

1. little town of Bethlehem

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.

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.

How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of His heav'n.
No ear may hear His coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

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 Emmanuel

2. In the bleak midwinter

In the bleak midwinter,
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 midwinter,
long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
when he comes to reign:
In the bleak midwinter,
a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels,
may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim,
thronged the air,
But only his mother,
in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the Beloved,
with a kiss.

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.

3. Of the Father's love begotten

Of the Father's love begotten,
ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the Source, the Ending He,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see
evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessed,
when a virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bore the Savior of our race;
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
first revealed His sacred face,
evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heav'n, adore Him;
angel hosts, His praises sing:
pow'rs, dominions, bow before Him

and extol our God and King;
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore!

4. As with gladness men of old

As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious God, may we
evermore be led to Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped
Saviour to thy lowly bed,
there to bend the knee before
Him whom heav'n and earth adore;
so may we with willing feet
ever seek Thy mercy-seat.

As they offered gifts most rare
at that cradle rude and bare;
so may we with holy joy,
pure, and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to Thee, our heav'nly King.

Holy Jesus, every day
keep us in the narrow way;
and, when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed lives at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds Thy glory hide.

In that heav'nly country bright
need they no created light;
Thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown,
Thou its Sun which goes not down;
there for ever may we sing
Halleluias to our King.

5. The first Nowell

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.

They looked 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.
Nowell, Nowell...

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 wherever it went.
Nowell, Nowell...

This star drew nigh to the northwest;
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus lay.
Nowell, Nowell...

Then entered in those wise men three,
full reverently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
Nowell, Nowell...

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of
nought,
and with his blood our life hath bought.
Nowell, Nowell...

6. Away in a manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet
head;
the stars in the heavens looked down
where He lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

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.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender
care,
and fit us for heaven, to live with Thee
there.

7. 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 heavenly babe you there shall find
to human view displayed,
all simply wrapped in swaddling 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."

8. See amid the winter snow

See, amid the winter's snow,
born for us on earth below,
see the Lamb of God appears,
promised from eternal years:

Hail, thou ever blessed morn!
Hail, redemption's happy dawn!
Sing through all Jerusalem,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem."

Lo, within a manger lies
He who built the starry skies;
He who, throned in height sublime,
sits amid the cherubim!

Hail thou ever blessed ...

Say, ye holy shepherds, say,
what your joyful news today?
Wherefore have ye left your sheep
on the lonely mountain steep?

Hail thou ever blessed ...

"As we watched at dead of night,
Lo! we saw a wondrous light;
angels singing 'Peace on earth'
told us of a Saviour's birth."

Hail thou ever blessed ...

Sacred Infant, all divine,
what a tender love was Thine,
thus to come from highest bliss
down to such a world as this!

Hail thou ever blessed ...

Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,
by Thy face so meek and mild,
teach us to resemble Thee,
in Thy sweet humility!

Hail thou ever blessed ...

9. The holly and the ivy

The holly and the ivy
when they are both full grown,
of all the trees that are in the wood
the holly bears the crown.

Oh the rising of the sun
and the running of the deer,
the playing of the merry organ,
sweet singing in the choir.

The holly bears a blossom,
as white as the lily flower,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
to be our sweet Saviour.

Oh the rising...

The holly bears a berry,
as red as any blood,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
to do poor sinners good.

Oh the rising...

The holly bears a prickle,
as sharp as any thorn,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
on Christmas day in the morn.

Oh the rising...

The holly bears a bark,
as bitter as any gall,
and Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ
for to redeem us all.

Oh the rising...

The holly and the ivy,
when they are both full grown,
of all the trees that are in the wood
The holly bears the crown.

Oh the rising...

10. Hark the herald angels sing

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn 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 hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King"*

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the Virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail th'incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Immanuel.

Hark! the herald...

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 we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give them second birth.

Hark! the herald...

11. Joy to the world

Joy to the world, the Lord has come!
Let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare Him room,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
plains

repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His love.

12. 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...

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...

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy
morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh
appearing!

O come, let us...

13. Silent night, holy night

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
'round the virgin mother and child!
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quail at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing, "Alleluia!
Christ the Saviour is born!
Christ the Saviour is born!"

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!

14. It came up 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, good will to men,
from heaven'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 heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;
above its sad and lowly plains,
they bend on hovering 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 angels' strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love-song which they bring:
Oh, hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing,.

