

EMMANUEL

Choir: Two little towns in Palestine.
In Nazareth and Bethlehem.
A miracle awaits
A glorious truth unfolds.
Away from pomp and majesty,
the son of God is there to see.
This is the greatest story
that's ever told.

Choir: Come hear the story of the King of all Kings.
Come here the message of the new life he brings.
Son of a carpenter and yet Son of God.
Come see the country and the land where he trod.
Welcome to Palestine, our home is Palestine.
Enter the promised land, the gift which God had planned.
Yet we can't count the cost, this blessed land is lost.
We want a light to shine in Palestine.

This land of Israel the land which we claim.
Land of our fathers and we cherish the name,
a holy nation by God's chosen design,
given to Abraham and all in his line.
Welcome to Palestine, we'll lay it on the line,
we're Roman occupied, our heritage denied,
to see our land restored, we wait a coming Lord.
We all await the sign in Palestine.

Now under foreign rule we feel so alone.
Our sovereign nation no more governs its own.
Need a Messiah who will change and restore,
So that this country will be our land once more.
Welcome to Palestine, the taste of bitter wine,
from God the Lord we stray. Each goes his own sweet way.
The consequence is clear, we live in constant fear.
Come down Oh love divine, in Palestine.

Choir: Behold a virgin shall bear a son, God's holy one,
the Lord enthroned in majesty comes down to bring release.
Eternal father, the word of God, the everlasting,
wonderful counsellor the mighty prince of peace.
Our God appears to us according to his word.

This news to all the nations tell.
For he is coming soon to cleanse us and restore us all.
Saviour of all, Emmanuel.

Gabriel: Be not afraid for God has chosen you.
His special task his holy work to do.
You'll bear a son, this news I now proclaim.
He's the son of God and Jesus is his name.

Mary and Gabriel: For God will show his power to all,
to rescue those who on him call,
to make a new and living way back to his throne, to claim his own.
The son who reigns with God on high,
will leave his throne in majesty,
and come to live as man with men and then to die.

Gabriel: For God we know fulfils the things he's planned
in ways which yet we do not understand.

Mary: Can these things be? What quality have I
to be chosen by the Lord of earth and sky?

Mary: Now my soul can bless the Lord.
My heart rejoices at his word,
For surely he remembers me
his lowly servant, humble maiden.
From now on my soul shall sing
the praises of my God and King,
The mighty one has done great things
and holy his name.

For his mercy reaches all those who call,
for all time and throughout all generation.

He has stretched his mighty hand
to scatter those who think they stand.
He brings down rulers from their thrones,
the lowly are raised.

He has filled the hungry with all they need,
But he rich he has sent empty away.

He remembers Israel,
his promise to be merciful
to all the sons of Abraham

for ever Amen.

Choir: In desert places for him prepare the way.
Make straight his pathway; await the coming day.
Raise every valley through which the rivers flow,
and every mountain and every hill make low.
Oh come Emmanuel. Redeeming Israel.
Come now and chase the shades of night.
Oh come Emmanuel. Come among us to dwell.
Shed o'er the world your holy light. Your holy light.

Awake Oh Zion, awake oh come arise.
Prepare to greet him, come look up to the skies.
He comes for freedom, the broken heart to heal.
His light arises, his glory now revealed.
Oh come Emmanuel. Redeeming Israel.
Come now and chase the shades of night.
Oh come Emmanuel. Come among us to dwell.
Shed o'er the world your holy light. Your holy light.

Joseph: I can't believe the news I hear.
Why does the one I choose to love and hold so dear
tell me a story that is plainly quite absurd?
I don't believe a single word.
What will the people think of me?
How can I face the world without my dignity?
This woman's thoughtless action devastates my pride.
How deep the hurt I feel inside.

Perhaps I'll make her go away.
Find her some quite lonely place where she can stay.
Keep her from gossip that will spread around the town.
Better for all if she isn't seen around.

Oh God please tell me what I've done.
Is this a joke? Are you just using me for fun?
What causes Mary to deceive and break my heart,
And watch while my world falls apart?

This anger that I feel is strong.
I know I'm innocent that I have done now wrong.
Why then am I the one to bear this awful curse?
Why should my life stagger on from bad to worse?

