HARK! THE BELLS ON CHRISTMAS MORNING

Bob Eagle



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FOR UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN

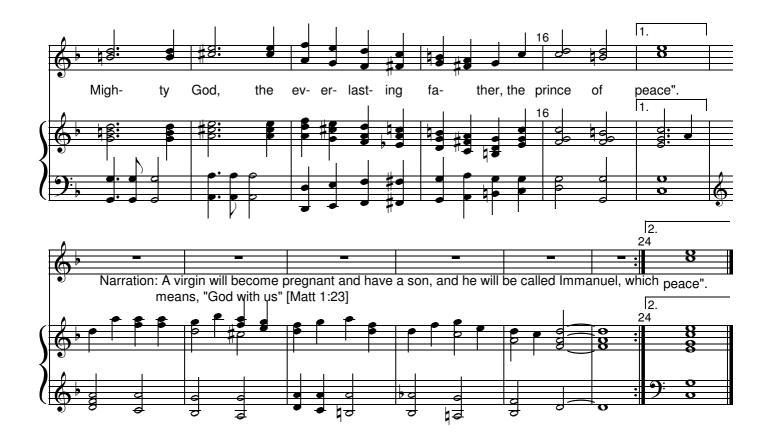
Bob Eagle

A child will be born to us! A son will be given to us!

And he will be our ruler. He will be called,
"Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace"

His royal power will continue to grow;
his kingdom will always be at peace.
[Isaiah 9: 6-7]





WHAT A TOWN

Bob Eagle

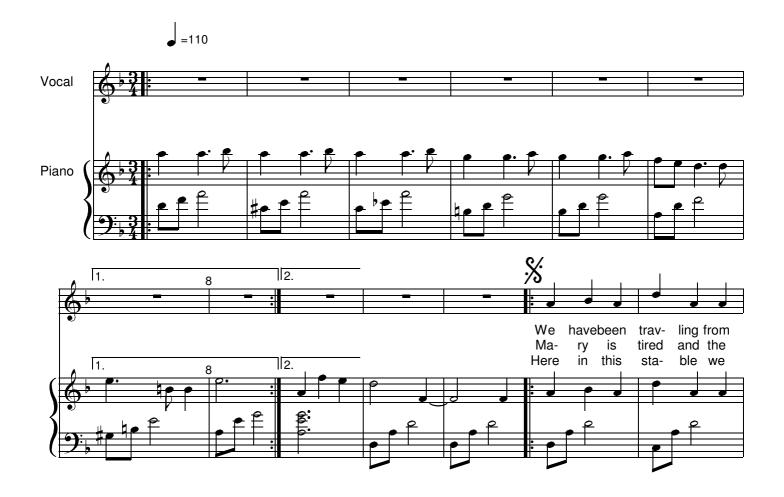
At that time the emperor, Augustus, ordered a census to be taken throughout the Roman Empire.

When this first census took place, Quirinius was the governor of Syria.

Everyone, then, went to register himself, each to his own town.

Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judaea, the birthplace of King David.

He went to register with Mary, who was promised in marriage to him.



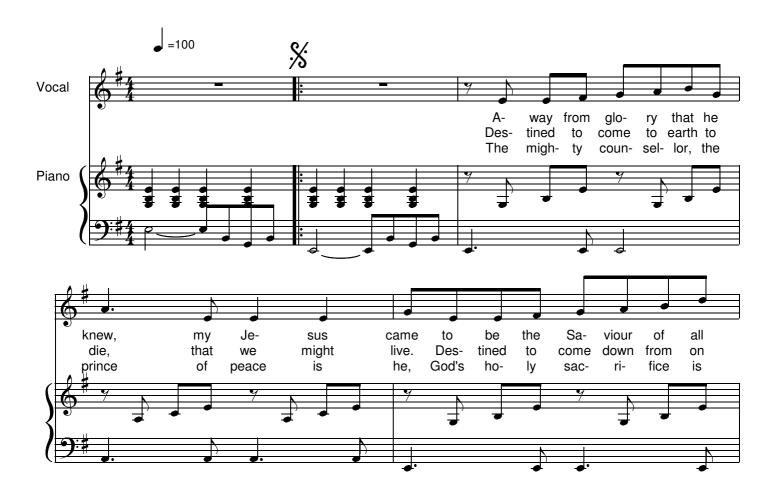




EMMANUEL

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While they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have her baby. She gave birth to her first born son, wrapped him in strips of cloth, and laid him in a manger - there was no room for them to stay in the inn. [Luke 2: 6-7]







GLORIA GLORIA

Bob Eagle

There were some shepherds in that part of the country who were spending the night in the fields, taking care of their flocks.

An angel fo the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone over them.

They were terribly afraid, but the angel said to them,

"Don't be afraid! I am here with good news for you, which will bring great joy to all people.

This very day in David's town your Saviour was born - Christ the Lord!

