

# What Child is This?

16th Century English Melody

Piano

1. What

The first system of musical notation for the piano accompaniment. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 6/8. The melody in the treble staff begins with a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note, then a quarter note, and continues with various rhythmic patterns. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines.

5

child is this, who, laid to rest, On Ma-ry's lap is sleep - ping? Whom  
lies He in such mean estate, Where ox and ass are feed - ing? Good

The second system of musical notation, starting at measure 5. It includes the vocal line with lyrics. The lyrics are: "child is this, who, laid to rest, On Ma-ry's lap is sleep - ping? Whom lies He in such mean estate, Where ox and ass are feed - ing? Good". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic and harmonic patterns as the first system.

9

an - gels greet with anthems sweet, While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
Christian, fear: for sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.

The third system of musical notation, starting at measure 9. It includes the vocal line with lyrics. The lyrics are: "an - gels greet with anthems sweet, While shep - herds watch are keep - ing? Christian, fear: for sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic and harmonic patterns as the previous systems.

13

*f*  
This, this is Christ, the King, Whom shepherds guard and an - gels sing:

17

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Ma - ry! 2. Why

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## Gabriel Music Notation

### chromatic scale note locations

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Piano

1. A A# B $\flat$  B C $\flat$  B# C C# D $\flat$  D D# E $\flat$  F $\flat$  E E# F F# G $\flat$  G G# A $\flat$  A