

"ON A STARRY HILLSIDE" (To the tune of "In the Bleak Midwinter" Public Domain)

Music: Gustav Holst 1906, Original lyrics: poem by Christina Rossetti 1872

Additional/Altered lyrics by Christene Jackman ©11.1.2021, 12.20.2024, BMI# 070911540

To reflect a spring/Passover birth of Messiah.

In Israel, lambing season is in early spring. Shepherds are in the fields at night, protecting the ewes giving birth from predators drawn by the smell of blood. "In the Bleak Midwinter" is a poem by the English poet Christina Rossetti, commonly performed as a Christmas carol. The poem was published, under the title "A Christmas Carol", in the January 1872. In 1906, the composer Gustav Holst composed a setting of Rossetti's words (titled "Cranham") in The English Hymnal which is sung throughout the world.

FOR GUITAR

Capo at 9th fret

C Am Dm G

On a starry hillside / far from where I am

C Am Dm G C

Shepherds guarded mothers / ewes about to lamb

Dm Am C Dm G

Danger lurked in shadows deep / but flickering fires deterred

C Am Dm G C

While on a starry hillside / Angels brought them word

C Am Dm G

Our God, heaven can't hold Him / nor the earth sustain

C Am Dm G C

Heaven & earth shall hail Him / when He comes to reign

Dm Am C Dm G

On that greening hillside / the Branch sprang forth that day

C Am Dm G C

Yeshua HaMashiach / the King, in swaddling lay

Csus Am7 Fmaj7 G

Angels and archangels / praising, gathered there

Csus Am7 Fmaj7 G C

Keruvim and *Seraphim* / thronging in the air

Dm Am C Dm G

And His mother, *Miriam* / in her maiden bliss

Csus Am7 Fmaj7 G C

Worshipped the Beloved / sweetly with a kiss

C Am Dm G

But, what can I give Him / poor as I am?

C Am7 Dm G C

If I were a shepherd / I would bring a lamb

Dm Am C Dm G

If I were a wise man / I would do my part

Csus Am7 Fmaj7 G C

So, what I can, I give Him / I will give my heart

JUST LYRICS

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