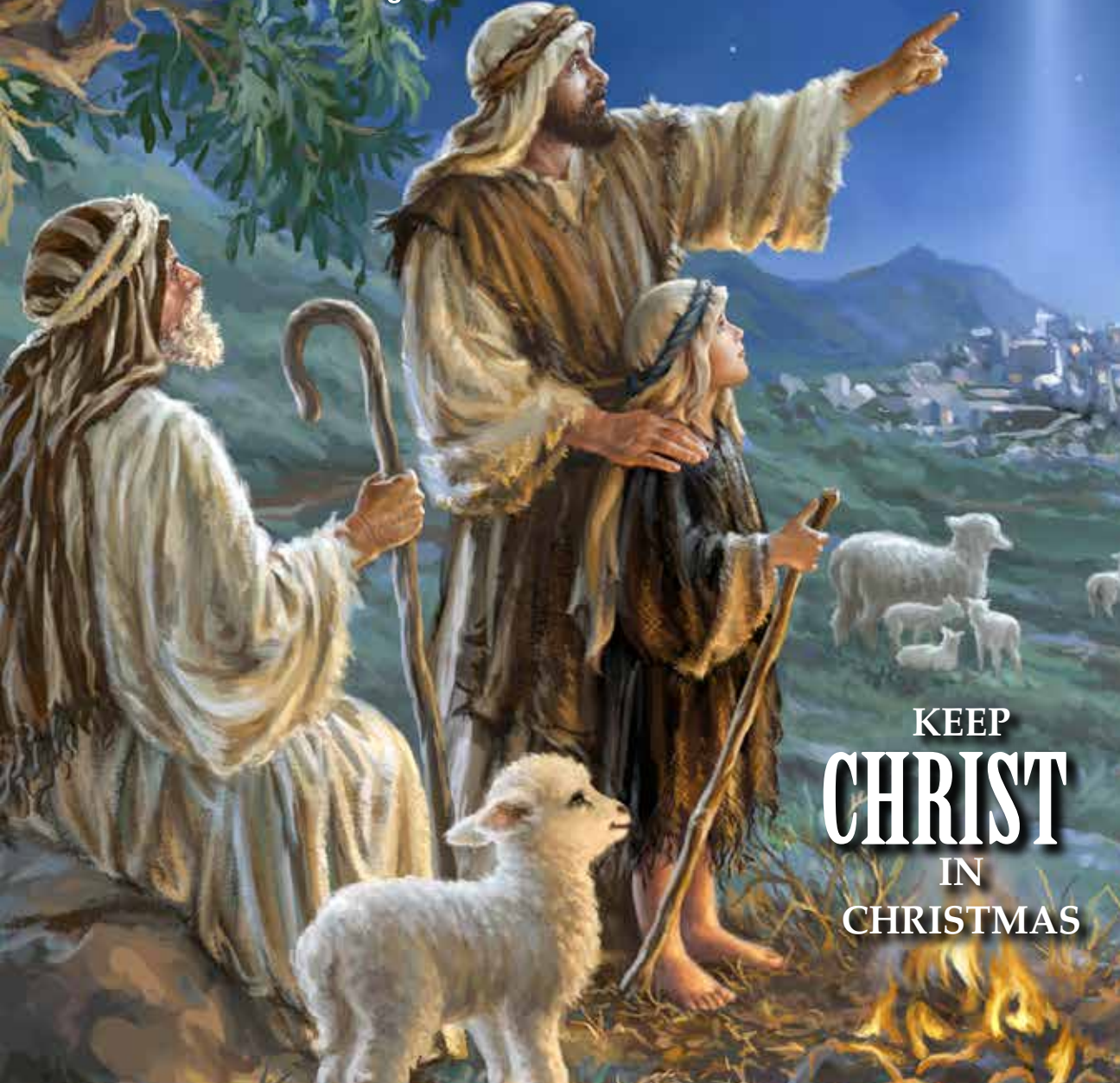


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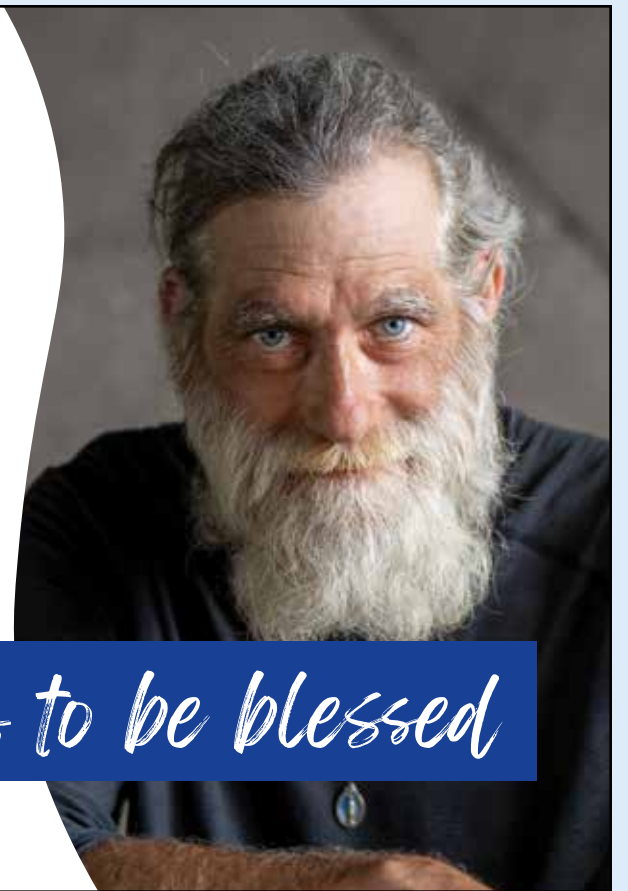


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# The Greatest Gift Ever Given

This script can be used for your Christmas program at church, for caroling at a nursing home, at your company Christmas party, or with family during Christmas.\*

**CAST:** Narrator, Angel #1, Mary, Angel #2, Shepherds, Wise Men, Herod, Chief Priests & Scribes, & Song Leader

**APPROXIMATE LENGTH:** 30-35 minutes

**Narrator:** Follow along as we recall the story of Jesus of Nazareth — “The Greatest Gift Ever Given.”

## Christ’s Birth Announced to Mary (Luke 1:26-38)

<sup>26</sup> Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup> to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary. <sup>28</sup> And having come in, the angel said to her,

**Angel #1:** “Rejoice, highly favored *one*, the Lord *is* with you; blessed *are* you among women!”

**Narrator:** <sup>29</sup> But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. <sup>30</sup> Then the angel said to her,

**Angel #1:** “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup> And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. <sup>32</sup> He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. <sup>33</sup> And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.”

**Narrator:** <sup>34</sup> Then Mary said to the angel,

**Mary:** “How can this be, since I do not know a man?”

**Narrator:** <sup>35</sup> And the angel answered and said to her,

**Angel #1:** “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. <sup>36</sup> Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup> For with God nothing will be impossible.”

