

# PUER NOBIS

*Unto us a boy is born*

*Unto us is born a Son*

Latin, 15th century, translated by  
Percy Dearmer (1867 - 1936) / G.R. Woodward (1848 - 1934)

from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582,  
arranged by Paul Walton

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Puer Nobis'. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system contains five measures of music. The second system begins with a measure number '6' above the first staff and contains five measures of music. The notation includes various rhythmic values such as quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and accidentals.

- NEH / CP words:*
1. Unto us a boy is born!  
King of all creation,  
Came he to a world forlorn,  
The Lord of ev'ry nation,  
The Lord of ev'ry nation.
  2. Cradled in a stall was he  
With sleepy cows and asses;  
But the very beasts could see  
That he all men surpasses,  
That he all men surpasses.
  3. Herod then with fear was filled:  
'A prince', he said, 'in Jewry!'  
And all the little boys he killed  
At Bethlem in his fury,  
At Bethlem in his fury.
  4. Now may Mary's son, who came  
So long ago to love us,  
Lead us all with hearts aflame  
Unto the joys above us,  
Unto the joys above us.
  5. Omega and Alpha he!  
Let the organ thunder,  
While the choir with peals of glee  
Doth rend the air asunder,  
Doth rend the air asunder.

- CCI words:*
- Unto us is born a Son,  
King of quires supernal,  
See on earth his life begun,  
Of lords the Lord eternal,  
Of lords the Lord eternal.
- Christ, from heav'n descending low,  
Comes on earth a stranger;  
Ox and ass their owner know,  
Becradled in the manger,  
Becradled in the manger.
- This did Herod sore affray,  
And grievously bewilder,  
So he gave the word to slay,  
And slew the little childer,  
And slew the little childer.
- Of his love and mercy mild  
This the Christmas story;  
And O that Mary's gentle child  
Might lead us up to glory,  
Might lead us up to glory!
- O and A, and A and O,  
*Cum cantibus in choro,*  
Let our merry organ go,  
*Benedicamus Domino,*  
*Benedicamus Domino.*

## Last verse arrangement

O-me-ga\_ and Al-pha he! Let the or-gan thun-der, While the choir with  
 O and A, and A and O, *Cum can-ti-bus in cho-ro,* Let our mer-ry

This system consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major, 4/4 time, with lyrics. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment with treble and bass clefs. The bottom staff is a bass line. Dynamics include *più f* above the vocal line and *più f* above the piano accompaniment.

6  
 peals of glee Doth rend the air a-sun-der, Doth rend the air a-sun-der.  
 or-gan go, Be-ne-di-ca-mus Do-mi-no, Be-ne-di-ca-mus Do-mi-no.

This system consists of three staves. The top staff is a vocal line in G major, 4/4 time, with lyrics. The middle staff is a piano accompaniment with treble and bass clefs. The bottom staff is a bass line. The system begins with a measure rest marked '6'.