Is this the way they throw the dice
Is the some awful sin for which I pay the price.
What is this wickedness for which I bear the shame?
What have I done to take the blame?

Joseph: Why so many questions that keep circling round in my mind?

Where's the hidden secret I am trying so hard to find?
'Cos I don't want to hear her excuses.
But the story she weaves surely no-one believes.
Can I really believe God has called her
for a heavenly task it is too much to ask.
Just so many questions but I don't have answers.
Oh so many questions but I need some answers.

I'm a simple carpenter my understanding is small.
I can't comprehend the deep significance of it all.
Can the one who is seated in heaven
since before worlds began, now be born as a man?
Why choose this time to make a appearance?
Have I missed some clear sign? Is this some grand design?
Just so many questions but I don't have answers.
Oh so many questions but I need some answers.

Gabriel: Don't let our great anxieties poison your confusion.
Following fears will lead you to reach the wrong conclusion.
Mary soon will bear a child. Jesus God's own son.
He the saviour of the world, he the blessed one.

God's love is higher than the mountain,
it's deeper than the ocean, a love that reaches down.
God's love can reach to every nation,
can lead to full salvation, a blessing and a crown.
Now the time is here when God fulfils the promise made
To restore the sons of earth a ransom is paid.
Surely the time is coming when Emmanuel appears,
He the hope of all the years.

Choir: Hurry now to Bethlehem to register for tax.
The census is announced there's no time to relax.
The journey is a long one so you'd better make tracks and go.

Now the time is coming for the birth of a King,
When times moves to a focal point when death will lose its sting.
The gates of heaven shall open and the bells of earth shall ring
below.

Onward go to Bethlehem town,
the place where heaven to earth has come down,
for mercy to all people is shown today.

Follow where you are led,
to a dark cattle shed
and a cold manger bed of hay.

Joseph: Can this baby be the saviour?

Mary: Is this real?

Joseph: Can he deliver?

Mary: How I feel?

Joseph: A king forever?

Mary: Is this promise for me?

Joseph: With a mission to restore us?

Mary: Heal our madness?

Joseph: What lies before us?

Mary: What joy or sadness?

Joseph: What power draws us?

Mary: What new things will there be?

Joseph & Mary: Come Oh Lord, now come to finish then thy new
creation.

Let us see thy great salvation in perfection restored.

Haste the time when we'll be changed from glory into glory,

till we cast our crowns before thee, our redeemer and our Lord.

Choir: Light of the world come to lighten our darkness,
dawn on our pathway and make our day bright.

Saviour of men come to banish the shadows.

Come now Emmanuel, Lord of all light.

Light of the world in your grace ever shining,
true light of life that will never decline.

Come in your beauty and come in your splendour.

Come veiled in flesh in your presence divine.

Light of the world come to shine on our nation.

Spirit of God come and fill us anew.

Pour out your love so that each generation
gives you the glory and praise that is due.
Cleanse and restore give us hope for the future.
Show us the way from the dark paths of sin.
Break through the barrier that keeps us so distant.
Give us the hope of a new life within.

Light of the world in our hearts ever reigning,
light and salvation his empire shall bring.
Visit each heart with your power sustaining,
Reigning, victorious, Jesus is king.
Yours is the power and yours is the glory,
Yours is the honour, the strength and the might.
Death hath no sting, and hell's power has been broken.
All shall be well in your kingdom of light.

Choir: Suddenly, on hillside,
hosts of angels gathered around.
Lowly shepherds, silent, watching,
guard their flocks seated there on the ground.
Hear the news the angel is bringing.
Hear the good news to all people on earth.
For to you in David's town,
the Lord of all celebrating his birth.

Glory to God in the highest of heaven
and peace on the earth they sing.
Glory to God as the angel announces
the birth of the Saviour and King.

This the sign, in stable,
there for all this baby displayed,
wrapped in cloths, this heavenly infant,
there you'll find in a manger is laid.
Thus the throng, the heavenly witness,
shining brightly, gladly singing his praise.
Worship, honour, power and blessing,
there they bring to the ancient of days,.

Glory to God in the highest of heaven
and peace on the earth they sing.
Glory to God as the angel announces
the birth of the Saviour and King.