**Narrator:** <sup>38</sup> Then Mary said,

**Mary:** “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.”

**Narrator:** And the angel departed from her.

**Song Leader:** “O Come All Ye Faithful”  
(Verses 1, 3, 4 suggested — or “It Came Upon A Midnight Clear”; Page 22 all 4 verses suggested)

### CHRISTMAS STORY

Continue on page 6 after singing song



# O Come, All Ye Faithful

Let us now go even unto Bethlehem . . . Luke 2:15

Latin hymn  
ATTR. TO JOHN F. WADE  
TRANS. BY FREDERICK OAKELEY AND OTHERS

John F. Wade’s *Cantus Diversi*, 1751

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,  
2. God of God, and Light of Light be - got - ten,  
3. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion!  
4. Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this hap - py morn - ing,

O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem!  
Lo, He ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
O sing, all ye cit - i - zens of heav'n a - bove;  
Je - sus, to Thee be all glo - ry giv'n;

Come and be - hold Him, born the King of an - gels;  
Ver - y God, be - got - ten, not cre - a - ted;  
Glo - ry to God, all glo - ry in the high - est;  
Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

*Chorus*  
O come, let us a - dore Him, O come, let us a - dore Him,  
O come, let us a - dore Him, Christ the Lord. A - men.

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**Narrator:** <sup>20</sup>But while he (Joseph) thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying,

**Angel #1:** "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name JESUS, for He will save His people from their sins."

