

Piae Cantiones,
translated by G.R. Woodward

Unto us is born a Son

Melody from Piae Cantiones,
arr. G.H. Palmer

The image shows three staves of musical notation for a three-part setting. The top staff uses a soprano C-clef, the middle staff an alto F-clef, and the bottom staff a bass G-clef. All staves are in common time (indicated by a '4'). The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music consists of three systems of measures. The lyrics are written below each staff, corresponding to the notes. The first system contains five lines of lyrics, the second system contains four lines, and the third system contains five lines. The lyrics are as follows:

1. Un - to us is born a Son, King of quires su -
2. Christ, from heav'n de - scend - ing low, comes on earth a
3. This did He - rod sore af - ray, and grie - vous - ly be -
4. Of his love and mer - cy mild this the Christ - mas
5. O and A, and A and O, cum can - ti - bus in

per stran - nal: see on earth his life be - gun, of
wil - der; ox and ass their own - er know, be -
sto - ry; so he gave the word to slay, and
cho - ro, O that Ma - ry's gen - tle child might
 let our mer - ry or - gan go, Be -

lords the Lord e - ter - nal, of lords the Lord e - ter - nal.
cra - dled in the man - ger, be - cra - dled in the man - ger.
slew the lit - tle chil - der, and slew the lit - tle chil - der.
lead us up to glo - ry, might lead us up to glo - ry!
ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no, be - ne - di - ca - mus Do - mi - no.