

The snow lay on the ground    Hymnal 1982 no. 110    Melody: Venite adoremus    Irregular metre

The musical score consists of six staves of music in G major and 6/8 time. The first five staves are instrumental, and the sixth staff includes the lyrics: "Ve - ni - te a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num." The melody is characterized by its irregular metre and features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some rests.

The snow lay on the ground,  
the stars shone bright,  
when Christ our Lord was born  
on Christmas night.  
Venite adoremus Dominum.  
Venite adoremus Dominum.  
(Refrain:) Venite adoremus Dominum.  
Venite adoremus Dominum.

'Twas Mary, daughter pure  
of holy Anne,  
that brought into this world  
the God made man.  
She laid him in a stall  
at Bethlehem;  
the ass and oxen shared  
the roof with them.  
(Refrain)

Saint Joseph, too, was by  
to tend the child;  
to guard him, and protect  
his mother mild;  
the angels hovered round,  
and sang this song,  
Venite adoremus Dominum.  
(Refrain)

And thus that manger poor  
became a throne;  
for he whom Mary bore  
was God the Son.  
O come, then, let us join  
the heavenly host;  
to praise the Father, Son,  
and Holy Ghost.  
*(Refrain)*

Words: Anonymous, 19th century

Music: Melody adapted by Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944)