

While Shepherds watched

Este's Psalter

WinchesterOld
C.M.

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, with a brace on the left. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody in the treble clef starts with a quarter note G4, followed by a dotted quarter note A4, and then a series of eighth notes. The bass clef accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern. A fermata is placed over the final note of the treble staff, and the number '5' is written above it.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece with two staves, treble and bass clef, with a brace on the left. The key signature remains one flat. The melody in the treble clef continues with eighth notes and quarter notes. The bass clef accompaniment maintains the eighth-note pattern. The system concludes with a double bar line.

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around,
And glory shone around.

“Fear not!” said he, for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind.
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind
To you and all mankind.

“To you, in David’s town, this day
Is born of David’s line
A Savior, who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign,
And this shall be the sign.

“The heavenly Babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid,
And in a manger laid.”

Thus spake the seraph and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God on high,
Who thus addressed their song,
Who thus addressed their song:

“All glory be to God on high,
And to the Earth be peace;
Good will henceforth from Heaven to men
Begin and never cease,
Begin and never cease!”

Nahum Tate