

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

Traditional

1. God rest you mer-ry, gen-tle-men, Let noth-ing you dis-may, Re-

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The melody is written in a simple, homophonic style with chords and single notes.

5 mem-ber Christ our Sa-vi-our Was born on Christ-mas Day; To save us all from

The second system of music continues the melody from the first system. It begins with a measure rest for five measures (marked '5') before the vocal line enters. The notation remains consistent with the first system.

10 *ff* CHORUS Sat-an's pow'r When we were gone as-tray; O ti-dings of com-fort and

The third system of music begins with a measure rest for ten measures (marked '10') before the vocal line enters. The tempo and dynamics are marked *ff* (fortissimo) and the section is labeled 'CHORUS'. The melody continues with a more active accompaniment in the bass line.

15 joy, com-fort and joy, O ti-dings of com-fort and joy.

The fourth system of music continues the chorus. It begins with a measure rest for fifteen measures (marked '15') before the vocal line enters. The melody concludes with a final cadence in the bass line.

2. In Bethlehem, in Jewry,
 This blessed Babe was born,
 And laid within a manger,
 Upon this blessed Morn;
 The which His Mother Mary,
 Did nothing take in scorn.

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
 O tidings of comfort and joy.*

3. From God our Heavenly Father,
 A blessed Angel came;
 And unto certain Shepherds,
 Brought tidings of the same:
 How that in Bethlehem was born
 The Son of God by Name.

4. 'Fear not then,' said the Angel,
 'Let nothing you affright,
 This day is born a Saviour
 Of a poor Virgin bright,
 To free all those who trust in Him
 From Satan's power and might.'

5. The shepherds at those tidings,
 Rejoiced much in mind,
 And left their flocks a-feeding,
 In tempest, storm and wind:
 And went to Bethlehem straightway
 The Son of God to find.

6. And when they came to Bethlehem,
 Where our dear Saviour lay,
 They found Him in a manger,
 Where oxen feed on hay;
 His Mother Mary kneeling down,
 Unto the Lord did pray.

7. Now to the Lord sing praises,
 All you within this place,
 And with true love and brotherhood
 Each other now embrace;
 This holy tide of Christmas
 All other doth deface.