

Gordon Thornett

JESUS, FRIEND OF
LITTLE CHILDREN

*A simple setting, suitable for infant baptism, christening
services and other occasions*

**Mixed Choir (SATB)
or may be performed
as a Vocal Solo**

with piano or organ accompaniment

 **SWIRLY MUSIC**
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2018

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JESUS, FRIEND OF LITTLE CHILDREN

*For mixed choir (SATB) or soloist
with piano or organ accompaniment.*

This setting of 'Jesus, friend of little children' was written almost 30 years ago, for the baptism of our younger daughter. It was written as a soprano solo with piano accompaniment. In this current version, it may still be performed as a solo, if desired, but I have added choral harmonies so that it can also be used as a choir anthem at christenings or children's services. It is in 4 parts (SATB) throughout, apart from a couple of measures where the sopranos divide.

The simple accompaniment is for piano or organ.

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 **SWIRLY MUSIC**
www.SwirlyMusic.org

for Sarah
Jesus, friend of little children

for Mixed Choir (SATB) or Soprano Solo
Suitable for Baptisms and Children's Services

Walter J. Mathams (1853–1931)

Gordon Thornett

NOTE - If performed as a solo, the choir parts may be omitted, and the soloist should sing the melody throughout (2nd verse an octave higher than written pitch).

Moderato ♩ = 120

SOPRANO ALTO

TENOR BASS

Piano

mf

1. Je - sus, friend of

6

[SSA]

lit - tle chil - dren, Be a friend to me; Take my hand and ev - er keep me
A: Be a friend to me; Ah _____

11

Close to thee.
Close_ to thee.

mp [RH]

Con Ped.

17

2. Ah, Dai-ly as I grow;

mf T&B *f*

2. Teach me how to grow in good-ness, Dai-ly as I grow; Thou hast been a

p *mf*

22 *mf*

Thou dost sure-ly know, sure - ly know.
A: Thou dost know, sure - ly know.

child, and sure-ly Thou dost know.

27

3. Nev - er leave me, nor for-sake me; Al-ways be my

32 *mp*

friend; For I need thee, from life's dawn-ing to its end, For I

mp

37 *mf* *p*

need thee from life's dawn-ing, I need thee from life's dawn-ing, I

mf *p*

41 *poco rit.* *Meno mosso* ♩ = 100 *p*

need thee from life's dawn-ing to its end.

poco rit. *Meno mosso* ♩ = 100 *pp*

[sm notes only for solo version]

(Con Ped.)