

Doxology

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above you heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!*

www.GodsPeopleSing.org

Your Word is a Lamp to My Feet and a Light to My Path.

God's People Sing

Hymns of Christmas 2

English

All songs recorded with one extra verse for an introduction.

1. A Great and Mighty Wonder
2. As Each Happy Christmas
3. As With Gladness Men of Old
4. Away in a Manger
5. Behold a Branch Is Growing
6. Brightest and Best
7. Child In a Manger
8. Comfort, Comfort Ye My People
9. Gentle Mary Laid Her Child
10. God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen
11. Good Christian Men Rejoice
12. He Is Born, the Child Divine
13. How Glad I Am Each Christmas Eve
14. How Great Our Joy!
15. I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day
16. Let Us All with Gladsome Voice
17. Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
18. Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
19. Love Came Down
20. Oh Come, Little Children
21. Once in Royal David's City
22. Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow
23. Savior of the Nations Come
24. The Advent of Our King
25. The Snow Lay on the Ground

The Snow Lay on the Ground

25

Traditional Carol

Traditional Carol

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.
Venite adoremus Dominum; Venite adoremus Dominum.

To Mary, daughter pure, the angel came,
And brought the blessed message God did send.
To her a Child was born in Bethlehem
Venite adoremus Dominum
Venite adoremus Dominum; Venite adoremus Dominum.

And Joseph, too, was there to tend the Child;
To guard Him, and protect His mother mild;
The angels hovered round, and sang this song,
Venite adoremus Dominum.
Venite adoremus Dominum; Venite adoremus Dominum.

And thus that manger poor became a throne;
For He whom Mary bore was God the Son.
Oh, come, then, let us join the heavenly host,
To praise the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Venite adoremus Dominum; Venite adoremus Dominum.

Bible Verse: And she gave birth to her firstborn Son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. Luke 2:7 ESV

*Charles Coffin
John Chandler*

Aaron Williams

The advent of King, Our prayers must now employ,
And we must hymns of welcome sing, in strains of holy joy.

The everlasting Song, Incarnate deigns to be;
Himself a servant's form puts on to set His servants free.

O Zion's Daughter, rise to meet your lowly King,
Nor let your faithless heart despise the peace He comes to bring.

As Judge, on clouds of light, He soon will come again
And His true members all, unite with Him in heaven to reign.

Before the dawning day let sin's dark deeds be gone,
The old man all be put away, the new man all put on.

All glory to the Son, Who comes to set us free,
With Father, Spirit, ever One, through all eternity.

Bible Verse: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem! behold, your king is coming to you; righteous and having salvation is He, humble and mounted on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. Zechariah 9:9 ESV

*St. Germanus
John M. Neal*

Cologne

A great and mighty wonder, A full and holy cure:
The virgin bears the Infant, With virgin honor pure!
Repeat the hymn again: "To God on high be glory
And peace on earth to men!"

The Word becomes incarnate, And yet remains on high,
The cherubim sing anthems, To shepherds from the sky.
Repeat the hymn again: "To God on high be glory
And peace on earth to men!"

While thus they sing Your monarch,
Those bright angelic bands,
Rejoice, O vales and mountains, And oceans, clap your hands.
Repeat the hymn again: "To God on high be glory
And peace on earth to men!"

Since all He comes to ransom, By all be He adored.
The infant born in Bethlehem, The Savior and the Lord.
Repeat the hymn again: "To God on high be glory
And peace on earth to men!"

Bible Verse: Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory. 1 Timothy 3:16 ESV

*Johann W. Hey
Harriet R. Spaeth*

As each happy Christmas
Dawns on earth again,
Comes the holy Christ Child
To the hearts of men.

Enters with His blessing
Into every home,
Guides and guards our footsteps
As we go and come.

All unknown, beside me,
He will ever stand,
And will safely lead me
With His own right hand.

Johann C. H. Rink

*Martin Luther
William M. Reynolds*

Savior of the nations, come,
Virgin's son, make here Your home!
Marvel now, Oh heaven and earth,
That the Lord chose such a birth.

Not by human flesh and blood,
By the Spirit of our God,
Was the Word of God made flesh
Woman's offspring, pure and fresh.

Wondrous birth! Oh wondrous Child
Of the Virgin undefiled!
Though by all the world disowned,
Still to be in heaven enthroned.

From the Father forth He came
And returneth to the same,
Captive leading death and hell
High the song of triumph swell!

Praise to God the Father sing,
Praise to God the Son, our King,
Praise to God the Spirit be
Ever and eternally.

