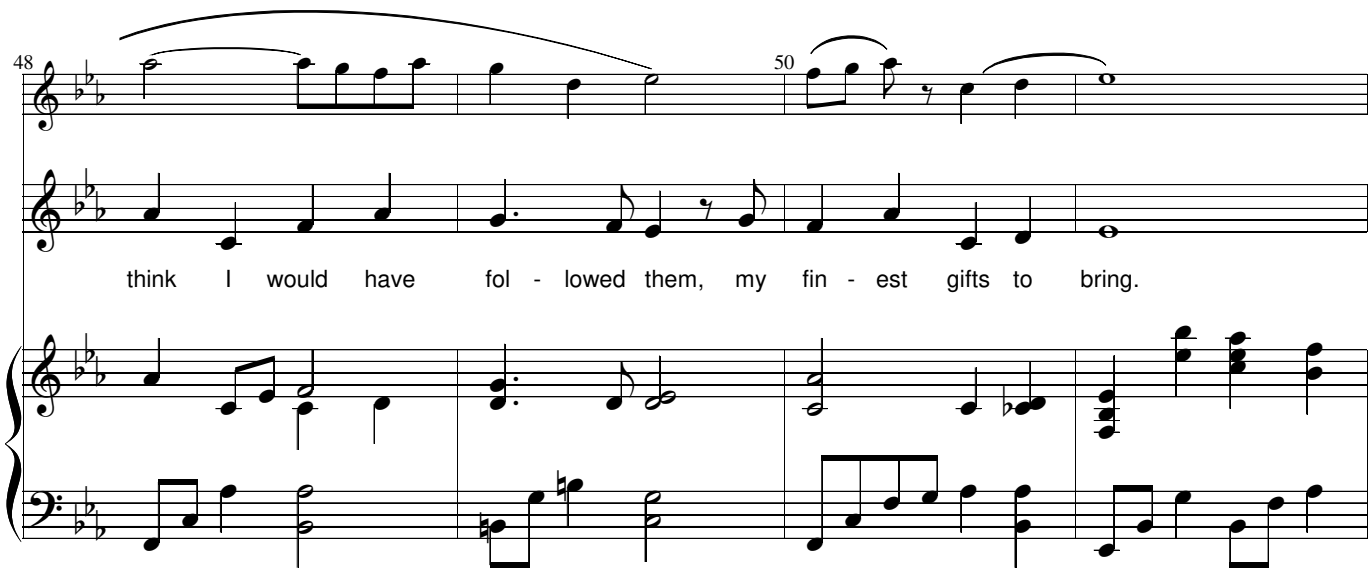
I had lived in east - ern\_ lands and watched with ea - ger\_ eyes, If

40 42 If

I had seen His star ap - pear and blaze a - mong the\_ skies, If

44  46

I had seen the wise men go to seek the new - born King, I

48  50

think I would have fol - lowed them, my fin - est gifts to bring.

52  54

*mf* *f*

56 *rit.* *a tempo mf*

*f* *a tempo*

I did not live in

*rit.* *a tempo*

8vb

60

Beth - le - hem that Christ - mas night of \_\_\_ old, Or tra - vel with the

62

64

wise men\_ there to bring Him gifts of \_\_\_ gold, But I can give a

66

68

great - er gift than an - y earth - ly gem, For all my heart and

70

72

*mp*

all my love will be my gift to Him.

*mp*

74

76

*rit.*

*rit.*

Sea