

While Shepherds Watched

Collected by Gwilym Davies 30-Jan-1977

Sung by The Stevens Family at Bisley, Glos

The musical score is written for a single voice in treble clef. It begins in 4/4 time and changes to 6/4 time at measure 7. The melody is simple and folk-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The score consists of four staves of music. The first staff contains measures 1-6, the second staff measures 7-13, the third staff measures 14-15, and the fourth staff measures 16-17. The lyrics are: 'While shep-herds watched their flocks by night, all sea- ted on the ground(all sea- ted on the ground,) The an- gel of the Lord. came down and glo - ry shone a - round and glo - ry shone a - round and glo ry and glo - ry shone a - round.'

While shepherds watched their flocks by night *all seated on the ground* (x2)
The Angel of the Lord came down *and glory shone around* (x3)

‘Fear not’, said he, for mighty dread Had seized their troubled minds,
‘Glad tidings of great joy I bring To you and all mankind.

‘To you in David’s town this day is born of David’s line.
A saviour who is Christ our Lord and this shall be the sign.

‘The heavenly babe you there shall find To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands And in a manger laid.’

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song.

‘All glory be to God on high and to the earth be peace.
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men begin and never cease.’

Song as collected by Gwilym Davies. This is also the copy for Singing.

Source: Stevens Family Recording

Notes: 1. Two recordings were done on different dates 30-Jan-1977 and 1-Dec-1987

Audit Transcription prepared by VL Nov 2011/HT Nov 2011/Checked tbc