

The Moon Shines Bright

Albert Beale

Recorded by Peter Kennedy and Maud Karpeles, Kenardington, 14 January 1954

BBC recording 21157

Roud 702

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and folk-like. The lyrics are: 'The moon shines- bright, and the stars give light, A lit- tle be- fore it was day, The Lord_ dear_ God he calls_ on_ us, And he bids us to wake and- pray.'

1. The moon shines bright, and the stars give light

A little before it was day

The Lord dear God he calls on us

And he bids us to wake and pray

2. Awake, awake good people all

Awake and you shall hear

The Lord our God died on the cross

For us he loved so dear

3. Today you may be alive, dear man

And worth some thousand pound

But tomorrow you may be dead, dear man

And your corpse laid under the ground

4. A temple at your head, dear man

And another at your feet

Then your good deeds and your bad deeds

Before the Lord will meet

5. So now my carol is almost sung

No longer can I stay here

May the Lord bless you all, both great and small

And send you a happy new year