
THE FIRST NOWELL

Words
Traditional circa 17th century

Music
Traditional circa 17th century
arranged by Sir John Stainer

SATB

Cantate Domino
EDITION

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The first nowell

Traditional circa 17th Century or earlier.

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1. The first__ Now - ell the__ an - gel did say, was to
 2. They look__ - ed__ up and__ saw__ a star, shin - ing
 3. And by__ the__ light of__ that__ same star, three__
 4. This star__ drew nigh to__ the__ north - west, o'er__
 5. Then en__ - tered in those wise__ men three, full__
 6. Then let__ us__ all with one__ ac - cord, sing__

1. cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; iIn__ fields__ where
 2. in__ the east__ be - yond__ them far, and__ to__ the__
 3. wise__ men came__ from coun__ - try far; to__ seek__ for a
 4. Beth__ - le - hem__ it took__ its rest, and__ there__ it__
 5. re__ - verent - ly__ up - on__ their knee, and__ of__ - fered
 6. prais__ - es to__ our Hea__ - v'nly Lord, that hath__ made

1. they lay__ keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's
 2. earth it__ gave__ great light, and__ so it con -
 3. King was__ their__ in - tent, and to fol - low the
 4. did both__ stop__ and stay, right__ ov - er the
 5. there, in__ his__ pre - sence, their__ gold,__ and
 6. Heav'n and__ earth__ of naught, and__ with__ his

night that was so deep. No - well, No - well, No -
 tin - ued both day and night.
 star where - ev - er it went.
 place where Je - sus lay.
 myrrh, and frank - in - cence.
 blood man - kind hath bought.

well, No - ell. Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The following verses may be added :

Between verse 4 and 5.

Then did they know assuredly
 Within that house the King did lie:
 One entered on then for to see
 And found the babe in poverty

Between verse 5 and 6.

Between an ox-stall and an ass
 This child truly there born he was;
 For want of clothing they did him lay
 All in a manger, among the hay:

After Verse 6.

If we in our time shall do well
 We shall be free from death and hell;
 For God hath prepar-ed for us all
 A resting place in general: