

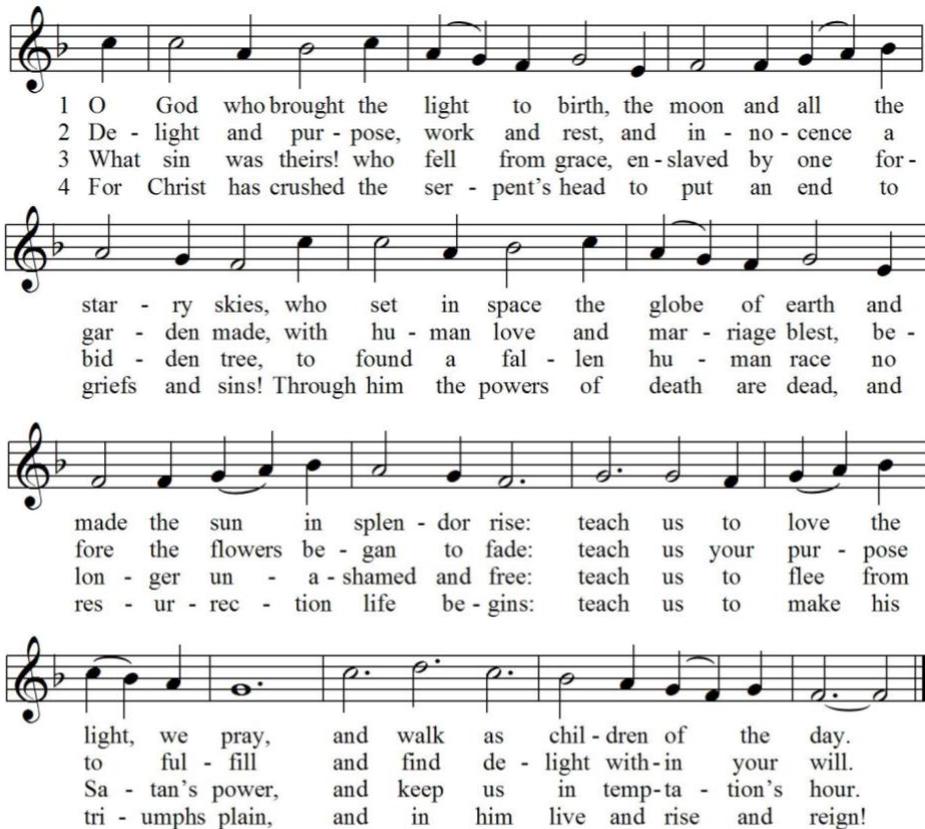
A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols
On the Eve of the Nativity
December 24, 2021

PROCESSIONAL HYMN **236** Once in Royal David's City

Irby

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. And, thro' all his wondrous childhood, / He would honor and obey,
Love, and watch the lowly maiden / In whose gentle arms he lay;
Christian children all must be / Mild, obedient, good as he.
4. For he is our childhood's pattern; / Day by day like us he grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless, / Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness, / And he shareth in our gladness.
5. 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.
6. 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.

Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848, Music: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1858



1 O God who brought the light to birth, the moon and all the
 2 De - light and pur - pose, work and rest, and in - no - cence a
 3 What sin was theirs! who fell from grace, en - slaved by one for -
 4 For Christ has crushed the ser - pent's head to put an end to

star - ry skies, who set in space the globe of earth and
 gar - den made, with hu - man love and mar - riage blest, be -
 bid - den tree, to found a fal - len hu - man race no
 griefs and sins! Through him the powers of death are dead, and

made the sun in splen - dor rise: teach us to love the
 fore the flowers be - gan to fade: teach us your pur - pose
 lon - ger un - a - shamed and free: teach us to flee from
 res - ur - rec - tion life be - gins: teach us to make his

light, we pray, and walk as chil - dren of the day.
 to ful - fill and find de - light with - in your will.
 Sa - tan's power, and keep us in temp - ta - tion's hour.
 tri - umphs plain, and in him live and rise and reign!

Words: 1990, Timothy Dudley-Smith (born 1926) based on Genesis 1, 2, 3. Copyright © 1990 Hope Publishing Company. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-721847. Music: traditional English melody, *Sussex Carol*

1. 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:

Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, / Worship Christ, the new born King.

2. Shepherds in the field abiding, / Watching o'er your flocks by night,
 God with man is now residing; / Yonder shines the infant Light: *R*
3. Sages, leave your contemplations; / Brighter visions beam afar:
 Seek the great Desire of nations; / Ye have seen his natal star: *R*
4. Saints before the altar bending, / Watching long in hope and fear,
 Suddenly the Lord, descending, / In his temple shall appear: *R*

Words: James Montgomery, 1816; Music: Henry Smart, 1867.

CAROL 775 Joy to the world!

Antioch

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: / Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry 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.
2. Joy to the world! 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.
3. No more let sin and sorrows grow, / Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow / Far as the curse is found.
Far as the curse is found. / Far as, far as the curse is found.
4. 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, and wonders of his love.

Isaac Watts, 1719, Music: Arr. from George Grederick Handel, 1685-1759, by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872.

