

Earth was waiting, spent and restless

French Traditional Carol Melody

Picardy
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The first system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in 2/2 time. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first measure starts with a whole rest in the treble and a whole note chord in the bass. The melody begins in the second measure with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, Bb4, and C5. The bass line consists of whole notes: G3, F2, and G3. A fermata is placed over the final chord in the fifth measure. A finger number '5' is written above the final note of the melody.

The second system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in 2/2 time. The melody continues from the first system. The first measure of this system has a whole rest in the treble and a whole note chord in the bass. The melody begins in the second measure with a quarter note D5, followed by quarter notes E5, F5, and G5. The bass line consists of whole notes: G3, F2, and G3. A fermata is placed over the final chord in the tenth measure.

The third system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in 2/2 time. The melody continues from the second system. The first measure of this system has a whole rest in the treble and a whole note chord in the bass. The melody begins in the second measure with a quarter note G5, followed by quarter notes F5, E5, and D5. The bass line consists of whole notes: G3, F2, and G3. A fermata is placed over the final chord in the fifteenth measure.

Earth was waiting, spent and restless,
with a mingled hope and fear;
and the faithful few were sighing,
'Surely, Lord, the day is near;
the desire of all the nations,
it is time he should appear.'

Still the gods were in their temples,
but the ancient faith had fled;
and the priests stood by their altars
only for a piece of bread;
and the oracles were silent,
and the prophets all were dead.

In sacred courts of Zion,
where the Lord had his abode,
there the money-changers trafficked,
and the sheep and oxen trod;
and the world, because of wisdom,
knew not either Lord or God.

Then the Spirit of the Highest
on a virgin meek came down,
and he burdened her with blessing,
and he pained her with renown;
for she bore the Lord's anointed,
for his cross and for his crown.

Earth for him had groaned and travailed
since the ages first began;
for in him was hid the secret
that through all the ages ran—
Son of Mary, Son of David,
Son of God, and Son of Man.

W.C. Smith