

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

Christmas celebration

Choir: Sing for joy. Sing all his people.
Sing for joy. Sing all his people.

For unto us you a boy is born, the king of all creation.
He came into this world forlorn, the Lord of every nation.
Hark the herald angels sing. Joyful all men rise.
Glory to the new born king, the triumph of the skies.

Sing for joy. Sing all his people.
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Sing for joy. Sing all his people.

While shepherds watched their flocks by night, all seated on the
ground,
the angel of the Lord came down and glory shone around.
God rest you merry gentleman, let nothing you dismay.
Remember Christ our Saviour was born upon this day.

Sing for joy. Sing all his people.
Sing for joy. Sing all his people.
Sing for joy. Sing all his people.
Sing for joy. Sing all his people.
Sing all his people for joy.

Narrator: *In many and various ways God spoke of old to our
fathers by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us
by a son. [Heb 1:1-2]*

The Lord's my shepherd

Choir: The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want: he makes me down
to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.
My soul he doth restore again and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness, e'en for his own name's sake.
The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want: he makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me the quiet waters by.
Yea, though I walk through death's dark vale, yet will I fear no ill;

for thou art with me and thy rod and staff my comfort still.
My table thou hast furnished in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint and my cup overflows.
Goodness and mercy all my life shall surely follow me;
and in God's house for evermore my dwelling place shall be.

Narrator: *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light.
On those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has
dawned. [Isaiah 9: 2]*

To us a child his born

Choir: For to us a child his born and to us a son is given, and the
government shall be upon his shoulder.
And his name will be called wonderful, the mighty God the prince of
peace.

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government shall be upon his shoulder.
And his name will be called wonderful, the mighty God the prince of
peace.

And of his government and peace there shall be no end.
He will reign on David's throne with righteousness and with justice.

For to us a child his born and to us a son is given, and the
government shall be upon his shoulder.
And his name will be called wonderful, the mighty God the prince of
peace.

And of his government and peace there shall be no end.
He will reign on David's throne with righteousness and with justice.

For to us a child his born and to us a son is given, and the
government shall be upon his shoulder.
And his name will be called wonderful, the mighty God the prince of
peace. Prince of peace.

Narrator: *The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee
named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was
Joseph, of the house of David; and her name was Mary. [Lk
1:26-27]*

Don't be afraid

Gabriel: Don't be afraid, for you will be chosen for God's nativity.
His favour shown on you alone; don't wonder why.
You'll bear a son, Jesus his name, he will be great, no higher claim,
God's holy one, he is the son of the most high.

Mary: How can this happen, I just don't understand.
Such mystery, how can it be, why was this planned?

Gabriel: His spirit will come on you to rest, for evermore you will
the blessed.
Nothing's too hard, no way is barred for God's mighty hand.

Gabriel and Mary: He'll be king of Israel and his reign will never
end.
He'll be great and the son of the most high.

Mary: I will praise him and my spirit rejoices. He has done good
things for me.
Holy is the one whose mercy reaches to eternity.

Gabriel (with Mary above): Don't be afraid, for you will be chosen
for God's nativity.
His favour shown on you alone; don't wonder why.
His spirit will come on you to rest, for evermore you will the
blessed.
Nothing's too hard, no way is barred for God's mighty hand.

Gabriel and Mary: Nothing's too hard, no way is barred for God's
mighty hand.

Narrator: *In that region there were shepherds out in the field
keeping watch over their flocks by night. [Luke 2:8]*

Shepherd's song

Choir: Wearily watching our flocks at night over Bethlehem's
plains.
We patiently wait for the dawning; breaking the night's heavy
chains.
Only the shadows surrounded us, silent the clouds in the sky;
darkness besets all our being, noiseless the night passes by.

When comes the time that was promised? When will the saviour

appear?

The promise of ages long waited, surely the time's drawing near.
Coming to break our oppression, coming to set captive's free,
ruler and saviour of Israel, when comes the time that will be?

O come let us adore him.

O come let us adore him.

Gabriel: To you in David's town, out of David's line,
a saviour has been born, Christ the Lord divine.
Cradled in a manger, lying in the hay.
Welcome the infant so holy; born on the earth today.

Choir: Glory to the father. Peace on the earth to all.
So come see the child in the stable. God's gift of love in a stall.
Glory to God in the highest. Hear now the message he brings.
Come see the babe in a manger, Lord of all Lords: king of kings.

