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Shepherds Abiding on a Desert Hill

Words and Music by

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Moderato

mf *poco rit.*

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand features a series of chords and moving lines, while the left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The tempo is marked 'Moderato' and the dynamics range from mezzo-forte (*mf*) to a slight deceleration (*poco rit.*).

a tempo mf

Shep - herds a-bid-ing on the des - ert hill — Watched o'er their sheep as the
years had they waited for the Prom - ised One — To throw off the yoke of op -

a tempo mf

night wind did fill — The clear spring — air — with a fra - grance sweet — From
pres - sion — hung O - ver all of — Is - rael by a ty - rant's hand How they

flow - ers bloom - ing— 'neath their feet. — Oh, such a won - drous -
longed for free - dom in their prom - ised land! Yet, trem - ble they did and were

night it was — When sim - ple — shep - herds from toil did pause To
sore a - fraid When the an - gel in glor - i - ous white ar - rayed —

pon - der the heav'ns filled with daz - zling light As a strange new bril - liant
Gave them God's mes - sage of peace and love, The — gift of His Son from

1. star burned bright. Long

2. heav'n a-bove. *mp*

"Fear not," how this shall be a

1. 2. *mp*

com-fort-ing his tone, Though maj-es-ty from his be-ing shone, "Good tid-ings of great sign un-to you. In Da-vid's Cit-y the Ba-by new Will be wrapped in swad-dling

1. joy I bring To - night is born God's Son, your King And

2. an - gel said Then the

clothes and laid In a hay-filled man-ger," the

1. 2.

f

sky was filled with a heav-en-ly host— Join - ing the an-gel to pro - claim that most—

f

Detailed description: This system contains the first two musical systems. The top system features a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "sky was filled with a heav-en-ly host— Join - ing the an-gel to pro - claim that most—". Below it is a piano accompaniment consisting of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with a forte (*f*) dynamic marking.

Won - der-ful gift to man,- the birth Of God's On - ly Be-got - ten Son on earth.

Detailed description: This system contains the second two musical systems. The top system features a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "Won - der-ful gift to man,- the birth Of God's On - ly Be-got - ten Son on earth.". Below it is a piano accompaniment consisting of two staves (treble and bass clefs).

"Glo - ry to God in the High - est," rang As the an - gel— choir God's—

Detailed description: This system contains the third two musical systems. The top system features a vocal line in treble clef with lyrics: "'Glo - ry to God in the High - est,' rang As the an - gel— choir God's—". Below it is a piano accompaniment consisting of two staves (treble and bass clefs).

prais - es sang. "Peace on earth. To men good will." Now

cen - turies la - ter it ech - oes still *mp* "Glo - ry to God in the
Ech - oes still,

mp

gradually fade High - est. Peace on earth. To men good will!" *pp*
ech - oes still, Ech - oes still, ech - oes still.

gradually fade *pp*