Wittenberg

Bible Verse: Teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age. Matthew 28:20 ESV

Bible Verse: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14 ESV

22

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow

19th Century Spiritual

There's a star in the east on Christmas morn
Rise up, shepherd, and follow;
It'll lead to the place where the Savior's born,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Leave your ewes and leave your lambs,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Leave your sheep and leave your rams,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow, follow, rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow the star of Bethlehem,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

If you take good heed to the angels words
Rise up, shepherd, and follow;
You'll forget your flocks, you'll forget your herds,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Leave your ewes and leave your lambs,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Leave your sheep and leave your rams,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow, follow, rise up, shepherd, and follow.
Follow the star of Bethlehem,
Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

Bible Verse: And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. Luke 2:16 ESV

19th Century Spiritual

As With Gladness Men of Old

3

William C. Dix

As with gladness men of old,
Did the guiding star behold;
As with joy they hailed its light,
Leading onward, beaming bright,
So, most gracious Lord, so true,
Evermore be led by You!

As with joyful steps they sped,
Savior, to Your lowly bed,
There to bend the knee before,
You whom heaven and earth adore,
So may we with willing feet,
Ever seek Your mercy seat!

As they offered gifts most rare,
At Your cradle, rude and bare,
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to You, our heavenly King!

Holy Jesus, every day,
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when early things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last,
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds Your glory hide.

Bible Verse: Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, Matthew 2:1 ESV

Konrad Kocher

*Author Unknown
John T. McFarland*

William J. Kirkpatrick

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head;
The stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep in the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes.
I love You, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask You to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray,
Bless all the dear children in Your tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with You there.

Bible Verse: And she gave birth to her firstborn Son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. Luke 2: 7 ESV

Cecil Frances Alexander

Henry J. Gauntlett

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.

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 low,
Lived our Savior long ago.

But our eyes in truth should see Him,
Through His own redeeming love,
For that child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above,
As He leads His children on,
To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
Shall we see Him, but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high.
Then like stars His children, crowned,
All in white, His praise will sound!

Bible Verse: So she called the name of the LORD who spoke to her, "You are a God of seeing," for she said, "Truly here I have seen Him who looks after me." Genesis 16:13 ESV

Christian V. Schmidt

Johann A.P. Schulz

Oh come, little children, oh, come one and all,
To Bethlehem haste to the manger so small.
God’s Son for a gift has been sent you this night
To be your Redeemer, your Joy, and Delight.

He’s Born in a stable for you and for me;
Draw near by the bright, gleaming starlight to see,
In swaddling clothes lying, so meek and so mild,
And purer than angels, the heavenly Child.

See Mary and Joseph, with love beaming eyes,
Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies;
The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of love,
While angels sing loud alleluias above.

Kneel down and adore Him with shepherds today,
Lift up little hands now and praise Him as they;
Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast,
And join in the song of the heavenly host.

Bible Verse: But Jesus called them to Him, saying, “Let the children come to Me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.” Luke 18:16 ESV

*German author unknown
Harriet R. Spaeth*

Cologne

Behold, a Branch is growing
Of loveliest form and grace,
As prophets sung, foreknowing;
It springs from Jesse’s race
And bears one little Flower,
In midst of coldest winter, At deepest midnight hour,

Isaiah hath foretold It,
In words of promise sure,
And Mary’s arms enfold It,
A virgin meek and pure.
Through God’s eternal will,
This Child to her is given, At midnight calm and still.

The Shepherds heard the story,
Proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of Glory,
Was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped,
And in the manger found Him, As angel heralds said.

O Savior, Child of Mary,
Who felt our human woe;
O Savior, King of Glory,
Who now our weakness know,
Bring us at length, we pray,
To the bright courts of heaven And to the endless day.

Bible Verse: There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. Isaiah 11:1-2 ESV

6

Brightest and Best

Reginald Heber

Brightest and best of the sons of the morning,
Dawn on our darkness and lend us Your aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on His cradle the dewdrops are shining;
Low lies His head with the beast of the stall,
Angels adore Him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

Shall we not yield Him, in costly devotion,
Odors of Edom and offerings divine,
Gems of the mountain and pearls of the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest and gold from the mine?

Bible Verse: And going into the house they saw the Child with Mary, His mother, and they fell down and worshiped Him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered Him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. Matthew 2:11 ESV

*Morning Star
John P. Harding*

Love Came Down

19

Christina G. Rossetti

Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, Love divine
Love was born at Christmas,
Star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the God-head,
Love incarnate, Love divine;
Worship we our Jesus;
But where-with for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token,
Love be yours and love be mine,
Love to God and all men,
Love for plea and gift and sign.

