

Side Notes: In a town in southern France in 1843, the church organ had recently been renovated. To celebrate this, the parish priest asked the poet Placide Cappaeau, who had grown up in the area, to write a Christmas poem. Soon afterwards, Adolphe Adam composed the music. It was translated into English in 1855 by John Sullivan Dwight and soon became a popular Christmas song. While I was coming up with this arrangement, I kept returning to Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" tune and felt like they should be together for this book. Hopefully it adds a unique twist to two familiar tunes as you play them.

O Holy Night

Easier Version

Arr. JASON TONIOLI

The first system of musical notation for 'O Holy Night' is in 6/8 time and marked *mp*. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff begins with a whole note chord (F4, A4, C5) and continues with a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass staff provides accompaniment with chords and single notes.

The second system of musical notation starts at measure 6. The treble staff has whole rests for the first five measures. The bass staff continues the accompaniment with eighth notes and quarter notes, including a key signature change to one sharp (F#4) in measure 7.

The third system of musical notation starts at measure 11. The treble staff has whole rests for the first two measures. The bass staff continues the accompaniment with eighth notes and quarter notes.

The fourth system of musical notation starts at measure 15. The treble staff has whole rests for the first two measures. The bass staff continues the accompaniment with eighth notes and quarter notes, including a key signature change to one sharp (F#4) in measure 17.