**Narrator:** <sup>22</sup>So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying:

**Angel #2:** <sup>23</sup>"Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel," which is translated, "God with us."

**Song Leader:** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verses 1 & 2 suggested)

CHRISTMAS STORY  
Continue on page 7

# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

They shall call His name Emmanuel...God with us — Matthew 1:23

1. O come. O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som cap - tive  
 2. O come. Thou Day - spring, come and cheer Our spir - its by Thy  
 3. O come. Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen wide our

Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, Un - com - ing here; Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, And heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that leads on high, And

til the Son of God ap - pear. death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - show the path that brings us nigh.

man - u - el Shall come to Thee, O Is - ra - el!

WORDS: Latin hymn; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866  
 MUSIC: Plainsong; adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1811-1890

**Narrator:** <sup>1</sup>And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. <sup>3</sup>So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city.

<sup>4</sup>Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>So it was, that while they were there, the days were complete for her to be delivered. <sup>7</sup>And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

**Song Leader:** "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (Verses 1, 2, 4 suggested)  
 —or "Away In A Manger" Page 15 (All 3 Verses suggested)

CHRISTMAS STORY  
Continue on page 8

# O Little Town of Bethlehem

Thou, Bethlehem . . . though thou be little . . . out of thee shall He come. Micah 5:2

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!  
 2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry, And gath - ered all a - bove,  
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly The won - drous gift is giv'n!  
 4. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem! De - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep The si - lent stars go by. While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love, So God im - parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of His heav'n. Cast out our sin, and en - ter in; Be born in us to - day.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing Light; O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth! No ear may hear His com - ing, But in this world of sin, We hear the Christ - mas an - gels The great glad ti - dings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night. And prais - es sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth. Where meek souls will re - ceive Him still The dear Christ en - ters in. O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Em - man - u - el. A - men.

**Narrator:** <sup>8</sup> Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. <sup>10</sup> Then the angel said to them,

**Angel #2:** "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. <sup>11</sup> For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."

**Narrator:** <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

**Angel #2:** <sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

**Narrator:** <sup>15</sup> So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another,

**Shepherds:** "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us."

**Narrator:** <sup>16</sup> And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> Now when they had seen *Him*, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. <sup>18</sup> And all those who heard *it* marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. <sup>19</sup> But Mary kept all these things and pondered *them* in her heart. <sup>20</sup> Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

**Song Leader:** "Angels We Have Heard on High" (Verses 1,2,3 suggested)  
—or "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Page 20 (All 3 Verses suggested)

CHRISTMAS STORY  
Continue on page 10

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# Angels We Have Heard on High

Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace . . . Luke 2:14

Traditional French carol

Traditional French melody

F Am C F C F C F

1. An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2. Shepherds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3. Come to Beth - le - hem, and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;  
4. See with - in a man - ger laid Je - sus, Lord of heav'n and earth!

F Am C F C F C F

And the moun-tains in re - ply Ech - o back their joy - ous strains.  
Say what may the ti - dings be, Which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.  
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, With us sing our Sav - ior's birth.

Chorus F Dm Gm C F Bb C F C F Bb F C

Glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,

F Dm Gm C F Bb C F C F Bb F C F

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**Narrator:** <sup>1</sup> Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> saying,

**Wise Men:** "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

**Narrator:** <sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard *this*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. <sup>4</sup> And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> So they said to him,

**Chief Priests & Scribes:** "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup> *'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, Are not the least among the rulers of Judah: For out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.'*"

**Narrator:** <sup>7</sup> Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. <sup>8</sup> And he sent them to Bethlehem and said,

**Herod:** "Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found *Him*, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also."

**Narrator:** <sup>9</sup> When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. <sup>11</sup> And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to him: gold, frankincense and myrrh.