Bible Verse: And so we know and rely on the love God has for us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in Him. 1 John 4:16 ESV

Irish Traditional Melody

18 Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

*15th Century Carol
Theodore Baker*

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming
From tender stem has sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
As men of old have sung,
It came, a flower bright,
Amid the cold of winter
When half spent was the night

The shepherds heard the story
Proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of glory
Was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped,
And in a manger found Him,
As angel heralds said.

*Traditional
Michael Praetorius*

Child in the Manger

7

*Mary MacDonald
Lachlan Macbean*

Child in the manger, infant of Mary;
Outcast and stranger, Lord of all;
Child who inherits all our transgressions,
All our demerits on Him fall.

Once the most holy Child of salvation
Gently and lowly lived below;
Now as our glorious Mighty Redeemer,
See Him victorious over each foe.

Prophets foretold Him, Infant of Wonder;
Angels behold Him on His throne;
Worthy our Savior of all our praises;
Happy forever are His own.

*Gaelic Melody
Mark Hayes*

Bible Verse: In that day the Root of Jesse will stand as a banner for the peoples; the nations will rally to Him, and His place of rest will be glorious. Isaiah 11:10 ESV

Bible Verse: Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness: He was manifested in the flesh, vindicated by the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed on in the world, taken up in glory. 1 Timothy 3:16 ESV

8

Comfort, Comfort Ye My People

*Johann Olearius
Catherine Winkworth*

Genevan Psalter

Comfort, comfort, ye My people,
Speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
Comfort those who sit in darkness,
Mourning 'neath their sorrows' load.
Speak ye to Jerusalem,
Of the peace that waits for them;
Tell her that her sins I cover,
And her warfare now is over.

Hark, the Herald's voice is crying
In the desert far and near,
Bidding all men to repentance
Since the Kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey!
Now prepare for God a way;
Let the valleys rise to meet Him,
And the hills bow down to greet Him.

Make ye straight what long was crooked,
Make the rougher places plain;
Let your hearts be true and humble,
As befits His holy reign,
For the glory of the Lord,
Now o'er earth is shed abroad,
And all flesh shall see the token,
That His Word is never broken.

Bible Verse: Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. Isaiah 40:1-2 ESV

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates 17

*George Weissel
Catherine Winkworth*

Berlin

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of Glory waits;
The King of king is drawing near,
The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation He doth bring,
Wherefore rejoice and gladly sing;
We praise Thee, Father now,
Creator, wise art Thou!

O blest the land, the city blest,
Where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes
To whom the King in triumph comes!
The cloudless Sun of joy He is,
Who bringeth pure delight and bliss,
We praise Thee, Spirit, now,
Our Comforter art Thou!

Redeemer come I open wide,
My heart to Thee here Lord abide
Let me Thine inner presence feel,
Thy grace and love in me reveal;
Thy Holy Spirit guide us on
Until our glorious goal is won,
Eternal praise and fame,
We offer to Thy name.

Bible Verse: The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for He founded it upon the seas and established it upon the waters. Psalm 24:1-2 ESV

*Author Unknown
Catherine Winkworth*

Dresden

Let us all with gladsome voice
Praise the God of heaven,
Who, to make our hearts rejoice,
His own Son has given.

To this place of fears He came,
Servant, healer, mender;
Through His death we heaven claim,
There to reign in splendor.

We are rich, for He was poor;
Is not this a wonder?
Therefore praise God evermore
Here on earth and yonder.

Christ, our Lord and Savior dear,
Oh, be ever near us.
Be our joy throughout each year.
Amen, Jesus, hear us.

Bible Verse: For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich. 2 Corinthians 8:9 ESV

Joseph Simpson Cook

Swedish

Gentle Mary laid her child,
Lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the Undefined,
To the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place,
Can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved in all the race,
Who have found His favor.

Angels sang about His birth,
Wise Man sought and found Him.
Heaven's star shone brightly forth,
Glory all around Him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight,
Heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night,
All the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her child,
Lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undefined,
But no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth,
Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth;
Hail the King of glory!

Bible Verse: And she gave birth to her firstborn Son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. Luke 2:7 ESV

10

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

18th Century English carol

18th Century English melody

God rest you merry, gentlemen, let nothing you dismay;
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's power
When we were gone astray.
Oh tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
Oh tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father, a blessed angel came;
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born
The Son of God by name.
Oh tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
Oh tidings of comfort and joy.