And this is what will prove it to you:

You will find the baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger."

Suddenly a great army of heaven's angels appeared with the angel, singing praises to God:

"Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace on earth to those with whom he is pleased.

[Lk 2: 8-14]







JESUS THE LORD IS BORN

Bob Eagle

When the angels went away from them back into heaven, the shepherds said to one another:

"Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened which the Lord has told us."

[Lk 2: 15-16]

Soon afterwards, some men who studied the stars came from the east to Jerusalem and asked:

"Where is the baby born to be the King of the Jews?

We saw his star when it came up in the east, and we have come to worship him."

When King Herod heard about this, he was very upset, and so was everyone else in Jerusalem.

He called together all the chief priests and the teachers of the Law and asked them:

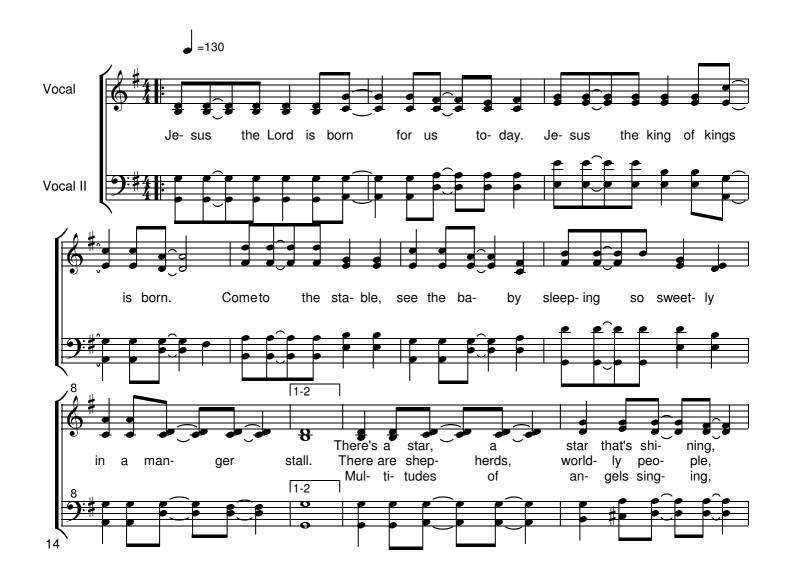
"Where will the Messiah be born?"

"In the town of Bethlehem in Judaea," they answered. "For this is what the prophet wrote:

Bethlehem in the land of Judah,

you are by no means the least of all the leading cities of Judah;

for from you will come a leader who will guide my people Israel". [Mtt 2:1-6]





CHILD OF LIGHT

Bob Eagle

Before the world was created, the Word already existed;

he was with God, and he was the same as God.

From the very beginning the Word was with God.

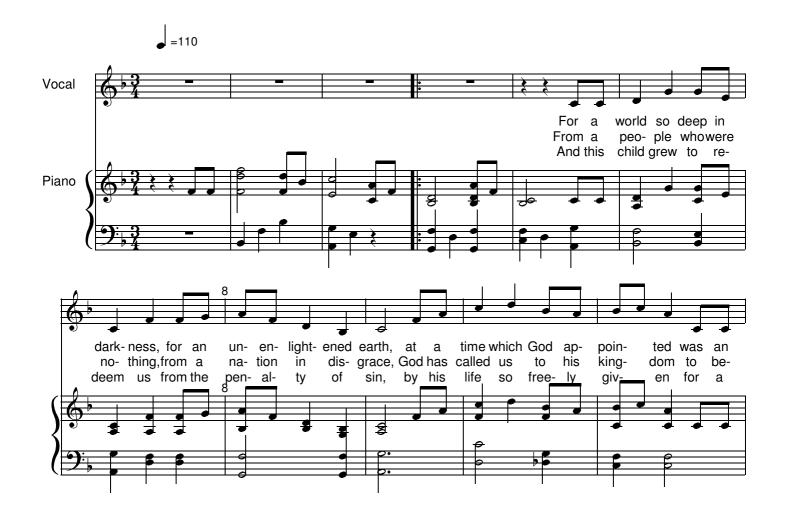
Through him God made all things.

Not one thing in all creation was made without him.

The word was made the source of life, and this life brought light to mankind.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out.

[John 1: 1-5]





LET'S LOOK FOR A RAINBOW

Bob Eagle

In the time of Noah, God made a promise saying:

"I promise that never again will all living beings be destroyed by a flood.

As a sign of this everlasting covenant which I am making with you and with all living beings I am putting my rainbow in the clouds. Whenever I cover the sky with clouds and the rainbow appears, I will remember my promise to you.

At the time Jesus was born, God put another sign in the sky.

This time a star - which would lead all men to the Saviour of the world.

The rainbow tells us that God will never destroy the world again.

The star tells us that God wants to save us all.

Let's look for a rainbow. Let's follow a star.





