While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. Luke 2:8

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night, All seated on the ground.
2. "Fear not," said he, for mighty dread Had seized their troubled mind.
3. "To you, in David's town this day Is born, of David's line, The angel of the Lord came down.
4. "The heav'nly Babe you shall find To human view displayed, All meanly wrapped in swathing bands, earth be peace. Good will henceforth from heav'n to men.
5. "All glory be to God on high And to the And glory shone around, And glory shone around.
   To you and all mankind, To you and all mankind.
   And this shall be the sign, And this shall be the sign:
   And in a man-ger laid, And in a man-ger laid.
   Begin and never cease, Begin and never cease!

TEXT: Nahum Tate
MUSIC: George Frederick Handel; from Weyman's, Melodia Sacra, 1815

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