

The Shepherd's Tale

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line with a treble clef and a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The middle and bottom staves are piano accompaniment, with the middle staff in treble clef and the bottom staff in bass clef. The time signature is 4/4. The piano part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes in the right hand and a bass line with quarter and eighth notes in the left hand.

4 A

The second system of the musical score begins at measure 4. It features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The key signature remains three flats. The time signature changes to 3/4 at the start of the second measure of this system. The lyrics "A ti - ny babe that came and breathed his" are written below the vocal line. The piano accompaniment continues with a similar rhythmic pattern to the first system.

10

The third system of the musical score begins at measure 10. It features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The key signature remains three flats. The time signature changes to 4/4 at the start of the second measure of this system, then to 3/4 at the start of the fourth measure. The lyrics "first_ few breaths a - mong the kine that Christ - mas morn'." are written below the vocal line. The piano accompaniment continues with a similar rhythmic pattern to the first system.

17

B

His mo-ther glad to see a child, though it was poor-ly

25

born. How could it be?, a

30

fu - ture king, a man_ to reign. Seen first by com-mon folk who, hum-ble

36

wit-nessed Mar-y's pain.

41

The

46

C

night was clear_ the stars_ were bright. Shep - erds came and saw the sight.

54

out of dark - ness in - to light. Out of that si - lent peace-ful night, on that

63

star - ry si - lent night.

69

D

I could-n't see be - cause my eyes were blind with tears up -

74

on that hap-py Christ - mas morn. I on - ly know that such a night would nev - er breed a

80

no - bler king. A dark and drear - y barn - it was, and him on - ly a

85

ti - ny thing.

90 E

But an - gels came and wise old men with pre-cious gifts and

97

songs di - vine. And what was I to know of this a - mong_ the

104

sheep and lambs and kine. A - mid those si - lent lambs and kine.

112

For

115

I was there that star - ry night a - mong_ the sheep, a - mid_ the kine. A

119

faith - ful wit - ness did I stand and mar - vel at those things di - vine that

125

hap - pened then at Christ - mas time.

127