OOKED CAROL SERVICE

O little town of Bethlehem,

How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent starts go by.
Yet in the 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 all 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 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.

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.





The Messiah Foretold

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end.

He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and for ever.

The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.









In heaven the bells are ringing; Ding dong! Verily the sky Is riv'n with angels singing. Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis. . .

E'en so here below, below, Let steeple bells be swungen, And i-o, i-o, i-o, By priest and people sungen, Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis. . .

Pray you, dutifully prime Your matin chimes, ye ringers; May you beautifully rime Your evetime song, ye singers. Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis. . .







The Messiah is born

Luke 2:1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.







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 build the starry skies; He who, throned in height sublime, Sits among the cherubim: Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn...

Say, ye holy shepherds, say, What your joyful news today; Wherefore have ye left your sheep On the lonely mountains steep? Hail, thou ever-blessèd morn...

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-blessèd morn...

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-blessèd morn...

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 morn...





The Messiah is with us

Romans 8:38-39

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.







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 heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord, Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb! Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, the Incarnate Deity! Please as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel! Hark! The herald-angels sing Glory to the new-born King.

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 the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.

