95. Kings of Orient

Words and melody by J. H. HOPKINS (1820-91) arranged by DAVID WILLCOCKS











C David Willcocks 1975, transferred to Oxford University Press 1978



(Melchior)

- Born a king on Bethlehem plain, Gold I bring, to crown him again— King for ever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign:
 - O star of wonder, etc.

(Caspar)

 Frankincense to offer have I; Incense owns a deity nigh: Prayer and praising, all men raising, Worship him, God most high: O star of wonder, etc.

(Balthazar)

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom; Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb: O star of wonder, etc.

(All)

5. Glorious now, behold him arise, King, and God, and sacrifice! Heav'n sings alleluya, Alleluya the earth replies: O star of wonder, etc.

Verses 2, 3, and 4 may be sung by three different soloists whilst the choir accompanies, singing Ah.