

A CHRISTMAS CAROL SING: GOD'S PROMISES FULFILLED

I. God's Promise of Hope

Prepare the Way, O Zion (Hymn 106) ^A

1. Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.
2. He brings God's rule, O Zion, he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.
3. Fling wide your gates, O Zion, your Savior's rule embrace,
and tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing.
O blest is Christ who came in God's most holy name.

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing ^B

1. On Christmas night all Christians sing to hear the news the angels bring (repeat)
News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.
2. Then why should we on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad? (repeat)
When from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty?
3. All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night (repeat)
"Glory to God and peace to men, now and forevermore. Amen."

II. Solo: I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day, arr. J. Chrisman ^C

III. God's Promise of Peace

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear (Hymn 123) ^D

1. It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, goodwill to all, from heaven's all-gracious King":
the world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

2. **(Women)** Still through the clown skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world:
above its sad and lowly plains they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

5. For lo, the days are hastening on, by prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world give back the song, which now the angels sing.

What Child Is This (Hymn 145) ^E

1. What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

Let There Be Peace on Earth ^F

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our creator, children all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment, and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

IV. Organ: Shepherds' Dance, arr. R. Elliott^G

V. God's Promise of Joy

God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen ^H

1. **(All)** 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.
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.
2. **(Brick wall side)** In Bethlehem, in Jewry, this blessed Babe was born,
And laid within a manger upon this blessed morn,
To which his mother, Mary, did nothing take in scorn.
(All) O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

3. **(Window Side)** From God, our Heavenly Father, a blessed angel came
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings all the same;
How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.

(All) O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

4. **(All)** Now to the Lord sing praises all you within this place,
And with true love and fellowship each other now embrace,
This holy tide of Christmas all other doth deface.

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy, O tidings of comfort and joy.

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice (Hymn 132) ^I

1. Good Christian Friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow and he is in the manger now,
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

2. Good Christian Friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Go, Tell It On the Mountain (Hymn 136) ^J

Refrain: Go, tell it on the mountain; over the hills and everywhere,
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (Refrain)
2. The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth;
rang out the angels chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain)
3. Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)

VI. Solo: What Sweeter Music, J. Rutter ^K

VII. God's Promise of Love

Good King Wenceslas ^L

1. **(All)** Good King Wenceslas look'd out on the Feast of Stephen,
When the snow lay round about, deep and crisp, and even.
Brightly shown the moon that night, though the frost was cruel,
When a poor man came in sight, gathering winter fuel.

2. **(Men)** "Hither page and stand by me, if thou know'st it telling,
Yonder peasant, who is he? Where and what his dwelling?"
(Women) "Sire, he lives a good league hence, underneath the mountain;
Right against the forest fence, by Saint Agnes' fountain."
3. **(Men)** "Bring me flesh and bring me wine, bring me pine logs hither;
Thou and I will see him dine, when we bear them thither."
(All) Page and monarch forth they went, forth they went together;
Through the rude wind's wild lament, and the bitter weather.
4. **(Women)** "Sire, the night is darker now, and the wind blows stronger;
Fails my heart I know not how, I can go no longer."
(Men) "Mark my footsteps, my good page, tread thou in them boldly,
Thou shalt find the winter's rage freeze thy blood less coldly."
5. **(All)** In his master's steps he trod, where the snow lay dinted;
Heat was in the very sod, which the saint had printed.
Therefore, Christian folk be sure, wealth or rank possessing,
Ye who now will bless the poor, shall yourselves find blessing.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (Hymn 119) ^M

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 hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
2. Christ, by highest heaven 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 in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"
3. **(Unison)** 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 us from the earth, Born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"