**Song Leader:** "We Three Kings of Orient Are" (Verses 1, 2 & 5 suggested)

CHRISTMAS STORY  
Continue on page 12

# We Three Kings of Orient Are

Behold, there came wise men from the east . . . Matt. 2:1

JOHN H. HOPKINS

JOHN H. HOPKINS

1. We three kings of O - ri - ent are, Bear - ing gifts we to  
 2. Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, Gold I bring to  
 3. Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I, In - cense owns a  
 4. Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume Breathes a life of  
 5. Glo - rious now be - hold Him a - rise, King and God and

trav - erse a - far Field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain,  
 crown Him a - gain, King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er  
 De - i - ty nigh; Prayer and prais - ing, all men rais - ing,  
 gath - er - ing gloom; Sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing,  
 Sac - ri - fice; Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

**Chorus**  
 Fol - low - ing yon - der star.  
 O - ver all to reign.  
 Wor - ship Him, God on high. O star of won - der,  
 Sealed in the stone - cold tomb.  
 Peals through the earth and skies.

star of night, Star with roy - al beau - ty bright, West - ward  
 lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us to thy per - fect light.

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**Narrator:** <sup>12</sup>Then, being divinely warned in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they (the wise men) departed for their own country another way.

**Isaiah's Prophecy of Christ** (Isaiah 9:6) & **Fulfillment** (John 3:16)

**Narrator:** And so, these things came to pass that had been spoken of by the prophet Isaiah over 700 years before the birth of Jesus Christ, our Saviour:

<sup>6</sup>For unto us a Child is born, **unto us a Son is given**; And the government will be upon His shoulder.

**Shepherds:** And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**Song Leader:** Ending Song: "Joy to The World" (All 4 Verses suggested)

**Narrator:** "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) Jesus Christ is "The Greatest Gift Ever Given."

**How do you receive this gift of Jesus?** "That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved" (Romans 10:9).

**Will you receive this gift today?**

**If desired, finish with a prayer, then sing the chorus of "We Wish You a Merry Christmas".**

\* Bible verses in the presentation are taken from New King James Version (NKJV) and New International Version (NIV).

# Merry Christmas!

## Top 5 ways to use this publication...

1. Go caroling in your neighborhood with family and friends (see [www.gocaroling.com](http://www.gocaroling.com) and register your caroling group).
2. Visit a nursing home and present the read aloud Christmas story
3. At your company Christmas party - Add caroling and/or the Christmas story.
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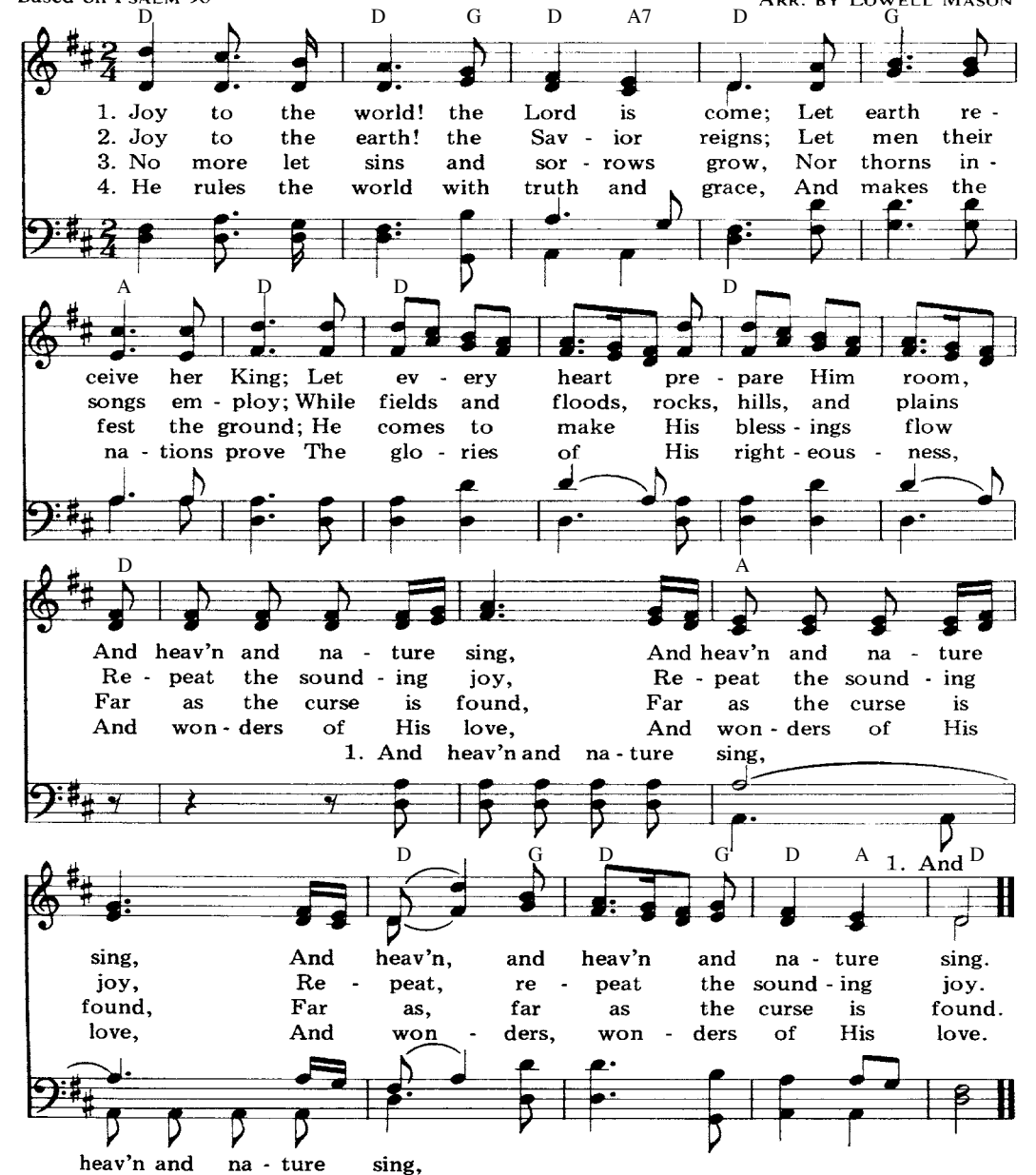


