

A Babe is Born

Text: Traditional English

Tune: Traditional English

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in five numbered verses, each corresponding to a line of music. The first verse is the most common: 'A babe is born, all of a maid, to bring sal - va - tion un - to us:'. The subsequent verses provide alternative lyrics for the same melody. The score concludes with a final cadence in the Soprano and Alto parts.

1. A babe is born, all of a maid, to bring sal - va - tion un - to us:
2. At Beth - le - hem, that bless - ed place, the child of bliss then born He was;
3. There came three kings out of the east, to wor - ship there that King so free
4. The shep - herds heard an an - gel cry, O mer - ry song that night sang he,
5. The an - gel came down with a cry, a fair and joy - ful song sang he,

no more are we to sing a - fraid. Ve - ni, Cre - a - tor Spi - ri - tus.¹
Him aye to serve, God give us grace, O Lux be - a - ta Trin - i - tas.²
with gold and myrrh and frank - in - cense, A so - lis or - tus car - di - ne.³
Why are ye all so sore a - ghastr, Jam lu - cis or - to si - de - re?⁴
and in the wor - ship of that child, Glo - ri - a Ti - bi Do - mi - ne.⁵

¹ Come, creator spirit

² O blessed light of the Trinity

³ From the place of the rising sun

⁴ The star of light now having risen

⁵ Glory to you, O Lord