For lo! the days are hastening 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 send back the song
which now the angels sing!

15. Good King Wenceslas

Good King Wenceslas looked out on the
Feast of Stephen,
When the snow lay round about, deep and
crisp and even.
Brightly shone the moon that night,
though the frost was cruel,
When a poor man came in sight, gath'ring
winter fuel.

"Hither, page, and stand by me, if you
knows't it, telling,
Yonder peasant, who is he? Where and
what his dwelling?"
"Sire, he lives a good league hence,
underneath the mountain,
Right against the forest fence, by Saint
Agnes' fountain."

“Bring me flesh and bring me wine, bring
me pine logs hither,
You and I will see him dine, when we bear
them thither.”

Page and monarch, forth they went, forth
they went together,
Through the cold wind’s wild lament and
the bitter weather.

“Sire, the night is darker now, and the
wind blows stronger,
Fails my heart, I know not how; I can go no
longer.”

“Mark my footsteps, my good page, tread
now in them boldly,
You shall find the winter’s rage freeze thy
blood less coldly.”

In his master’s steps he trod, where the
snow lay dinted;
Heat was in the very sod which the saint
had printed.

Therefore, Christians all, be sure, while
God’s gifts possessing,
You who now will bless the poor shall
yourselves find blessing.

16. God rest you merry gentlemen

God rest you merry, gentlemen,
let nothing you dismay,
remember Christ our Saviour
was born upon this day,
to save us all from Satan's pow'r
when we were gone astray.

*O tidings of comfort and joy,
comfort and joy;*

O tidings of comfort and joy.

At Bethlehem in Judah
The holy babe was born;
They laid him in a manger
On this most happy morn:
At which his mother Mary
Did neither fear nor scorn:
O tidings of comfort...

From God our heav'nly Father
a holy angel came
the shepherds saw the glory
And head the voice proclaim
That Christ was born in Bethlehem and
Jesus is His name:

O tidings of comfort...

"Fear not," then said the angel,
"Let nothing cause you fright;
To you is born a Saviour
in David's town tonight,
to free all those who trust in Him
from Satan's pow'r and might."

O tidings of comfort...

The shepherds at those tidings
rejoiced in heart and mind,
and on the darkened hillside
They left their flocks behind,
and went straightway to Bethlehem
this holy child to find.

O tidings of comfort...

And when to Bethlehem they came
where Christ the infant lay
They found him in a manger,
Where oxen feed on hay,
And there beside her newborn child
his mother knelt to pray:

O tidings of comfort...

Now to the Lord sing praises
all people in this place!
With Christian love and brotherhood
each other new embrace;
And let this Christmas festival,
all bitterness displace:

O tidings of comfort...

17. Ding dong merrily on high

Ding dong, merrily on high!
In heav'n the bells are ringing;
ding dong, verily the sky
is riv'n with angel singing.

Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io,
by priest and people sungen.

Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

Pray ye dutifully prime
your matin chime, ye ringers;
may ye beautifully rhyme
your evetime song, ye singers.

Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

Gloria, hosannah in excelsis!

18. Angels from the realms of glory

Angels from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story
now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, Christ the newborn King.

Come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing;
yonder shines the infant light:

Come and worship...

Sages, leave your contemplations,
brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations;
ye have seen his natal star:

Come and worship...

Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In his temple shall appear:

Come and worship...

19. Once in Royal David's City

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.

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.

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.

For he is our childhood's pattern,
day by day like us he grew;
He was little weak and helpless,
tars and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness,
and he shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
through His own redeeming love;
for that Child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heav'n above,
and He leads His children on
to the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see Him, but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
when like stars His children crowned
all in white shall wait around.

20. On Christmas night all Christians sing

On Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring;
on Christmas night all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring:

news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful King's birth.

Then why should we on earth be so sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad?
Then why should we on earth be so sad,
since our Redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin He set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?

When sin departs before His grace,
then life and health come in its place;
when sin departs before His grace,
then life and health come in its place;
angels and men with joy may sing,
all for to see the newborn King.

All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night;
all out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God and peace to men,
now and forevermore. Amen."

21. We three kings of Orient are

We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we travel afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

*O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again:
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign.

O star of wonder...

Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, all are raising,
worship him, God most high.

O star of wonder...

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;

sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

O star of wonder...

Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Heaven sings, "Alleluia!"
"Alleluia!" the earth replies.

O star of wonder...