

As shepherds watched their fleecy care

Joseph Key: *Five Anthems, Four Collects, Twenty Psalm Tunes, [etc.]*. Book III. London: Mrs. Eliz. Key, Nuneaton, [1785]

1. As shepherds watched their fleecy care,

An heavenly angel did appear.

Shepherds, attend, to you I bring,

Glad tidings of a new-born King,

Glad tidings of a new-born King.

Chorus

Loud hosannas send on high!

Raise your voices to the sky,

Raise your voices to the sky.

Hymns of Praises ever sing,

To this new-born Heavenly King,

To this new-born Heavenly King.

2. In Bethl'em town this blessed morn,

The saviour of mankind is born;

Born of a spotless virgin pure,

Free from all sin, from guilt secure,

Free from all sin, from guilt secure

3. Arise! your tender care forsake,

With hasty steps your journey take

To David's city, there you'll find,

The great redeemer of mankind,

The great redeemer of mankind.

4. In swaddling clothes the babe behold,

No costly garb his limbs enfold.

Laid in a manger, there you'll see

The pattern of humility,

The pattern of humility.

5. To save us from eternal death

The great Messiah came on earth.

Then let us with united voice

In hallelujahs all rejoice,

In hallelujahs all rejoice.

from booklet to

While shepherds watched: Christmas Music from English Parish Churches and Chapels, 1740–1830

Psalmody, The Parley of Instruments, Peter Holman (conductor)