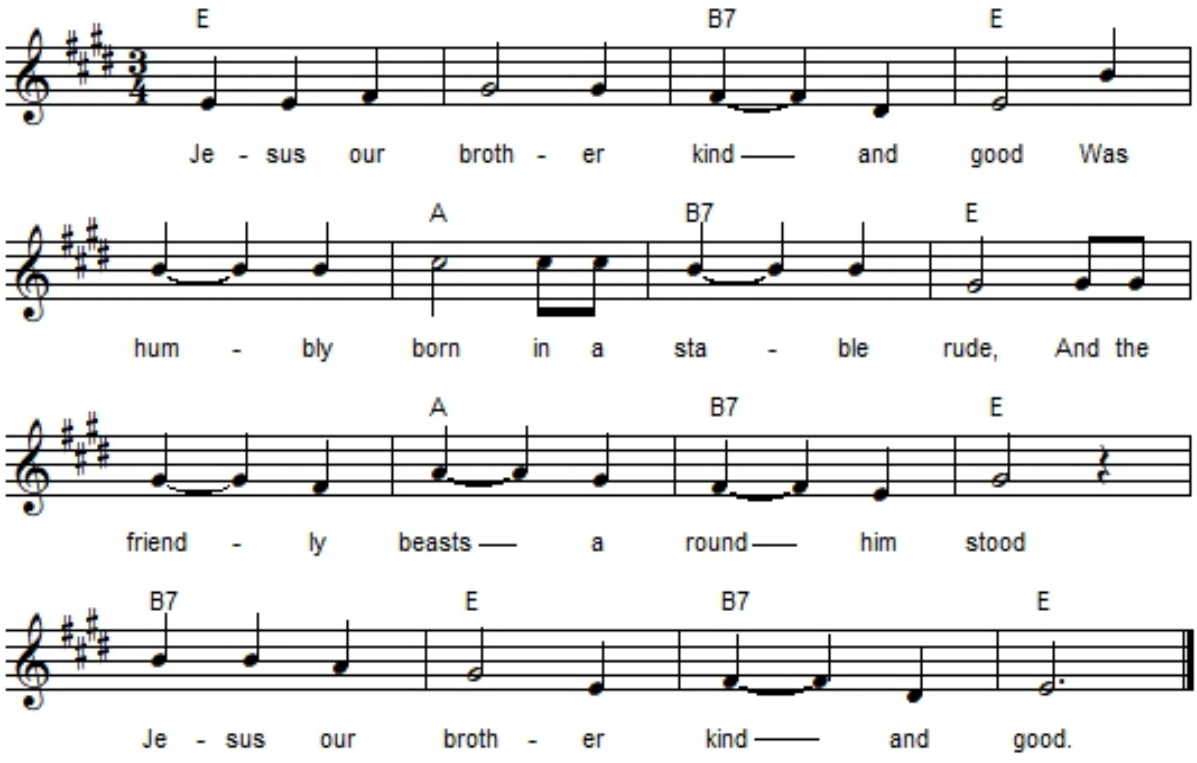
# The Friendly Beasts




1. Jesus our brother kind and good
   Was humbly born in a stable rude,
   And the friendly beasts around him
   stood
   Jesus our brother kind and good.

2. I, said the donkey, shaggy and brown,
   I carried His mother uphill and down.
   I carried His mother to Bethlehem town
   I, said the donkey, shaggy and brown.

3. I, said the cow, all white and red,
   I gave Him my manger for his bed,
   I gave Him hay to pillow His head;
   I, said the cow, all white and red.

4. I, said the sheep with curly horn,
   I gave Him my wool for His blanket
   warm.
   He wore my coat on Christmas morn.
   I, said the sheep with curly horn.

5. I, said the dove from the rafters high
   I cooed Him to sleep that He should not
   cry,
   We cooed Him to sleep, my mate and I.
   I, said the dove, from the rafters high.

6. I, said the camel, yellow and black,
   Over the desert, upon my back
   I brought him a gift in the wise men's pack.
   I, said the camel, yellow and black.

7. Thus all the beasts, by some good spell,
   In the stable dark were glad to tell
   Of the gifts they gave Emmanuel,
   The gifts they gave Emmanuel.

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"The Friendly Beasts" is a 12th cent. French carol, translated by Robert Davis.
The tune is known as "*Orientis Partibus*".
It has been published in 33 hymnals.