# Joy to the World!

ISAAC WATTS  
Based on PSALM 98

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth . . . Psa. 98:4

GEORGE FREDERICK HANDEL  
ARR. BY LOWELL MASON



1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re-  
2. Joy to the earth! the Sav-ior reigns; Let men their  
3. No more let sins and sor-rows grow, Nor thorns in-  
4. He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the

ceive her King; Let ev-ery heart pre-pare Him room,  
songs em-ploy; While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
fest the ground; He comes to make His bless-ings flow  
na-tions prove The glo-ries of His right-eous-ness,

And heav'n and na-ture sing, And heav'n and na-ture  
Re-peat the sound-ing joy, Re-peat the sound-ing  
Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is  
And won-ders of His love, And won-ders of His

1. And heav'n and na-ture sing,  
sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and na-ture sing.  
joy, Re-peat, re-peat the sound-ing joy.  
found, Far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, And won-ders, won-ders of His love.

heav'n and na-ture sing,

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For unto you is born this day  
in the city of David, a Savior,  
which is Christ the Lord.  
Luke 2:11

Oh Holy Night

# Away In A Manger

She gave birth to her firstborn, a son...and placed him in a manger. Luke 2:7

Unison

F Bb F C7

1. A - way in a man-ger, no crib for a bed, The lit - tle Lord  
2. The cat - tle are low - ing; the Ba - by a - wakes, But lit - tle Lord  
3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay Close by me for -

F

Je - sus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the sky looked  
Je - sus - no cry - ing He makes. I love Thee, Lord Je - sus; look  
ev - er, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren in

Bb F C7 F Bb C7 F

down where He lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.  
down from the sky And stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.  
Thy ten - der care, And fit us for heav - en, to live with Thee there.

WORDS: Stanzas 1-2, anonymous, 1885; stanza 3, John Thomas McFarland, 1892  
MUSIC: James R. Murray, 1887

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# Go Tell It on the Mountain

... They made known abroad the saying ... concerning this child. Luke 2:17

JOHN W. WORK, II

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*Unison*

(Ref.) Go, tell it on the moun-tain, O-ver the hills and ev-ery-where;

Go, tell it on the moun-tain That Je-sus Christ is born.

1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing O'er si-lent flocks by night, Be-  
2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled When, lo! a-bove the earth Rang  
3. Down in a low-ly man-ger Our hum-ble Christ was born, And

hold, through-out the heav-ens There shone a ho-ly light.  
out the an-gel cho-rus That hailed our Sav-ior's birth.  
God sent us sal-va-tion That bless-ed Christ-mas morn.

