

When God of old came down from heaven

The Psalter in Metre, 1899

Stroudwater
CM

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music is in common time (C.M.). The melody is primarily composed of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The bass line provides a steady accompaniment with chords and single notes.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece, starting with a measure rest (9). It follows the same two-staff format and key signature as the first system. The melody concludes with a fermata over the final note. The bass line continues with a consistent accompaniment.

When God of old came down from Heav'n,
In power and wrath He came;
Before His feet the clouds were riven,
Half darkness and half flame:

But when He came the second time,
He came in power and love;
Softer than gale at morning prime
Hovered His holy Dove.

The fires that rushed on Sinai down
In sudden torrents dread,
Now gently light, a glorious crown,
On every sainted head.

And as on Israel's awe-struck ear
The voice exceeding loud,
The trump, that angels quake to hear,
Thrilled from the deep, dark cloud;

So, when the Spirit of our God
Came down His flock to find,
A voice from Heaven was heard abroad,
A rushing, mighty wind.

It fills the Church of God; it fills
The sinful world around;
Only in stubborn hearts and wills
No place for it is found.

Come Lord, come wisdom, love and power,
Open our ears to hear;
Let us not miss th' accepted hour;
Save, Lord, by love or fear.

John Keble