

Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning

Arr by J.S. Bach, 1685-1750

Liebster Immanuel
11.10.11.10

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody in the treble clef begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass clef accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern. A measure rest is indicated by a double bar line with a diagonal slash. The system concludes with a measure containing a five-finger fingering number '5' above the treble clef staff.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece, starting with a measure rest. The treble clef melody features a sequence of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass clef accompaniment continues with eighth notes. A measure rest is indicated by a double bar line with a diagonal slash. The system ends with a measure containing a ten-finger fingering number '10' above the treble clef staff.

The third system of musical notation continues the piece, starting with a measure rest. The treble clef melody features a sequence of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass clef accompaniment continues with eighth notes. A measure rest is indicated by a double bar line with a diagonal slash. The system ends with a measure containing a fifteen-finger fingering number '15' above the treble clef staff.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us Thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;
Low lies His head with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all!

Say, shall we yield Him, in costly devotion,
Odors of Edom and offerings divine?
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest, or gold from the mine?

Vainly we offer each ample oblation,
Vainly with gifts would His favor secure;
Richer by far is the heart's adoration,
Dearer to God are the prayers of the poor.

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us Thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Reginald Heber