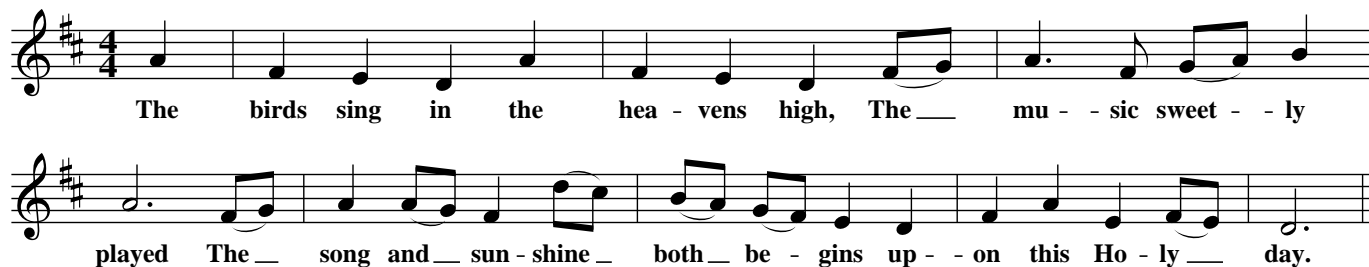


## The Holy Day (Carol)



The birds sing in the heavens high, The music sweetly  
played The song and sunshine both begins upon this Holy day.

Only some words were collected from Mrs Barnard.  
The complete words, from "A Garland of Christmas Carols,  
Ancient and Modern" (1861), are as follows:

It is the day, the Holy day,  
On which our Lord was born,  
And sweetly doth the sunbeams gild  
The dew-besprinkled thorn.  
The birds sing through the heavens,  
And the breezes gently play,  
And song and sunshine lovely  
Begins this Holy day.

'Twas in a humble manger,  
A little lowly shed,  
With cattle at his infant feet,  
And shepherds at his head,  
The Saviour of this sinful world  
In innocence first lay,  
While Wise Men made their offerings  
To him this Holy day.

He comes to save the perishing,  
To waft the sighs to heaven  
Of guilty men, who truly sought  
To weep, to be forgiven.  
And intercessor still he shines,  
And men to him should pray  
At his altar's feet for meekness  
Upon this Holy Day.

As flowers still bloom fair again,  
Though all their life seems shed,  
Thus we shall rise with life once more,  
Though number'd with the dead.  
Then may our stations be near Him,  
To whom we worship pay,  
And praise with heartfelt gratitude,  
Upon this Holy day.

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Source: Collected by Cecil Sharp from Mrs Barnard, Mitcheldean September 6, 1921