Narrator: *And she gave birth to her first born son and wrapped him
in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger because there was
no room for them in the inn. [Luke 2:7]*

Mary: Little child, so alone, on your cradle you lay.
To the world, still unknown, yet to show them the way.
Coming here from your throne, to a manger of hay.
Gently sleep, my little child, gently sleep.
Little child, taking rest, ere your missions begin.
Slumber on, richly blessed, there's a whole world to win.
God's great gift, of the best, saving all men from sin.
Gently sleep my little child gently sleep.
The angels are guarding your sleep, as their vigil they keep,
keeping watch over head.
Amazed that the son from on high should be born to die in a cold
cattle shed.
Little child for your birth, there appears a bright star.
Yet so few on this earth really know who you are.
But the news of your worth will shine brighter by far.
Gently sleep my little child gently sleep.
The angels are guarding your sleep, as their vigil they keep,
keeping watch over head.
Amazed that the son from on high should be born to die in a cold
cattle shed.
Little child yet so small but of great mystery.

To a cross from a stall, on to dark calvary.
As a free gift to all; so the world could be free.
Gently sleep my little child gently sleep.
Gently sleep my little child gently sleep.

Narrator: *Wise men came from the east saying, "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". [Mtt 2:1-2]*

Following a star

Choir: Following a star, leading to a bright tomorrow.
When our journeys done, will we find the one long promised
who will reign with justice, truth and might?
Following a star: leading onward brightly beaming;
showing us the way to eternal day where we are in the presence of
the one true light.
And as we journey onward, the start still leads us on
to see a king whose splendour will shine brighter than the sun.
Following a star: brighter visions still before us,
all our gifts we bring, and before the king we offer
this our greatest sacrifice of praise.
Following a star: leading to the king of glory.
No creation he, but the Majesty of he who left his throne to save us
by his grace.
And as we journey onward, the start still leads us on
to see a king whose splendour will shine brighter than the sun, than
the sun.
Following a star: leading to the king of glory.
No creation he, but the Majesty of he who left his throne to save us
by his grace.
The world's true light. The world's true light.

Narrator: *The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. [John 1:9]*

Choir: Lighten our darkness, a new day is dawning, chasing the
chaos and shadows away.
Welcome the saviour and welcome the morning. Walk in the light
of the new dawning day.
Word made flesh with us to dwell. Word of God Emmanuel.
For we have seen the glory of God. Full of grace and truth.
For we have seen the glory of God. Full of grace and truth.

Light of the world come to shine on each nation. Scatter the gloom and dispel our dark night.

Bring us new life and restore your creation. Fill all the world with your marvellous light.

Word made flesh with us to dwell. Word of God Emmanuel.

For we have seen the glory of God. Full of grace and truth.

For we have seen the glory of God. Full of grace and truth.

Lighten our darkness, a new day is dawning, chasing the chaos and shadows away.

Welcome the saviour and welcome the morning. Walk in the light of the new dawning day.

Light of the world come to shine on each nation. Scatter the gloom and dispel our dark night.

Bring us new life and restore your creation. Fill all the world with your marvellous light.

Narrator: *When the wise men saw the star they rejoiced with exceeding with great joy: and going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him. [Mtt 2:6].*

Choir: Worthy the babe in the manger. Onward to Calvary to die. For soon comes the cross and the torment: then raised exalted on high.

Glory to God in the highest. Hear now the message he brings.

Come see the babe in the manger, Lord of all Lords: king of kings.

Caspar: We have come to worship him, son of the highest, reigning in glory.

Worship and honour, power and blessing, you are worthy to receive.

And we bow down, before your Holy name,

and with our hearts proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord of all.

We have come to honour him. Glad adoration, saviour most holy. Gold to acclaim him, incense to honour, myrrh for anointing oil we offer.

And we bow down before your Majesty;

the prince of peace is he, the wonder of God gift of love.

Narrator: *To all who received him, to those who believed in his*

name he gave the right to become the children of God. [John 1:12]

Choir: There's a new day breaking for a world awaking;
welcome the incarnate gift of love.
Shepherds heard the story; then beheld the glory
of the child, the gift of heaven above.
Christ the sure foundation, hope of our salvation
offering life to all who on him call.
All of those believing, word of life receiving
still the gift of life avails to all.
Spirit now out-pouring, broken lives restoring
all who kneel before the throne of grace.
Light for our direction, guide for our protection,
till we come before him face to face.
Blessed king most glorious. Reigning now victorious:
Lord of life, for death has lost its sting.
Come and kneel before him, worship and adore him,
celebrate the birthday of a king.
celebrate the birthday of a king.