

## Christmas Eve Program

(KJV Luke 2)

1 And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.

3 And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie.  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;  
The stars in the heavens looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

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 th'angelic host proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy,  
which shall be to all people.

11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King!  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,  
And Saints and angels sing,  
And Saints and angels sing,  
And Saints, and Saints and angels sing.

12 And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes,  
lying in a manger.

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God,  
and saying,

14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Far, far away on Judea's plains,  
Shepherds of old heard the joyous strains:  
Glory to God, Glory to God,  
Glory to God in the highest;  
Peace on earth, goodwill to men;  
Peace on earth, goodwill to men!

15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the  
shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing  
which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

Oh, come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant!  
Oh, come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him,  
Born the King of angels;

16 And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

17 And when they had seen *it*, they made known abroad the saying which was told them  
concerning this child.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav'nly song?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

18 And all they that heard *it* wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

19 But Mary kept all these things, and pondered *them* in her heart.

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.

(KJV Matthew 2)

1 Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.

3 When Herod the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.

5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judæa: for thus it is written by the prophet,

6 And thou Bethlehem, *in* the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.

7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.

8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.

9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.

10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.

11 ¶ And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.

With wond'ring awe the wisemen saw  
The star in heaven springing,  
And with delight, in peaceful night,  
They heard the angels singing:  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna to his name!