

# 11. How Brightly Shines Our Morning Star

Wie schön leucht' uns der Morgenstern

Epiphany

Philipp Nicolai  
(1599)

Hugo Distler  
Der Jahrkreis, op. 5, no. 11

The musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is for Soprano, the middle for Alto, and the bottom for Bass. Each staff has a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The vocal parts are separated by vertical bar lines. The lyrics are written below each staff, corresponding to the vocal parts. The lyrics are in two columns, with some words underlined to indicate pitch or rhythm.

Sop.  
1. How bright - ly shines the Morn-ing Star, God's  
2. O jew - el in my price-less crown, true  
3. Pour deep in - to my wait-ing heart, O  
4. A joy - ous light would shine on me if  
5. O God and Fa - ther, Cham-pion, Lord,  
6. To God let strings and harps ring out  
7. With joy does my heart o - ver - flow

Alto  
1. How bright - ly\_\_\_\_ shines the Morn - ing Star, God's grace and  
2. O jew - el\_\_\_\_ in my price - less crown, true Son of  
3. Pour deep in - to my wait - ing heart, O shin - ing  
4. A joy - ous\_\_\_\_ light would shine\_\_\_\_ on me if Your dear  
5. O God and\_\_\_\_ Fa - ther, Cham - pion, Lord, who loved me  
6. To God let\_\_\_\_ strings and harps\_\_\_\_ ring out and let us  
7. With joy does my heart o - ver - flow for my Be -

Bar.  
1. How bright-ly shines the Morn-ing Star, God's  
2. O jew - el in - my price-less crown, true  
3. Pour deep in - to - my wait-ing heart, O  
4. A joy - ous light would shine on me if  
5. O God and Fa - ther, Cham-pion, Lord,  
6. To God let strings and harps ring out  
7. With joy does my heart o - ver - flow

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4

grace and truth sent from a - far, the sweet - est Root of Son of God and Ma - ry's Son, the high - born King of shin - ing Gem of prec - ious art, the flame of Your love Your dear face should turn to me in sweet - est in - vi - loved me e'er the earth was formed, love that Your Son has let us sweet - est songs sing out in joy - ous sound to - my Be - lov - ed now I know, is Al - pha and O -

truth sent from a - far, the sweet - est Root of Jes - God and Ma - ry's Son, the high - born King of heav - Gem of prec - ious art, the flame of Your love burn - face should turn to me in sweet - est in - vi - ta - e'er the earth was formed, love that Your Son has shown sweet - est songs sing out in joy - ous sound to - geth - lov - ed now I know, is Al - pha and O - me -

4

grace and truth sent from a - far, the sweet-est Root of Son of God and Ma - ry's Son, the high-born King of shin - ing Gem of prec - ious art, the flame of Your love Your dear face should turn to me in sweet-est in - vi - loved me e'er the earth was formed, love that Your Son has let us sweet - est songs sing out in joy - ous sound to - my Be - lov - ed now I know, is Al - pha and O -

7

- se. O Son of Da - vid, Ja - cob's kin, my Bridegroom  
- en! My heart sees You as heav - en's flow'r; Your Gos pel,  
- ing, that I, O Lord, a part may be of Your own  
- tion. O Lord, the things that I most love, Your Word and  
- me, who to Him - self en - trust - ed me, I am His  
- er. To our be - lov - ed Je - su sing, my splen - did  
- ga. Him - self He gives at great - est price to take me

7

Jes - se. O Son of Da - vid, Ja - cob's kin, my  
heav - en! My heart sees You as heav - en's flow'r; Your  
burn - ing, that I, O Lord, a part may be of  
ta - tion. O Lord, the things that I most love, Your  
shown me, who to Him - self en - trust - ed me, I  
geth - er. To our be - lov - ed Je - su sing, my  
me - ga. Him - self He gives at great - est price to take me

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II

Bride-groom and my ho - nored King, my heart in love pos -  
 Gos pel, rich with sto - ried pow'r, is milk and hon - ey  
 Your own Bod - y, cho - sen, free, filled with the joy of  
 Word and Spir - it, bod - y, blood, are my heart's prized pos -  
 am His bride, my Friend is He, and noth - ing shall dis -  
 splen - did Bride - groom and my King, to please Him and to  
 take me up to par - a - dise; I clap my hands, re -

and \_\_\_\_\_ my ho - nored King, my heart in love pos - ess -  
 rich \_\_\_\_\_ with sto - ried pow'r, is milk and hon - ey giv -  
 Bod - y, cho - sen, free, filled with the joy of liv -  
 Spir - it, bod - y, blood, are my heart's prized pos - ses -  
 bride, \_\_\_\_\_ my Friend is He, and noth - ing shall dis - tress  
 Bride - groom and my King, to please Him and to hon -  
 up \_\_\_\_\_ to par - a - dise; I clap my hands, re - joic -

