Sumer is icumen in

Oldest version of this medieval (mid-13th century) song was found in Reading Abbey, Berkshire, England. It's a rota, a type of round. The second verse is from the same manuscript, but is thought to be a later, Christian addition to the original song.

The instructions for singing, from the original manuscript are:

"Four companions can sing this round. It should not be sung by fewer than three, or at the very least, two in addition to those who sing the "pes".

This is how it is sung; While the others are silent, one person begins at the same time as those who sing the ground. When he comes to the first note after cross (after two bars), another singer is to begin and so on."

The two sets of two bars marked "Pes" in the manuscript are repeated throughout the song.

Version: Leadsheet with added chord symbols and lyrics. Arrangement: The Sheet Music Stack Edited by: The Sheet Music Stack, 2015

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