

What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright 152

Capo 2: (C) (Am) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G) (C) (F)
 D Bm A D G D A D G

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more
 2 'Tis now full-filled what God de-creed, "From
 3 While out-ward signs the star dis-plays, an
 4 O Je-sus, while the star of grace im-

(C) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G)
 D A D G D A

love-ly than the noon-day light? 'Tis
 Ja-cob shall a star pro-ceed;" and
 in-ward light the Lord con-veys and
 pels us on to seek your face, let

(Am) (D7) (G) (C) (F) (C) (Dm)
 Bm E7 A D G D Em

sent to an-nounce a new-born king, glad
 lo! the east-ern sa-ges stand to
 urg-es them, with ten-der might, to
 not our sloth-ful hearts re-fuse the

(G) (C) (G) (C) (F) (G) (C)
 A D A D G A D

ti-dings of our God to bring.
 read in heaven the Lord's com-mand.
 seek the giv-er of the light.
 guid-ance of your light to use.

This 18th-century Latin text calls attention to three kinds of light: the light of the star leading the Magi to the Christ-child, the inward light inspiring their journey, and Christ who is the Light of the world. The simple unison melody unites everything in a gentle arc.

534

Now the Silence

Capo 3: (Dsus) (D) (Bm) (Em) (A) (F#m) (Em)(Bm) (A)
 Fsus F Dm Gm C Am Gm Dm C

Now the si-lence Now the peace Now the emp-ty hands up-lift-ed

(Dsus) (D) (Bm) (Em) (A) (F#m) (Em)(Bm) (Em) (C)
 Fsus F Dm Gm C Am Gm Dm Gm Eb

Now the kneel-ing Now the plea Now the Fa-ther's arms in wel-come

(D) (G) (Em) (Am) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (D) (Am)
 F Bb Gm Cm F Bb F Gm F Cm

Now the hear-ing Now the power Now the ves-sel brimmed for pour-ing

(D) (G) (Em) (Am) (D) (G) (D) (Em) (A)
 F Bb Gm Cm F Bb F Gm C

Now the bod-y Now the blood Now the joy-ful cel-e-bra-tion

(Dsus) (D) (Bm) (Em) (A) (F#m) (Em)(Bm) (A) (Em)
 Fsus F Dm Gm C Am Gm Dm C Gm

Now the wed-ding Now the songs Now the heart for-giv-en leap-ing

(D) (Em) (A) (Em7) (D) (Em) (A) (Em7)
 F Gm C Gm7 F Gm C Gm7

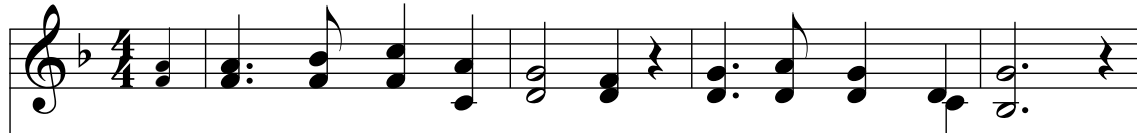
Now the Spir-it's vis-i-ta-tion Now the Son's e-piph-a-ny

(D) (Em) (Em7) (Bm) (A) (Em) (A) (Em) (A)
 F Gm Gm7 Dm C Gm C Gm C

Now the Fa-ther's bless-ing Now Now Now

Lacking punctuation and rhyme in the text and bar lines in the music, this meditative Lord's Supper hymn may at first seem like random musings. But both parts of the hymn are made up of careful patterns that combine to waken memory and to evoke a strong sense of God's presence.

In the Bleak Midwinter 144



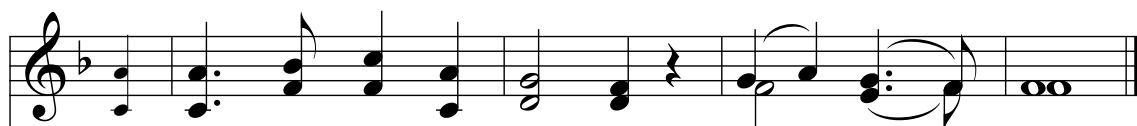
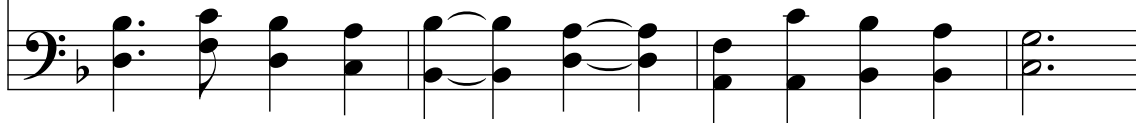
1 In the bleak mid-win-ter, frost-y wind made moan;
 2 Our God, heaven can-not hold him, nor earth sus-tain;
 3 An-gels and arch-an-gels may have gath-ered there;
 4 What can I give him, poor as I am?



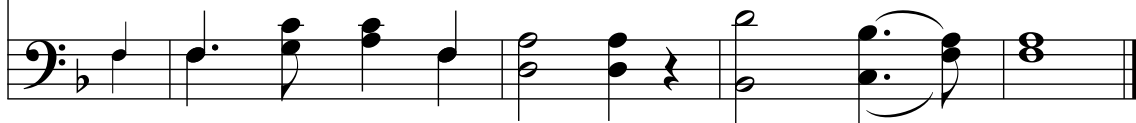
earth stood hard as i-ron, wa-ter like a stone;
 heaven and earth shall flee a-way when he comes to reign:
 cher-u-bim and ser-a-phim thronged the air;
 If I were a shep-herd, I would bring a lamb;



snow had fall-en, snow on snow, snow on snow,
 in the bleak mid-win-ter a sta-ble place suf-ficed
 but his moth-er on-ly, in her maid-en bliss,
 if I were a wise man, I would do my part;



in the bleak mid-win-ter, long a-go.
 the Lord God in-car-nate, Je-sus Christ.
 wor-shipped the be-lov-ed with a kiss.
 yet what I can I give him: give my heart.



Though this text describes winter weather in England rather than in Palestine, the poet is using familiar surroundings as a means of making the Nativity more immediate and personal. The tune name honors a Gloucestershire village near the composer's birthplace in Cheltenham.

132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He has o - pened heav - en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic," the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.