

Festival of Carols 2016 Audience Carols

Once in Royal David's City

Vs. 1 (Teresa Mahon, soloist)

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.

Vs. 2 (Choir only)

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.

Vs. 3 (All)

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.

Vs. 4 (All)

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.

Vs. 5 (All)

And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.

Vs. 6 (All)

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.

Hark! The Herald-Angels Sing

Vs. 1 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.*

Vs. 2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come
Offspring of a virgin's womb:
Veiled in flesh the God-head see,
Hail th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased as man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
*Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

Vs. 3 Hail! the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Ris'n with healing in his wings;
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.
*Hark! the herald-angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Vs. 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:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Vs. 2 (Choir only)

God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created:

All on refrain

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Vs. 3

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 adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Vs. 4

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

Vs. 1 God rest you merry, gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay,
For Jesus Christ our Saviour
Was born upon this day,
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray:
 *O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
 O tidings of comfort and joy.*

Vs. 2 From God our heavn'ly Father,
A blessèd angel came,
And unto certain shepherds,
Brought tidings of the same;
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name.
 *O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
 O tidings of comfort and joy.*

Vs. 3 The shepherds at those tidings
Rejoicèd much in mind,
And left their flocks a-feeding
In tempest, storm and wind.
And went to Bethlehem straightway
This blessèd babe to find:
 *O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
 O tidings of comfort and joy.*

Vs. 4 Now to the Lord sing praises,
All you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood
Each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas
All others doth deface:
 *O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
 O tidings of comfort and joy.*

The First Nowell

Vs. 1 (All) The first Nowell the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields as 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.*

Vs. 2 (Women) They lookèd 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.
All on refrain *Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*

Vs. 3 (Men) 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.
All on refrain *Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*

Vs. 4 (Choir) This star drew nigh to the north-west,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay.
All on refrain *Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*

Vs. 5 (Men) Then entered in those wise men three
Full reverently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence,
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
All on refrain *Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*

Vs. 6 (All) Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord;
That hath made heav'n and earth of nought,
And with his blood mankind hath bought.
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*