

How bright appears the Morning Star

Philip Nicolai, 1599
arr J. S. Bach

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The first system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in the key of D major. It contains measures 1 through 4. The melody in the treble clef begins with a half note D4, followed by quarter notes E4, F#4, G4, and A4. The bass clef accompaniment starts with a half note D3, followed by quarter notes E3, F#3, and G3.

The second system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in the key of D major. It contains measures 5 through 8. Measure 5 begins with a treble clef '5' above the staff. The melody continues with quarter notes B4, C5, and D5. The bass clef accompaniment continues with quarter notes A2, B2, and C3.

The third system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in the key of D major. It contains measures 9 through 12. The melody in the treble clef features a series of quarter notes: E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, and D5. The bass clef accompaniment features a series of quarter notes: D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3, and C4.

The fourth system of musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, in the key of D major. It contains measures 13 through 16. The melody in the treble clef features a series of quarter notes: E4, F#4, G4, A4, B4, C5, and D5. The bass clef accompaniment features a series of quarter notes: D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3, and C4.

How bright appears the morning star,
With mercy beaming from afar!
The host of Heav'n rejoices!
O righteous Branch! O Jesse's Rod!
Thou Son of Man, and Son of God!
We too will lift our voices
Jesus! Jesus! Holy, holy! yet most lowly!
Draw Thou near us:
Great Emmanuel! stoop and hear us!

Rejoice, ye heav'ns, thou earth, reply!
With praise, ye sinners, fill the sky!
For this His incarnation!
Incarnate God, put forth Thy power,
Ride on, ride on, great Conqueror,
Till all know Thy salvation.
Amen, amen! Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise be given
Evermore, by earth and Heaven.

Though circled by hosts on high,
He deigned to cast a pitying eye
Upon his helpless creatures;
The whole creation's Head and Lord,
By highest seraphim adored,
Assumed our very nature;
Jesus, grant us, through thy merit, to inherit,
Thy salvation;
Hear, O hear our supplication.

Philip Nicolai