

# A shepherd band their flocks are keeping

Michael Praetorius ?

*Allegro moderato*

*p*

1. A shep-herd band their flocks are keep-ing, And gen-tle lambs are sweet-ly sleep-ing;

*Ch. or Sw.*

8

*p* *ff*

When sud-den-ly they all be-hold An an-gel in bright robes with harp of gold.

*Gt. Org.*

*Ped.* *Ped. to Gt.*

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| <p>2. Glad tidings of great joy he bringeth,<br/>The azure vault with anthems ringeth;<br/>"Emmanuel" awakes the song,<br/>And countless hosts the glorious theme prolong.</p> <p>3. "To you this day is born a Saviour,<br/>Your Prophet, Priest, and King for ever;"<br/>"All glory be to God," they cry;<br/>"All glory be to God," let earth reply.</p> <p>4. "On earth be peace with mercy blending,<br/>Good-will to men, and love unending;"<br/>Thus sweetly sing the angel throng,<br/>And all the heavenly host rehearse the song.</p> | <p>5. Through field and wood the song resoundeth,<br/>O'er hill and vale the chorus boundeth;<br/>Exultingly the echoes roll,<br/>And hymns of triumph spread from pole to pole</p> <p>6. The shepherds view the host returning,<br/>Their hearts with holy ardour burning;<br/>To Bethlehem they wend their way,<br/>Repeating with glad tongues th'angelic lay.</p> <p>7. In haste they seek the heavenly Stranger;<br/>They find the Babe laid in a manger;<br/>With wonder and with awe they fall,<br/>And joyfully adore Him, Lord of all!</p> <p>8. Now every voice with rapture swelleth,<br/>For Christ the Lord with mortals dwelleth;<br/>Let men and angels Him adore,<br/>And shout their glad Hosannas evermore.</p> |
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(Source: Carols old and carols new, Boston, 1916)

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