

# 5. A VIRGIN MOST PURE

English traditional carol  
arranged by  
JOHN RUTTER

*VERSES 1 and 3*  
**Allegretto comodo**

VOICES *SOPRANOS* *mf*

PIANO or ORGAN *mf*

1. A vir - gin most pure, as the  
3. But when they had en - tered the

pro - phets do tell, Hath brought forth a ba - by, as  
ci - ty so fair, A num - ber of peo - ple so

it hath be - fell; To be our Re - deem - er from  
migh - ty was there, That Jo - seph and Ma - ry, whose

death, hell, and sin, Which A - dam's trans - gres - sion had  
sub - stance was small, Could find in the inn there no

SC  
wra  
loc

- jo

f

REFRAIN

SOPRANO *f*

wrap - pèd us in. *f* Aye, and there - fore\_ be\_ mer - ry; Re -  
 lod - ging at all.

ALTO *f*

- joice, — and be you mer - ry; Set — sor - row — a - side; — Christ

Je - sus — our — Sa - viour — was born — at this tide.

ional carol  
i by  
TTER



s the  
red the



as  
so



from  
whose



had  
no



VERSES 2 and 4

S.1 *mf*

2. In Beth - le - hem - Jew - ry a - ci - ty there was, Where  
 4. Then they were con - strain'd in a sta - ble to lie, Where

S.2 and A. *mf*  
 (Accomp. tacet)

Jo - seph and Ma - ry to - ge - ther did pass, And  
 hors - es and ass - es they used for to tie; Their

there to be tax - ed with ma - ny one mo, For  
 lod - ging so sim - ple they took it no scorn, But a -

**REFRAIN** *f*

Cae - sar com - mand - ed the same should be so. Aye, and  
 - gainst the next morn - ing our Sa - viour was born.

*f* (Accomp. double voices)

there - fore be mer - ry; Re - joice, and be you mer - ry; Set sor - row a -

- side;

VER v. 5: 5 y. 6: 5

*p* 5  
*mf* 6

SOPRANO  
CHOIR  
ALTO  
(Acco)

store of cer - ta

Lul - la,  
Al - le

when she bade ther

Lul -  
Al -

\* recommended pronunciat

A virgin most pure 19  
 after v. 2: D.C. for v. 3  
 after v. 4: straight on for v. 5

Where  
Where

- side; Christ Je - sus our Sa - viour was born at this tide.

VERSES 5 and 6  
 v. 5: SOLO or SEMI-CHORUS  
 v. 6: SEMI-CHORUS or SOLO

SOPRANO  
 CHOIR  
 ALTO

*p* 5. The King of all kings to this world be-ing brought, Small.  
*mf* 6. Then God sent an an - gel from hea - ven so high, To -

*p* 5. \*Lul - la, lul - la, lul - la, lul - la - by.  
*mf* 6. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

(Accomp. tacet)

For -  
But a -

store of fine lin - en to wrap him was sought; And  
 cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields where they lie, And

REFRAIN  
 Lul - la, lul - la, lul - la - by.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Aye, and

(Accomp. tuble voices)

when she had<sup>3</sup> swad - dled her young son so sweet, With -  
 bade them no lon - ger in sor - row to stay, Be -

Lul - la, lul - la, lul - la - by.  
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

\* recommended pronunciation loo-la

*cresc.*

- in an ox - man - ger she laid him to sleep. *Aye, and*  
 - cause that our Sa - viour was born on this day.

*Lul - la, lul - la, lul - la - by.*  
*Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.*

there - fore be - mer - ry; Re - joice, and be you mer - ry; Set  
*cresc.*

*Lul - la - by, lul - la, lul - la,*  
*Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,*

*cresc.*  
 (Accomp. doubles voices)

(back to p.19 for v.6)

sor - row a - side; Christ Je - sus our Sa - viour was born at this tide.

*lul - la - by, Lul - la, lul - la, lul - la - by.*  
*al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.*

VE.

shep

stoc

swee

VERSE 7

ALL VOICES *f*

7. Then pre - sent - ly af - ter the

*mp cresc.*

shep - herds did spy A num - ber of an - gels that

stood in the sky; They joy - ful - ly talk - ed, and

sweet - ly did sing, 'To God be all glo - ry, our

*cresc.*  
Aye, and

Set

la,  
ia,

o p.19 for v.6)  
is tide.

la - by  
le - lu - ia.

REFRAIN

S. 1  
 hea - ven - ly King. *ff* Aye, and there - fore be mer - ry; Re -  
 S. 2 and A. *ff* Aye, and there - fore be mer - ry; Re -

Largamente

- joice, and be you mer - ry; Set sor - row a - side; For  
 - joice, and be you mer - ry; Set sor - row a - side; Christ

Christ our Sa - viour was born at this tide.  
 Je - sus our Sa - viour was born at this tide.

SOPRANO 1  
SOPRANO 2

ALTO

PIANO  
or ORGAN

sta - ble so  
 dis - tant far

(Man.)

The original