

130 Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light

Break forth, O beau - teous heav - en - ly light, and ush - er in the
 morn - ing. You shep - herds, shud - der not with fright, but hear the
 an - gel's warn - ing. This child, now weak in in - fan - cy, our
 con - fi - dence and joy shall be, the power of Sa - tan
 break - ing, our peace e - ter - nal mak - ing.

The musical score consists of five systems of two staves each. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is common time (C). The music is a chorale with a steady, rhythmic accompaniment in the bass and a more melodic line in the treble. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

This exuberant text, based on Isaiah 9:2-7, was the ninth of twelve stanzas in its original German hymn. The chorale tune associated with this hymn went through many changes at the hands of later composers, reaching its present form in J. S. Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*.