

Lo! Unto us a child is born

Anon.

"St Davids", anon. (1820)

Edited by Francis Roads

[♩=92]

Soprano [Air] Lo! Un - to us a child is born, The Lord of

Alto Lo! Un - to us a child is born, The

Tenor Lo! Un - to us a child is born, The

Bass Lo! Un - to us a child is born, The Lord of

Keyboard

7

S life and love! To call us all this Christ-mas morn, To call us all this Christ-mas morn, To

A Lord of life and love! To call us all this Christ-mas morn, To call us all this Christ-mas morn To

T Lord of life and love! To call us all this Christ-mas morn, To call us all this Christ-mas morn, To

B life and love! To call us all this Christ-mas morn, To call us all this Christ-mas morn To

Kbd.

Lo! Unto us a child is born

14

S
hap - pi - ness a - bove, To hap - pi - ness a - bove, To hap - pi - ness, To hap - pi - ness a - bove.

A
hap - pi - ness a - bove, To hap - pi - ness a - bove, To hap - pi - ness a - bove, To hap - pi - ness a - bove.

T
hap - pi - ness a - bove, To hap - pi - ness a - bove, To hap - pi - ness, To hap - pi - ness a - bove.

B
hap - pi - ness a - bove, To hap - pi - ness a - bove, To hap - pi - ness a - bove, To hap - pi - ness a - bove.

Kbd.

2. Glory to God in highest heaven,
To men of goodwill peace,
The angel said "A Son is given
Whose kingdom shall increase."

3. Then carols sing, good Christians all,
With angel hosts above,
For Christ we keep the festival,
And Jesus owns our love.

4. And thus let all the ransomed earth
Resound with harmony;
For our Redeemer's humble birth
Laud we the one in three.

This carol appears in *Carols for Use in Church* edited by R. R. Chope, and first published (undated) c1870. It appears in Chope's version in *Carols of the West Country* edited by Glyn Court (1996). Court has a different version of verse 4, but gives no further information other than the carol's provenance from Chope. Chope himself acknowledges that he has altered the text, but gives no information about the origin of the music except to state that it is Cornish. This edition is taken from a manuscript book in use at Bierton Strict Baptist Chapel (near Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire). It is titled there "Greenhead CM", with no accompanying text. There are many obvious errors and missing notes; these have been tacitly emended. Their nature gives the impression of an attempt by an inexperienced musician to construct a score from separate parts. At any rate, the present version is free from some suspiciously Victorian harmonies present in Chope's version. The presence of what is clearly an earlier version in Buckinghamshire casts doubt on the Cornish origin of this carol.

Circled numbers correspond with lines of text;
underlined text is to be repeated by soprano and tenor in bars 17-19.