II

Bride - groom and my ho - nored King, my heart in love pos -  
 Gos pel, rich with sto - ried pow'r, is milk and hon - ey  
 Your own Bod - y, cho - sen, free, filled with the joy of  
 Word and Spir - it, bod - y, blood, are my heart's prized pos -  
 am His bride, my Friend is He, and noth - ing shall dis -  
 splen - did Bride-groom and my King, to please Him and to  
 take me up to par - a - dise; I clap my hands, re -

14

ess - ing, love - ly, kind - ly,  
 giv - en. Je - su, Je - su,  
 liv - ing. In Thee, let \_\_\_\_ me,  
 ses - sion. Take me sweet - ly,  
 tress me. Ei - a, ei - a,  
 hon - or. Sing - ing, dance - ing,  
 joic - ing. A - men, a - men.

- ing, kind - ly,  
 - en. Je - su,  
 - ing. let \_\_\_\_ me,  
 - sion. sweet - ly,  
 \_\_\_\_ me. Ei - a,  
 - or. dance - ing,  
 - ing. A - men,

14

\*) 6/4      4/4

ess - ing, fair and come - ly, high and loft - y,  
 giv - en. Ho - si - an - na! Heav'n-ly man - na  
 liv - ing. nev - er ceas - ing, still in - crease in  
 ses - sion. and em - brace me, Lord, in mer - cy,  
 tress me. life in - heav - en to me giv - en,  
 hon - or. joy tri - unph - ant, all re - joic - ing  
 joic - ing. Ban - ish sad - ness, Crown of glad - ness,

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19

great and all splen - dor ex - cell - ing.  
which by our faith will main - tain us.  
that e - ven death can not part us.  
*I* by Your word am in - vit ed.  
I praise His name for - ev er.  
hon - or the King, King of heav en.  
Come, Lord, my heart longs to greet You.

great and all splen - dor ex - cell - ing.  
which by our faith will main - tain us.  
that e'en death can nev - er part us.  
*I* by Your word I am in - vit ed.  
praise His name, my heart, for - ev er.  
hon - or - ing the King of heav en.  
Come, O Lord, I long to greet You.

rich in bless - ing, great and all splen - dor ex - cell - ing.  
to sus - tain us which by our faith will main - tain us.  
joy and glad - ness, that e'en death can nev - er part us.  
love re - quit - ed, by Your word I am in - vit ed.  
now and ev - er: praise His name, my heart, for - ev er.  
with thanks - giv - ing, hon - or - ing the King of heav en.  
soon to meet You. Come, Lord. my heart longs to greet You.

\*) quasi 6/4

## 11. How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

7

Ritornello\* for three instruments on "Wie schön leucht' uns..."

Fl. 23 Flute *p* non legato

Vln. 23 Violin *p* ben legato

Vla. 23 Viola *p* ben legato

Fl. 26 *poco rit.* *Tempo I*

Vln. 26

Vla. 26

Fl. 28 *poco rit.* *Tempo I*

Vln. 28 *p*

Vla. 28 *poco rit.* *Tempo I*

\* To be played *ad libitum* before each verse and at the end. The flute is obligatory; the other two parts may be played by other melodic instruments of similar weight. Choral or soloistic instrumentation according to the available resources and the strength of the choir.

[*ad libitum* vor jedem Vers und am Schluß zu spielen. Die Flötenstimme ist obligat, die beiden andern Stimmen können auch von beliebigen andern, klanglich gleichwertigen Melodieinstrumenten gespielt werden. Chorische oder solistische Besetzung je nach den vorhandenen Mitteln und der Stärke des Chores.]

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*poco rit.*

Fl. 31 *Tempo I*

Vln. 31 *poco rit.* *Tempo I*

Vla. 31 *poco rit.* *Tempo I*

Fl. 35 *poco f*

Vln. 35 *mp* *mf* *poco f* *3*

Vla. 35 *poco f* *3*

Fl. 38 *18* *12* *2*

Vln. 38 *3* *4*

Vla. 38 *3* *4*