

## Come Celebrate th'Auspicious Morn

C 120 a

(Then let us be merry)

T. Truswell

Joseph Key - Book IV

Come ce - le - brate th'aus - pi - cious morn, The Sa - viour

of man - kind is born; Shep - herds at - tend the friend - ly Voice, and at these

Ti - dings all re - joice, and at these Ti - dings all re - joice.

Then let us be mer - ry and Joy - ful - ly Sing, This morn - ing gave

birth to our Heav - en - ly King this Morn - ing gave birth to our Heav - en - ly

King; Then ban-ish all sor-row, be chear-ful and gay, our bless-ed Re -

King; Then ban-ish all sor-row, be chear-ful and gay, our bless-ed Re -

-deem-er was born on this Day, our bless-ed Re - deem - er was born on this day.

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1. Come celebrate th'auspicious morn,  
The Saviour of mankind is born.  
Shepherds attend the friendly voice,  
And at these tidings all rejoice.
2. Behold! a spotless Virgin fair  
Hath brought to Light her only Care;  
Whilst guardian Angels now descend,  
The new-born Infant to attend.
3. The Shepherds all with joy repair,  
To seek their only Saviour dear;  
Angelic Voices sweetly sing,  
To hail the lovely new-born King.
4. Directed by the heav'nly Guest,  
The Shepherds found the place of Rest;  
Within a Manger fill'd with Hay,  
'Twas there the great Messiah lay.
5. The Shepherd's sang with Hearts elate,  
To view the Infant's humble State;  
Still may the Day be blest on Earth,  
That gave our dear Redeemer birth.

**NOTES:**

B.L. Ref: G. 521.(4.) T334b.

Alto line originally an octave higher.

\* Grace notes after have been written in full.

The original is in Book IV of Joseph Key's music - *Five Anthems and Four Hymns* - London, and published by his widow ca. 1790.

In 1789 his previous three books were advertised in Thomas Williams's *Psalmodia Evangelica*, London 1789. Key himself died in 1784.

Another version in D can be found (without the Alto part, with S and T parts reversed, and several changes in ornamentation, etc. ) in William Harris's manuscript book from Rodmell, Sussex, dated 1842, and now in the Sussex Archaeological Society Library, Lewes. First 3 verses only. (*Vic Gammon - Hope in the Valley, Lewes, 1982*)

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