"Fear not" then said the angel, "Let nothing you affright;
This day is born a Savior of a pure virgin bright,
To free all those who trust in Him
From Satan's power and might."
Oh tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
Oh tidings of comfort and joy.

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 replace
Oh tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy;
Oh tidings of comfort and joy.

Bible Verse: And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11 ESV

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day 15

Henry W. Longfellow

John Calkin

I heard the bells on Christmas day
Their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

I thought how, as the day had come,
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along the unbroken song
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

And to the earth Messiah came
To save the world from sin and shame
Within my heart I gladly sing
Of peace on earth, good will to men.

Bible Verse: "If you do this, God will direct you, you will be able to endure, and all this people also will go to their place in peace."
Exodus 18:23

Traditional German Carol

While by the sheep we watched at night
 Glad tidings brought an angel bright.
 How great our joy! Great our joy!
 Joy, joy, joy, Joy, joy, joy!
 Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!
 Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!

There shall be born, so he did say,
 In Bethlehem a Child today.
 How great our joy! Great our joy!
 Joy, joy, joy, Joy, joy, joy!
 Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!
 Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!

There shall the Child lie in a stall.
 This Child who shall redeem us all.
 How great our joy! Great our joy!
 Joy, joy, joy, joy, joy, joy!
 Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!
 Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!

This gift of God we'll cherish well.
 That ever joy our hearts shall fill.
 How great our joy! Great our joy!
 Joy, joy, joy, joy, joy, joy!
 Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!
 Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!

Bible Verse: O LORD, in Your strength the king rejoices, and in Your salvation how greatly He exults! Psalm 21:1 ESV

*Traditional German Melody**14th Century Latin Carol
John Mason Neale*

Good Christian men, rejoice
 With heart and soul and voice!
 Give now heed to what we say:
 Jesus Christ is born today.
 Man and beast before Him bow,
 And He is in the manger now;
 Christ is born today,
 Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice
 With heart and soul and voice!
 Now oh hear of endless bliss;
 Jesus Christ was born for this.
 He has opened heaven's door
 And man is blest forever more.
 Christ was born for this,
 Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice
 With heart and soul and voice!
 Now you need not fear the grave:
 Jesus Christ was born to save;
 Calls you one and calls you all,
 To gain His everlasting hall.
 Christ was born to save,
 Christ was born to save!

Bible Verse: Though you have not seen Him, you love Him. Though you do not now see Him, you believe in Him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory 1 Peter 1:8
 ESV

14th Century German Carol

12

He is Born, the Child Divine

French Carol

*Traditional French Carol
Walter Ehret*

He is born, the Child Divine; Play the oboe, Sound the bagpipes,
He is born, the Child Divine; Sing now all, He is born today.

Prophets from the ages past, Have foretold the Savior's coming;
We for more than four thousand years, Have awaited this joyous time.
He is born, the Child Divine; Play the oboe, Sound the bagpipes,
He is born, the Child Divine; Sing now all, He is born today.

Ah! How fair is the Holy Child, And how perfect are His graces;
Ah, how fair is the Holy Child; Oh, how sweet is the Child Divine!
He is born, the Child Divine; Play the oboe, Sound the bagpipes,
He is born, the Child Divine; Sing now all, He is born today.

In a stable was He born; Straw, a little, for His cradle;
In a stable was He born, What a lodging for Christ, the Lord!
He is born, the Child Divine; Play the oboe, Sound the bagpipes,
He is born, the Child Divine; Sing now all, He is born today.

King of all forevermore, Little infant though You are,
King of all forevermore, Reign in every human heart.
He is born, the Child Divine; Play the oboe, Sound the bagpipes,
He is born, the Child Divine; Sing now all, He is born today.

Bible Verse: And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus. Luke 1:30-31 ESV

How Glad I Am Each Christmas Eve 13

Marie Wexelsen

Peder Knudsen

How glad I am each Christmas Eve,
The night of Jesus' birth!
Then like the sun the star shone forth,
And angels sang on earth.

The Little Child in Bethlehem,
He was a king indeed!
He came from His high throne in Heaven
Down to a world in need.

He dwells again in heaven's realm,
The Son of God today;
But He knows all the little ones
And hears them when they pray.

How glad I am each Christmas Eve!
His praises then we sing;
He opens then for every child
The palace of the King.

Bible Verse: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you; you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger. Luke 2:11-12 ESV