What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES (8 7. 8 7. 6 8. 6 7)
English melody, 16th century
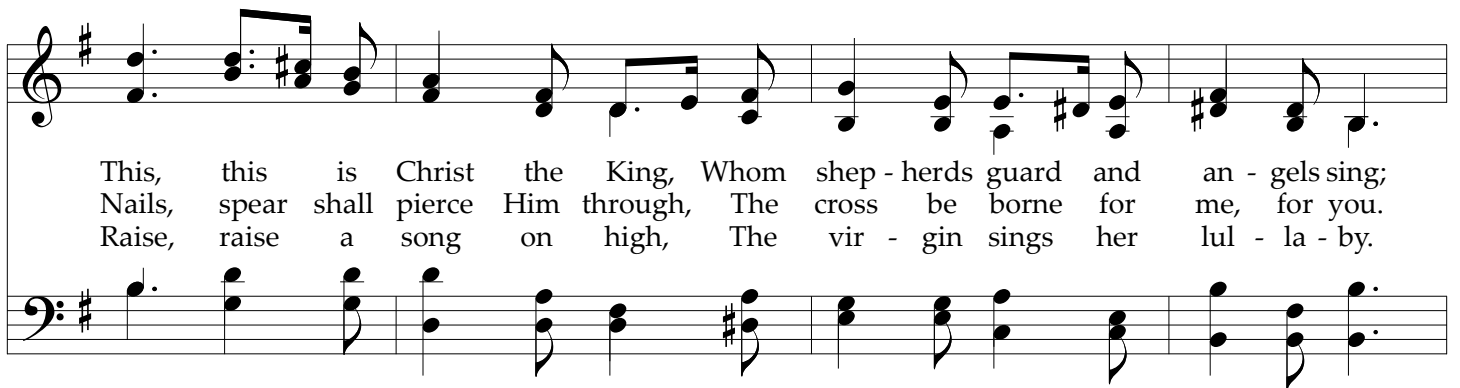
Traditional English carol, before 1642
adapted by William Chatterton Dix, c. 1865
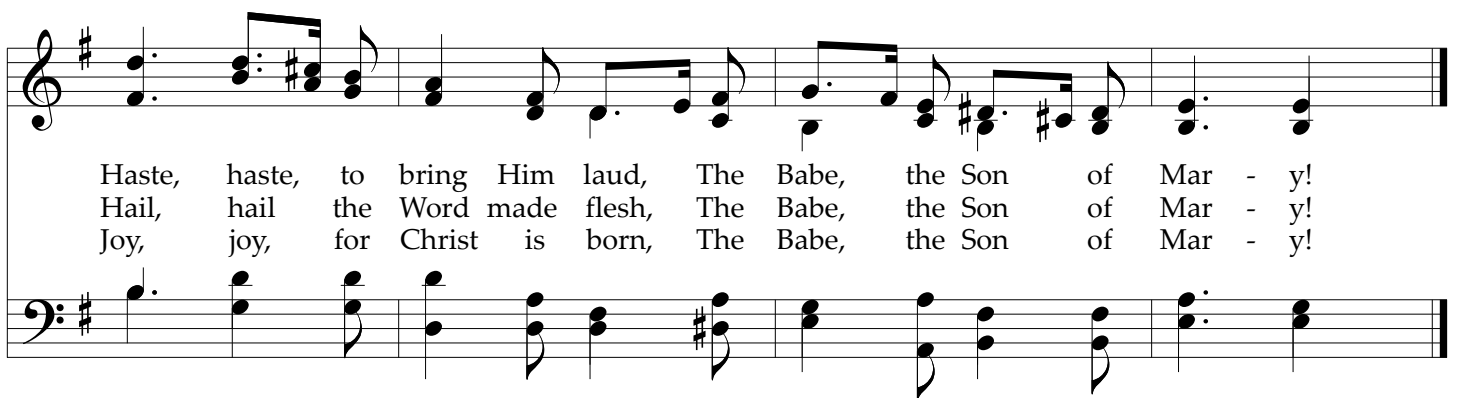

1. What Child is this, who laid to rest On Mar-y's lap is sleep - ing?
2. Why lies He in such mean es-tate, Where ox and ass are feed - ing?
3. So bring Him in - cense, gold and myrrh; Come, peas-ant, king, to own Him;

Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings, Let lov - ing hearts en - throne Him.

This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The cross be borne for me, for you.
Raise, raise a song on high, The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.

Haste, haste, to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mar - y!
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The Babe, the Son of Mar - y!
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, The Babe, the Son of Mar - y!