## CHRISTMAS



 Hark! the herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King; Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled: Joyful all ye nations rise, Join the triumph of the skies, With the angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem:

> Hark! the herald angels sing Glory to the new-born King.

2 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all he brings, Risen with healing in his wings; Mild he lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die, Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth:

CHARLES WESLEY, 1707-88, and others



- Once in royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed, Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for his bed; Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven, Who is God and Lord of all, And his shelter was a stable, And his cradle was a stall; With the poor, and mean, and lowly, Lived on earth our saviour holy.
- 3 And through all his wondrous childhood He would honour and obey,
  Love, and watch the lowly maiden, In whose gentle arms he lay;
  Christian children all must be Mild, obedient, good as he.
- 4 For he is our childhood's pattern, Day by day like us he grew, He was little, weak, and helpless, Tears and smiles like us he knew; And he feeleth for our sadness, And he shareth in our gladness.
- 5 And our eyes at last shall see him, Through his own redeeming love, For that child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heaven above; And he leads his children on To the place where he is gone.
  CECIL FRANCES ALEXANDER, 1818-95

6 Teach, O teach us, holy child, By thy face so meek and mild, Teach us to resemble thee In thy sweet humility.

E. CASWALL, 1814-78

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- 1 Silent night, holy night, All is calm, all is bright, Round yon Virgin mother and child. Holy infant, so tender and mild, Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2 Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight, Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing 'Alleluya', Christ the Saviour is born, Christ the Saviour is born.
- 3 Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light Radiant beams from thy holy face With the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

JOSEPH MÖHR, 1792-1848



 In the bleak mid-winter Frosty wind made moan; Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone;
 Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow,
 In the bleak mid-winter, Long ago.

2 Our God, heaven cannot hold him Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away When he comes to reign:
In the bleak mid-winter A stable-place sufficed The Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.

3 Enough for him, whom cherubim Worship night and day,
A breastful of milk,
And a mangerful of hay;
Enough for him, whom angels Fall down before,
The ox and ass and camel Which adore.

4 Angels and archangels May have gathered there, Cherubim and seraphim Thronged the air: But only his mother In her maiden bliss Worshipped the Belovèd With a kiss.

5 What can I give him, Poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd

I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man

I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him— Give my heart.

CHRISTINA ROSSETTI, 1830-94



- While shepherds watched their flocks by night, All seated on the ground, The angel of the Lord came down, And glory shone around.
- 2 'Fear not,' said he (for mighty dread Had seized their troubled mind);'Glad tidings of great joy I bring To you and all mankind.
- 3 'To you in David's town this day Is born of David's lineA saviour, who is Christ the Lord; And this shall be the sign:
- 4 'The heavenly babe you there shall find To human view displayed,All meanly wrapped in swathing bands, And in a manger laid.'
- 5 Thus spake the seraph: and forthwith Appeared a shining throng Of angels praising God, who thus Addressed their joyful song:
- 6 'All glory be to God on high, And to the earth be peace;Good will henceforth from heaven to men Begin and never cease.'

NAHUM TATE, 1652-1715





SECOND TUNE





- O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting light; The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.
- 2 O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth,
  And praises sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth;
  For Christ is born of Mary; And, gathered all above,
  While mortals sleep, the angels keep Their watch of wondering love.
- 3 How silently, how silently, The wondrous gift is given!
  So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of his heaven.
  No ear may hear his coming; But in this world of sin,
  Where meek souls will receive him, still The dear Christ enters in.
- 4 Where children pure and happy Pray to the blessèd Child,
  Where misery cries out to thee, Son of the mother mild;
  Where charity stands watching And faith holds wide the door,
  The dark night wakes, the glory breaks, And Christmas comes once more.
- 5 O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin, and enter in, Be born in us today.
  We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell: O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel.

PHILLIPS BROOKS, 1835-93



 The first Nowell the angel did say Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, On a cold winter's night that was so deep:

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel!

- 2 They lookèd up and saw a star, Shining in the east, beyond them far; And to the earth it gave great light, And so it continued both day and night:
- 3 And by the light of that same star, Three Wise Men came from country far; To seek for a king was their intent, And to follow the star wheresoever it went:
- 4 This star drew nigh to the north-west; O'er Bethlehem it took its rest, And there it did both stop and stay Right over the place where Jesus lay:
- 5 Then entered in those Wise Men three, Fell reverently upon their knee, And offered there in his presénce Both gold and myrrh and frankincense:
- 6 Then let us all with one accord Sing praises to our heavenly Lord, Who hath made heaven and earth of naught, And with his blood mankind hath bought: SANDYS' COLLECTION, 1833



 O come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,
 O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem; Come and behold him,

Born the King of angels:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

2 See how the shepherds, Summoned to his cradle, Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze; We too will thither Bend our joyful footsteps:

 Lo! star-led chieftains, Magi, Christ adoring,
 Offer him incense, gold, and myrrh; We to the Christ Child Bring our hearts' oblations:

4 Child, for us sinners Poor and in the manger,Fain we embrace thee, with love and awe; Who would not love thee, Loving us so dearly?

5 Sing, choirs of angels, Sing in exultation,Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above; Glory to God

In the highest:

6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, Born this happy morning, Jesu, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, Now in flesh appearing:

tr. f. oakeley, 1802-80



- 1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
- 2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes, But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky, And stay by my side until morning is nigh.
- 3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay Close by me for ever, and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.





1 We three kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts we traverse afar Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star:

O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light.

- 2 Born a king on Bethlehem plain, Gold I bring, to crown him again— King for ever, ceasing never Over us all to reign:
- 3 Frankincense to offer have I; Incense owns a Deity nigh: Prayer and praising, all men raising, Worship him, God most high:
- 4 Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume Breathes a life of gathering gloom; Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb:
- 5 Glorious now behold him arise, King, and God, and sacrifice! Heaven sings alleluya, Alleluya the earth replies:

J. H. HOPKINS, Jun., 1820-91