

Hymns ~ Christmas Day



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 lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

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.

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.

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.
Then like stars his children crowned, all in white, his praise will sound.

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er our plains,
and the mountains in reply echo still their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your rapturous strain prolong?
Say, what may your tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song.

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee the infant Christ, the new-born King.

See within a manger lain, Jesus, Lord of heaven and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid to celebrate our Saviour's birth.

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
all seated on the ground, the angel of the Lord came down, and glory shone about.
'Fear not,' said he, (for mighty dread had seized their troubled mind)
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring to you and all mankind.'
'To you in David's town this day is born of David's line
a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord; and this shall be the sign:
'The heavenly Babe you there shall find to human view displayed,
all meanly wrapped in swathing bands, and in a manger laid.'
Thus spoke the Seraph; and forthwith appeared a shining throng
of Angels praising God, who thus addressed their joyful song:
'All glory be to God on high, and on the earth be peace,
goodwill henceforth from heaven to men begin and never cease.'

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.
Be near me Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children, in thy tender care.
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

‘My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the Altar.
I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that
I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.’ Amen
(based on prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori)

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.
Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ the Saviour, is born! Christ the Saviour, is born!
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.

**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, (3×) Christ the Lord.**

**God of God, light of light,
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore Him, (3×) Christ the Lord.**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of Heaven above!
Glory to God, glory in the highest:
O come, let us adore Him, (3×) Christ the Lord.**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him, (3×) Christ the Lord.**