

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739

Music: Felix Mendelssohn (J.S.Bach*),
Festgesang (Gutenberg cantata) WoO 9, 1840

Hark! the herald angels sing: Glory to the newborn King! Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners

Musical notation for the first system, measures 1-7. The piece is in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first system consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The treble staff begins with a melody marked *mf* (mezzo-forte). The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The system concludes with a *mp* (mezzo-piano) dynamic marking.

8 reconciled, joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies; with th' angelic host proclaim,

Musical notation for the second system, measures 8-14. The treble staff features a melody with accents and a *f* (forte) dynamic marking. The bass staff continues the accompaniment. The system ends with a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic marking.

15 "Christ is born in Bethlehem." Hark! the herald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the newborn King!"

Musical notation for the third system, measures 15-20. The treble staff has a melody with a *ff* (fortissimo) dynamic marking. The bass staff has a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic marking. The system concludes with a *fff* (fortississimo) dynamic marking and a *rit.* (ritardando) instruction.

* J.S.Bach, Gavotte, Orchestral Suite No.4, BWV 1069, Mvmt. 4

21

Musical notation for the fourth system, measures 21-27. The treble staff contains a melody, while the bass staff is mostly empty, indicating a reduction or a specific performance instruction. The system ends with a double bar line.

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th' angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heav'n adored:
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of the favored one.
Veil'd in flesh, the Godhead see;
Hail, th'incarnate Deity:
Pleased, as man, with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Hail! the heav'n born Prince of peace!
Hail! the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die:
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"