Joseph: I am confused, don't understand.
Can someone please explain why this is so?
I am bemused, I hear it time again,
the same old answer everywhere I go.
There's no room at the inn. We're told to go away.
They've offered us a stable as a place where we can stay.
And Mary's baby boy is born tonight.
She's laid him in a manger. That surely can't be right.

If I were God up there in heaven,
and my son had been born upon the earth below,
I'd want the world to know,
I'd write his name up in the sky.
I'd have the angels standing by to sing his praise.
I'd send the heavenly hosts to guard his ways.
I'd make it clear that he was truly royal,
a majesty descended from on high.
I'd want the best for him. The very best for him.
I'd want the world to see I loved him so.
If I were God in heaven and my son had been born on earth
below.

If I were God up there in heaven,
and my son had been born upon the earth below,
I'd want the world to show how much they recognised his worth.
I'd want all people on the earth to kneel and bow.
No basic stable bare would I allow.
No manger full of hay would I consider.
I'd want a palace fitting for his birth.
I'd want the best for him. The very best for him.
I'd want the world to see I loved him so.
If I were God in heaven and my son had been born on earth
below.

If I were God up there in heaven,
and my son had been born upon the earth below,
I'd want his fame to grow as over all the world he'd reign.
A thousand angels would protect his every move.
I'd keep him safe, secure within my love.
No sacrifice would ever be required of him,
He'd never suffer grief or time of pain.
I'd want the best for him. The very best for him.

I'd want the world to see I loved him so.
If I were God in heaven and my son had been born on earth below.

Caspar & Wise men: From eastern mountains,
from far off distant lands we've travelled.
On we journey following a star.
One hope inspires us,
this chance to see the new born prince,
the promised gift to swing night's gates ajar.

One shining light reveals the splendour of his presence.
One shining light reveals the way.
Chasing the night and overcoming all the shadows,
He's the one to lead us to eternal day.

Seeking a new king,
we come to him with gifts of worship,
there to lay before him at his feet.
Offer our lives,
and present a living sacrifice
to lay upon the altar when we meet.

Mary: A million love songs all combine tonight.
In this child all hopes are met, one true living light.
God of the present, of the future and past,
can you know what lies ahead? How your way is cast?

Love cradled now in a bed of hay,
can it be that this child some day
will be the saviour of us all?
This innocence displayed
to see the price of sin is paid
and oh the wonder of it all.

What of his future? Where his journey's end?
What the agony for him, other lives to mend?
What fate awaits him? What the suffering he'll know?
To fulfil his destiny, how far must he go?

Love cradled now on a bed of hay,
still awaiting the coming day,
when for the good of all he'll suffer.
He comes to pay the price,

the lamb who is the sacrifice
and oh the wonder of it all.

Caspar and Choir: Gold we bring to offer the king,
the God who reigns, the name of all names.
And incense sweet, we lay at your feet,
your worth revealed, before you we kneel.

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And myrrh's perfume, now foretelling the tomb,
in which his body slain crushed and broken is laid.

These gifts declare the hope which we share
and lay before the one we adore.

A king most high, with one purpose, to die
A gift of love for all, lying there in the stall.

And so with praise, our voices we raise,
and gladly bring our gifts for the king.

Choir: The baby lying in the stall
is worshipped and adored.
He is the saviour of us all,
the everlasting lord.
The author of all history
makes God and man restored.
By this great gift, the mystery,
salvation is assured.

And yet beyond the manger lies
the cross of calvary.
The baby born for mankind, dies
to set the people free.
And death's dark chains are broken,
eternity we share.
The word of life is spoken
within the stable there.

Choir: Come, thou long expected Jesus,
from our fears and sins release us, born to free us,
let us find all our strength in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,

dear desire of every nation, for salvation,
let us all your glory see.

Born thy people to deliver,
born to reign in us forever, failing never,
born a child and yet a king

By thine own eternal spirit,
by thine all sufficient merit, life inherit,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

Lo, he comes with clouds descending,
Thousand, thousand saints attending, praises lending,
swell the triumph of his train.

Over every foe victorious,
then from age to age more glorious, heavenly chorus,
Jesus now shall ever reign.

Yea, Amen, let earth adore thee,
Saviour take the power and glory, living story,
Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come.
Come.
Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come
Come, Lord, come.