

Il est né, le divin Enfant!

The image shows a musical score for the carol 'Il est né, le divin Enfant!'. It consists of four staves of music in G major and 2/8 time. The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains measures 1-4. The second staff contains measures 5-8. The third staff is labeled 'Verse' and contains measures 9-12. The fourth staff contains measures 13-16. The melody is simple and repetitive, characteristic of a traditional carol.

Chorus:

He is born, the Heav'nly Child,
Oboes play; set bagpipes sounding
He is born, the Heav'nly Child.
Let all sing His nativity.

- 'Tis four thousand years and more,
Prophets have foretold His coming,
'Tis four thousand years and more,
Have we waited this happy hour.
Chorus

- Ah, how lovely, Ah, how fair,
What perfection is His graces,
Ah, how lovely, Ah, how fair.
Child divine, so gentle there.
Chorus

- In a stable lodged is He,
Straw is all He has for cradle.
In a stable lodged is He,
Oh how great humility!
Chorus

- Jesus Lord, O King with power,
Though a little babe You come here,
Jesus Lord, O King with power,
Rule o'er us from this glad hour.
Chorus

"*Il est né, le divin Enfant*" (English: He is born, the divine Child) is a traditional French Christmas carol, which was published for the first time in 1862 by R. Grosjean, organist of the Cathedral of Saint-Dié-des-Vosges, in a collection of carols entitled "*Airs des Noël's lorrains*". The text of the carol was published for the first time in a collection of ancient carols, published in either 1875 or 1876 by Dom G. Legeay.

The tune for this carol can be found in R. Grosjean's *Airs des Noël lorrain* (1862), where it is called '*Ancien air de chasse*', and an old Normandy hunting tune '*Tête bizarre*', though in 6/8, is melodically very similar.

It is included in **The New Oxford Book of Carols** (#193).