

AMNS 47 Brightest and best of the sons of the morning

Melody: Epiphany

Reginald Heber
(1783-1826)

J. F. Thrupp
(1827-1867)

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are arranged in four columns, corresponding to the four parts of the choir. The first system contains the first four lines of the hymn, the second system contains the next four lines, the third system contains the next four lines, and the fourth system contains the final four lines. The piano accompaniment is simple, using chords and single notes to support the vocal lines. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

1. Bright-est and best of the sons of the morn - ing,
2. Cold on his cra - dle the dew - drops are shin - ing;
3. Say, shall we yield him, in cost - ly de - vo - tion,
4. Vain - ly we of - fer each am - ple ob - la - tion,

dawn on our dark - ness, and lend us thine aid;
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall;
o - dours of E - dom, and off - 'rings di - vine,
vain - ly with gifts would his fa - vour se - cure:

star of the east, the ho - ri - zon a - dorn - ing,
an - gels a - dore him in slum - ber re - clin - ing,
gems of the moun - tain and pearls of the o - cean,
rich - er by far is the heart's a - do - ra - tion,

guide where our in - fant Re - deem - er is laid.
Ma - ker and Mon - arch and Sa - viour of all.
myrrh from the for - est, or gold from the mine?
dear - er to God are the prayers of the poor.