

What star is this, with beams so bright

Hymnal 1982 no. 124, Melody: Puer Nobis Nascitur

Charles Coffin (1676-1749),
tr. based on J. Chandler (1807-1876)

Melody by M. Praetorius (1571-1621),
harmony by G. R. Woodward (1848-1934)

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The first system contains five verses of lyrics. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system concludes the hymn. The melody is primarily in the Soprano part, with the other parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

1. What star is this, with beams so bright, more beau - teous
2. True spake the pro - phet from a - far who told the
3. The guid - ing star a - bove is bright; with - in them
4. O Je - sus, while the star of grace im - pels us
5. To God the Fa - ther, heav'n - ly Light, to Christ, re -

than the noon - day light? It shines to her - ald
rise of Ja - cob's star; and east - ern sa - ges
shines a clear - er light, and leads them on with
on to seek thy face, let not our sloth - ful
vealed in earth - ly night, to God the Ho - ly

forth the King, and Gen - tiles to his crib to bring.
with a - maze up - on the won - drous to - ken gaze.
pow'r be - nign to seek the Giv - er of the sign.
hearts re - fuse the guid - ance of thy light to use.
Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.