

How bright appears the Morning Star

Hymnal 1982 no. 497, Melody: Wie schön leuchtet

W. Mercer (1811-1873),
after P. Nicolai (1556-1608)

Mel.: P. Nicolai (1556-1608),
arr. J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

The musical score consists of three staves of music for two voices (Soprano and Bass) and piano. The music is in common time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano part provides harmonic support, featuring chords and bass notes.

Stave 1: The soprano voice begins with a simple melody of eighth-note pairs. The lyrics are:

1. How bright ap - pears the Morn-ing Star, with mer - cy beam - ing
2. Though cir - cled by the hosts on high, be deigned to cast a
3. Re - joice, ye heav'ns; thou earth, re-ply; with praise, ye sin - ners,

Stave 2: The soprano continues with a more complex melody, including sixteenth-note patterns and grace notes. The lyrics are:

from a - far; the host of heav'n re - joic - es;
pit - ying eye up - on his help - less crea - ture;
fill the sky, for this his In - car - na - tion.

Stave 3: The soprano and bass voices sing together. The lyrics are:

O right-eous Branch, O Jes - se's Rod! Thou Son of Man and
the whole cre - a - tion's Head and Lord, by high-est ser - a -
In - car - nate God, put forth thy pow'r, ride on, ride on, great

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Son of God! We, too, will lift our voices:
 phim adored, as sumed our very nature;
 Conqueror, till all know thy salvation.

Jesus, Jesus! Holy, holy, yet most lowly,
 Jesus, grant us, through thy merit, to inherit
 Amen, amen! Alleluia, alleluia!

draw thou near us; great Emmanuel, come and hear us.
 thy salvation; hear, O hear our supplication.
 Praise be given ev - er-more, by earth and heaven.