

## LORD OF THE DANCE

LORD OF THE DANCE irregular

adapted from a Shaker melody

by Sydney Carter 1915-

Unison G Bm Em

1 I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun,

Am D7

and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun;

G Em Bm Em

and I came down from hea-ven and I danced on the earth -

Am D7 C G

at Beth-le-hem I had my birth.

Refrain Bm Em

Dance then wher-ev-er you may be;

G Am D

I am the Lord of the Dance, said he;

I'll lead you all wher - ev - er you may be,

I will lead you all in the dance, said he.

2 I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,  
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;  
they came with me and the dance went on.  
Dance then wherever you may be ...

3 I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;  
the holy people said it was a shame;  
they whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,  
and they left me there on a cross to die.  
Dance then wherever you may be ...

4 I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black -  
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;  
they buried my body and they thought I'd gone -  
but I am the dance and I still go on.  
Dance then wherever you may be ...

5 They cut me down and I leap up high:  
I am the life that'll never, never die;  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me -  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.  
Dance then wherever you may be ...

Sydney Carter 1915-

The small notes are for v. 5

The stanzas may be sung by a soloist  
and the refrain by the people.