

Child of God

Informant/Performer:

Julie Sparks and her granddaughter, Zora
Gretna, LA

Source:

R. Emmet Kennedy

Mellows: A Chronicle of Unknown Singers
New York: Albert and Charles Boni, 1925

The musical notation is written on four staves in a single system. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff contains the lyrics 'If an - y - bo - dy ask you who I am'. The second staff contains 'who I am' followed by a measure of rest, then 'who I am'. The third staff contains 'If an - y - bo - dy ask you who I am'. The fourth staff contains 'Tell him I'm a child of God.' and ends with a double bar line.

If an - y - bo - dy ask you who I am

who I am who I am

If an - y - bo - dy ask you who I am

Tell him I'm a child of God.

2. The little cradle rocks tonight in glory,
...in glory...in glory.
The little cradle rocks tonight in glory,
The Christ child born in glory.
3. Peace on earth, Mary rock the cradle
Mary rock the cradle, Mary rock the cradle,
Peace on earth, Mary rock the cradle,
The Christ child born in glory.
4. The Christ child passing, sing softly,
Sing softly, sing softly,
The Christ child passing, sing softly,
The Christ child born in glory.
5. Don't you hear his foot on the tree top,
Foot on the tree top, foot on the tree top.
Don't you hear his foot on the tree top,
Soft like the south wind blow?

Verses from Ruth Crawford Seeger, *American Folk Songs for Christmas*