*Fine*

*D.C.*

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Merry Christmas

18 YEAR MEMBER

# God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

1. God rest you mer - ry, gen - tle - men; Let noth - ing you dis -  
 2. From God, our heav'n - ly Fa - ther, A bless - ed an - gel -  
 3. "Fear not, then," said the an - gel; "Let noth - ing you af -  
 4. The shep - herds at those tid - ings Re - joic - ed much in  
 5. And when they came to Beth - le - hem, Where our dear Sav - ior

may. Re - mem - ber Christ, our Sav - ior, Was born on Christ - mas  
 came; And un - to cer - tain shep - herds Bro't tid - ings of the  
 fright. This day is born a Sav - ior Of a pure vir - gin  
 mind, And left their flocks a - feed - ing, In tem - pest, storms, and  
 lay, They found Him in a man - ger, Where ox - en feed on

day. To save us all from Sa - tan's pow'r When we were of  
 same: How that in Beth - le - hem was born The Son of  
 bright, To free all those who trust in Him From Sa - tan's  
 wind, And went to Beth - le - hem straight - way The Son of  
 hay, His moth - er, Mar - y, kneel - ing down, Un - to the

gone a - stray. name. O tid - ings of com - fort and joy,  
 God by and might." O tid - ings of com - fort and joy,  
 God to find. O tid - ings of com - fort and joy,  
 Lord did pray. O tid - ings of com - fort and joy,

com - fort and joy! O tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

WORDS: English Carol, 18th c.  
 MUSIC: English Melody, 18th c.

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# Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

And suddenly there was . . . a multitude of the heavenly host praising God . . . Luke 2:13

CHARLES WESLEY

FELIX MENDELSSOHN  
ARR. BY WILLIAM H. CUMMINGS

F C F Bb F C F

1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King:  
2. Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord!  
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"  
Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb:  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see; Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,  
Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die,

Bb Gm D Gm C F F C7 F

With th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.  
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.

Bb Gm D Gm C F F C7 F Bb F

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King." A-men.

# I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

And He shall speak peace unto the heathen . . . Zech. 9:10

HENRY W. LONGFELLOW  
CAPO 1 D

J. BAPTISTE CALKIN

A7 D A7

1. I heard the bells on Christ-mas day Their old fa - mil - iar car - ols play,  
2. I thought how, as the day had come, The bel - fries of all Chris - ten - dom  
3. And in de - spair I bowed my head: "There is no peace on earth," I said,  
4. Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God is not dead: nor doth He sleep;  
5. Till, ring - ing, sing ing on its way, The world re - volved from night to day,

G D F# Bm D A7 D

And wild and sweet the words re - peat Of peace on earth, good-will to men.  
Had rolled a - long th'un - bro - ken song Of peace on earth, good-will to men.  
"For hate is strong, and mocks the song Of peace on earth, good-will to men."  
The wrong shall fail, the right pre - vail, With peace on earth, good-will to men."  
A voice, a chime, a chant sub - lime, Of peace on earth, good-will to men!



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# It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

EDMUND H. SEARS  
CAPOI

RICHARD S. WILLIS  
A7 D D7



1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, That glo - rious song of old,  
2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come, With peace - ful wings un - furled,  
3. And ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load, Whose forms are bend - ing low,  
4. For lo, the days are has - tening on, By proph - et seen of old,



From an - gels bend - ing near the earth To touch their harps of gold:  
And still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats O'er all the wea - ry world:  
Who toil a - long the climb - ing way With pain - ful steps and slow,  
When, with the ev - er - cir - cling years, Shall come the time fore - told,



*mf* "Peace on the earth, good-will to men, From heav'n's all - gra - cious King": The  
A - bove its sad and low - ly plains They bend on hov - ering wing: And  
Look now! for glad and gold - en hours Come swift - ly on the wing: O  
When the new heav'n and earth shall own The Prince of Peace their King, And



*pp* world in sol - emn still - ness lay To hear the an - gels sing.  
ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds The bless - ed an - gels sing.  
rest be - side the wea - ry road, And hear the an - gels sing.  
the whole world send back the song Which now the an - gels sing.



