

# Carols for audience & choir

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## While shepherds watched

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
All seated on the ground,  
The angel of the Lord came down,  
And glory shone around.

“Fear not,” said he (for mighty dread  
Had seized their troubled mind);  
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
To you and all mankind.

“To you in David’s town this day  
Is born of David’s line  
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord;  
And this shall be the sign:

“The heav’nly Babe you there shall find  
To human view displayed,  
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands  
And in a manger laid.”

Thus spake the seraph; and forthwith  
Appeared a shining throng  
Of angels praising God, who thus  
Addressed their joyful song:

“All glory be to God on high,  
And to the earth be peace;  
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men  
Begin and never cease.”

## O come, all ye faithful

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!*

God of God,  
Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin’s womb;  
Very God,  
Begotten, not created:

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

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

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

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav’n above;  
Glory to God  
In the highest:

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

## It came upon the midnight clear

It came upon the midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,  
From heav’n’s all gracious King!”  
The world in solemn stillness lay  
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,  
With peaceful wings unfurled;  
And still their heav’nly music floats  
O’er all the weary world;  
Above its sad and lowly plains  
They bend on hov’ring wing;  
And ever o’er its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife,  
The world has suffered long;  
Beneath the angel strain have rolled  
Two thousand years of wrong;  
And man, at war with man, hears not  
The love-song which they bring:  
O hush the noise, ye men of strife  
And hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hast’ning on  
By prophet-bards foretold,  
When with the ever-circling years,  
Comes round the age of gold;  
When peace shall over all the earth  
Its ancient splendours fling,  
And the whole world give back the song  
Which now the angels sing.

## Hark! the herald angels sing

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 th’angelic host proclaim,  
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

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

Christ, by highest heav’n adored,  
Christ the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold him come  
Offspring of a virgin’s womb:  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see,  
Hail th’incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with man to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

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

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Ris’n 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.

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