

The Friendly Beasts

Traditional
Adapted by Carey Landry
Arranged by Hal Wright

INTRO *Gently* (♩ = ca. 144)

REFRAIN

(C/E) (F) (C/G) (Am7) (Dm) (G) (C) (C) (Am7)
Eb/G Ab Eb/Bb Cm7 Fm Bb Eb Eb Cm7

Harmony

Melody

Je - sus, our broth - er

Keyboard

(G7) (C) (C/E) (F) (G) (C)
Bb7 Eb Eb/G Ab Bb Eb

Melody

Harmony

kind and good, was hum - bly born in a sta - ble rude, and the

(Em7) (F) (G) (F) (C) (C/E) (F) (C/G) (Am7) (Dm7) (G7) (C)
Gm7 Ab Bb Ab Eb Eb/G Ab Eb/Bb Cm7 Fm7 Bb7 Eb

friend - ly beasts a - round him stood. Je - sus, our broth - er kind and good.

last time to Coda ⊕

last time to Coda ⊕

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*VERSES

(C7)

Eb7

spoken



1. "I," said the don - key, shag - gy and brown, "I car - ried his moth - er up hill and down, I
2. "I," said the cow, all white and red, "I gave him my man - ger for his bed, I
3. "I," said the sheep with cur - ly horn, "I gave him my wool for his blan - ket warm. He
4. "I," said the dove from the raft - ers high, "I cooed him to sleep that he should not cry, we
5. "I," said the cam - el, yel - low and black, "o - ver the des - ert up - on my back, I
6. Thus ev - 'ry beast by some good spell, in the sta - ble dark was glad to tell of the



1. car - ried her safe - ly to Beth - le - hem town," "I," said the don - key, shag - gy and brown.
2. gave him my hay to pil - low his head." "I," said the cow, all white and red.
3. wore my coat on Christ - mas morn." "I," said the sheep with curl - y horn.
4. cooed him to sleep, my mate and I." "I," said the dove from the raft - ers high.
5. brought him a gift in the wise man's pack." "I," said the cam - el, yel - low and black.
6. gift he gave, E - man - u - el, the gift he gave E - man - u - el.



⊕ CODA

(C7)

Eb7



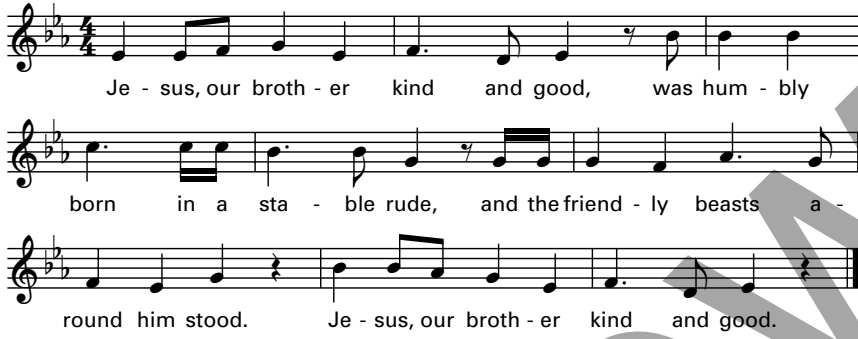
*Verses may be performed in groups of two before returning to the Refrain, as recorded (edition 11962).

Assembly Edition

THE FRIENDLY BEASTS

Traditional
Adapted by Carey Landry

Refrain



Je - sus, our broth - er kind and good, was hum - bly
born in a sta - ble rude, and the friend - ly beasts a -
round him stood. Je - sus, our broth - er kind and good.

Verses

1. "I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown, "I carried his mother up hill and down, I carried her safely to Bethlehem town." "I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown.	4. "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.
2. "I," said the cow, all white and red, "I gave him my manger for his bed, I gave him my hay to pillow his head." "I," said the cow, all white and red.	5. "I," said the camel, yellow and black, "over the desert upon my back, I brought him a gift in the wise man's pack." "I," said the camel, yellow and black.
3. "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.	6. Thus ev'ry beast by some good spell, in the stable dark was glad to tell of the gift he gave Emanuel, the gift he gave Emanuel.

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Performance Notes

After singing *The Friendly Beasts* in the traditional way for many years, I saw an opportunity to give it a delightful twist by doing the verses in "rap" style. I am very pleased with the arrangement on the recording. Children take great delight in doing the rap verses. This is more of a performance piece than a liturgical song, and may be used as part of a pre-Mass program on Christmas Eve or as one of the songs in a Christmas pageant.

—Carey Landry