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# Silent Night

And they . . . found Mary; and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. Luke 2:16

JOSEPH MOHR  
TRANS. BY JOHN F. YOUNG

FRANZ GRÜBER

CAPO 1 A

1. Si - lent night! ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright  
2. Si - lent night! ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight,  
3. Si - lent night! ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light,

'Round yon vir - gin moth - er and Child, Ho - ly In - fant so ten - der and mild,  
Glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, Heav'n - ly hosts sing Al - le - lu - ia;  
Ra - diant beams from Thy ho - ly face, With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

Sleep in heav - en - ly peace, Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.  
Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born.  
Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth. A - men.

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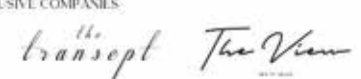


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# Caroling 101

## Caroling Instructions

Every caroling group starts with a leader who is willing to invite family, friends, neighbors, church members, colleagues, youth groups, employers or senior groups to join them.

Pick up free copies of the Christmas Blue Pages (or download) for each member of the group.

Set a time to meet, and decide where you want to go and sing

Plan on 60 to 120 minutes of caroling

Don't make this complex -- just get together and sing!

## Where to Carol

You get to choose the path that your caroling group will follow. Great places to caroling include:

Your neighborhood or neighborhood around your church

The community around your workplace

The parking lots of apartment complexes

With advanced permission, consider caroling:

To the residents of a nursing home or senior living center

To the patrons of a restaurant

At the entrance of a church service or event

At a Nativity display or a lot where Christmas trees are sold

Choose a well lit area and consider the safety needs of your group.

In a two hour time period, you can ring the doorbells of 10-20 homes and sing 5-10 times.

## How to Carol

The following recommendations will help you to have a successful and safe caroling experience:

Form a group of 7-20 people

Start your effort with a prayer for the people to whom you'll be singing

Stay together as you walk on the sidewalks through a neighborhood

Stand 10-20 feet away from the front door of the residence. It's OK to stand in the grass next to the sidewalk. Don't crowd onto the front porch.

Identify one person to ring the doorbell after the caroling group is in place.

When the door is opened, sing one to two songs. When finished, say "Merry Christmas". As you are leaving, sing "We Wish You A Merry Christmas."

Offer a copy of the Christmas Blue Pages to the people to whom you are caroling.

Bring Flashlights!

## Do NOT Do This When Caroling

Do not enter the home. Do not accept any donations.

# The First Noel

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field . . . Luke 2:8

Traditional English carol

W. Sandys' *Christmas Carols*, 1833

ARR. BY JOHN STAINER

1. The first No - el, the an - gel did say, Was to cer - tain poor shepherds in  
2. They look - ed up and saw a star Shin - ing in the east, be -  
3. And by the light of that same star Three wise men came from  
4. This star drew nigh to the north - west, O'er Beth - le - hem it  
5. Then en - tered in those wise men three, Full rev - 'rent - ly up -  
6. Then let us all with one ac - cord Sing prais - es to our

fields as they lay; In fields where they lay keep - ing their sheep, On a  
yond them far, And to the earth it gave great light, And  
coun - try far; To seek for a king was their in - tent, And to  
took its rest, And there it did both stop and stay, Right  
on their knee, And of - fered there in His pres - ence Their  
heav'n - ly Lord, That hath made heav'n and earth of naught, And

cold win - ter's night that was so deep.  
so it con - tin - ued both day and night.  
fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went. No - el, No - el, No -  
o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.  
gold, and myrrh, and frank - in - cense.  
with His blood man - kind hath bought.

el, No - el, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

**Wishing you a blessed Christmas.**

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24 YEAR MEMBER

# What Child Is This

WILLIAM C. DIX Traditional English melody

Em D Em C B

1. What Child is this, who, laid to rest, On Ma - ry's lap is sleep - ing?  
 2. Why lies He in such mean es - tate Where ox and ass are feed - ing?  
 3. So bring Him in - cense, gold and myrrh, Come, peas - ant, king, to own Him;

Em D Em Em

Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet, While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?  
 Good Chris - tian, fear; for sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing.  
 The King of kings sal - va - tion brings, Let lov - ing hearts en - throne Him.

G Chorus D Em C B

This, this is Christ the King, Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing:

G D Em B Em

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Ma - ry.

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## Hallelujah

John 3:16

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