

# While shepherds watched their flocks by night

Nahum Tate, 1703

B. S. Barclay, 1843

1

The first system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top two staves are for the vocal line, with a treble clef on the first and a bass clef on the second. Both are in the key of D major (two sharps) and 2/4 time. Measures 1 and 2 contain whole rests for both parts. Measures 3 and 4 contain a vocal melody in the treble staff and a bass line in the bass staff. The melody in measure 3 is D4, E4, F#4, G4, and in measure 4 is A4, B4, C5, B4, A4. The bass line in measure 3 is G3, A3, B3, C4, and in measure 4 is D4, E4, F#4, G4.

4

The second system of the musical score consists of four staves. The top two staves are for the vocal line, with a treble clef on the first and a bass clef on the second. Both are in the key of D major (two sharps) and 2/4 time. Measures 5 and 6 contain whole rests for both parts. Measures 7 and 8 contain a vocal melody in the treble staff and a bass line in the bass staff. The melody in measure 7 is A4, B4, C5, B4, and in measure 8 is A4, G4, F#4, E4. The bass line in measure 7 is D4, E4, F#4, G4, and in measure 8 is A4, B4, C5, B4.

8

12

1. While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, All sea - ted on the  
 2. "Fear not," said he (for migh - ty dread Had seized their trou - bled  
 3. "To you, in Da - vid's town this day, Is born of Da - vid's  
 4. "The heaven - ly Babe ye there shall find To hu - man view dis -  
 5. Thus spake the se - raph, and forth - with Ap - peared a shi - ning  
 6. "All glo - ry be to God on high, And to the earth be

1. ground, The an - gel of the Lord came down, And glo - ry shone a -  
 2. mind), "Glad ti - dings of great joy I bring To you and all man -  
 3. line, The Sa - viour which is Christ the Lord, And this shall be the  
 4. played, All mean - ly wrapt in swa - thing - bands And in a man - ger  
 5. throng Of an - gels prai - sing God who thus Ad - dressed their joy - ful  
 6. peace; Good will hence - forth from heaven to men Be - gin and ne - ver

CHORUS.

1. round, Sing - ing,  
 2. kind," Sing - ing,  
 3. sign," Sing - ing, *Glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry, glo - ry,*  
 4. laid," Then sing,  
 5. song, Sing - ing  
 6. cease," Sing - ing

24

glo - ry be to great Em - man - u - el.

This system contains measures 24, 25, and 26. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The piano part includes a complex texture with sixteenth-note patterns in the right hand and eighth-note patterns in the left hand. Measure 26 ends with a fermata over the final note.

27

This system contains measures 27, 28, and 29. The vocal line is mostly silent, with a fermata in measure 27 and a final note in measure 29. The piano accompaniment continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a rhythmic accompaniment in the left hand. Measure 29 concludes with a fermata over the final note.