CAROL 17 I know a rosetree springing

Rosa Mystica

1. I know a rosetree springing / Forth from an ancient root,
As men of old were singing. / From Jesse came the shoot
That bore a blossom bright / Amid the cold of winter,
When half-spent was the night.
2. This rosetree, blossom laden, / Whereof Isaiah spake,
Is Mary, spotless maiden, / Who mothered, for our sake,
The little child, newborn / By God's eternal counsel
On that first Christmas morn.
3. O Flower, whose fragrance tender / With sweetness fills the air,
Dispel in glorious splendor / The darkness ev'rywhere;
True man, yet very God, / From sin and death now save us,
And share our ev'ry load.

Speier Gebetbuch, 1959; Music: Traditional Melody, har. by Michael Praetorius, 1609.

1. 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!
2. O that birth for ever blessed, / When the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, / Bare the Saviour of our race;
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer, / First revealed his sacred face,
Evermore and evermore!
3. O ye heights of heav'n adore him; / Angel hosts, his praises sing;
Powers, 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. Thee let old men, thee let young men, / Thee let boys in chorus sing;
Matrons, virgins, little maidens, / With glad voices answering:
Let their guileless songs re-echo, / And the heart its music bring,
Evermore and evermore!
5. Christ, to thee with God the Father, / And, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, / And unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory, and dominion, / And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore!

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius, 348-413; *Tr.* J. M. Neale, 1854, Music: 13th century Plainsong

1. The snow lay on the ground, / The stars shone bright,
When Christ our Lord was born / On Christmas night.
Venite adoremus Dominum
Venite adoremus Dominum.

Refrain: Venite adoremus Dominum, Venite adoremus Dominum.

2. 'Twas Mary, daughter pure / Of holy Anne,
That brought into this world / The God made man.
She laid him in a stall / At Bethlehem;
The ass and oxen shared / The roof with them. *R*
3. Saint Joseph, too, was by / To tend the child;
To guard him, and protect / His mother mild:
The angels hovered round, / And sung this song,
Venite adoremus Dominum. *R*

4. And thus that manger poor / Became a throne;
For he whom Mary bore / Was God the Son.
O come, then, let us join / The heav'nly host,
To praise the Father, Son, / And Holy Ghost. *R*

Frederick Lucian Hosmer, 1891, Music: John Day's *Psalter*, 1562.

CAROL 42 Angels we have heard on high

Gloria

1. Angels we have heard on high, / Singing sweetly through the night,
And the mountains in reply / Echoing their brave delight.

Refrain: Gloria in Excelsis Deo, / Gloria in excelsis Deo.

2. Shepherds, shy this jubilee? / Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see? / What glad tidings did you hear? *R*

3. Come to Bethlehem and see / Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee / Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. *R*

4. See him in a manger laid / Whom the angels praise above;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, / While we raise our hearts in love. *R*

Traditional French Carol, 1937; Music: French Carol Melody, arr. by Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937.

CAROL 47 What Star is this

Pure Nobis

1. What star is this, with beams so bright, / More beauteous than the noonday light?
It shines to herald forth the King, / And Gentiles to his crib to bring.

2. True spake the prophet from afar, / Who told the rise of Jacob's star;
And eastern sages with amaze / Upon the wondrous token gaze.

3. The guiding star above is bright; / Within them shines a clearer light,
And leads them on with power benign / To seek the Giver of the sign.

4. Their love can brook no dull delay, / Though toil and danger block the way;
Home, kindred, fatherland, and all, / They leave at their Creator's call.

5. O Jesus, while the star of grace / Impels us on to seek thy face,
Let not our slothful hearts refuse / The guidance of thy light to use.

6. To God the Father, heav'nly Light, / To Christ, revealed in earthly night,
To God the Holy Ghost we raise / Our equal and unceasing praise.

Charles Coffin, 1736; *Tr.* John Chandler, 1837; Music: Adapted by Michael Praetorius, 1609.

CAROL 12 O Come, all ye faithful (vv. 1-3, 6)

Adeste Fideles

1. 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;

Refrain: O come, let us adore him, / O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

2. God of God, / Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb:
Very God, / Begotten, not created; *R*
3. Sing, choirs of angels, / Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God / In the highest; *R*
4. See how the shepherds, / Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
We too will thither / Bend our joyful footsteps; *R*
5. Child, for us sinners, / Poor and in the manger,
We would embrace thee, with love and awe;
Who would not love thee, / Loving us so dearly? *R*
6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, / Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, / Now in flesh appearing; *R*

Latin, 18th cent.; Tr. Frederick Oakeley; 1866, Music: J. F. Wade's Cantus Diversi, 1751

CAROL 33 Silent night, Holy night

Holy Night

1. Silent night, holy night, / All is calm all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child. / Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, / Sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night, holy night, / Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar, / Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Saviour is born! / Christ, the Saviour, is born!
3. 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.

Joseph Mohr, 1818; Music: Franz Grueber, 1818, har. by Carl Reinecke.

1. 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 the angelic host proclaim / Christ is born in Bethlehem!

Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing / Glory to the newborn King!

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored; / Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come, / Offspring of the Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; / Hail the incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell; / Jesus, our Emmanuel! *R*

3. 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.
Ris'n with healing in his wings, / Light and life to all he brings,
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness! / Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! *R*

Charles Wesley, 1739; Music: Adapted from a chorus by Felix Mendelssohn, 1840.