

Silent Night

The lyrics to “Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht” were written in 1816 by a young Austrian priest, Joseph Mohr (1792–1848). In 1818, Mohr asked Franz Xaver Gruber (1787–1863), organist at St. Nicholas church in Oberndorf, to write a melody, along with guitar accompaniment, for Christmas Eve Mass, as the organ had been damaged in a flood. The organ repairman spread the song far and wide, leading to its immense popularity today.

Slowly

The musical score is presented in three systems. Each system consists of a piano accompaniment part (top staff) and a vocal melody part (bottom staff). The key signature is D major (two sharps) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked 'Slowly'. The lyrics are: 'Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright. Round yon vir - gin moth - er and child, ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild. Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.' The piano accompaniment uses chords and arpeggios to support the melody. The vocal melody is written in a simple, lyrical style with some phrasing slurs.

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Round yon vir - gin moth - er and child, ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild.

Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.