

Once in Royal David's City VU 62

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 he little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who, with God, is over all, and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall. There among the poor and lowly lived on earth our Saviour holy.

For he is our lifelong pattern; daily when on earth he grew, he was tempted, scorned, rejected, tears and smiles like us he knew. Thus he feels for all our sadness and he shares in all our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love; for that child who seemed so helpless is our Lord in heaven above; and he leads his children onto the place where he is gone.



O Come, All Ye Faithful VU 60

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.

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

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all ye citizens of heaven 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.



O God, we come filled with excitement to hear the Christmas story again, on this holiest of nights.

Open wide the crowded inns of our hearts, that we may see with new eyes, what happened that night so long ago.

Open our ears that we may hear your voice in the voices of those around us. Fill us with wonder and mystery that we may experience your presence with us now, we pray. Amen.



O Little Town of Bethlehem VU 64

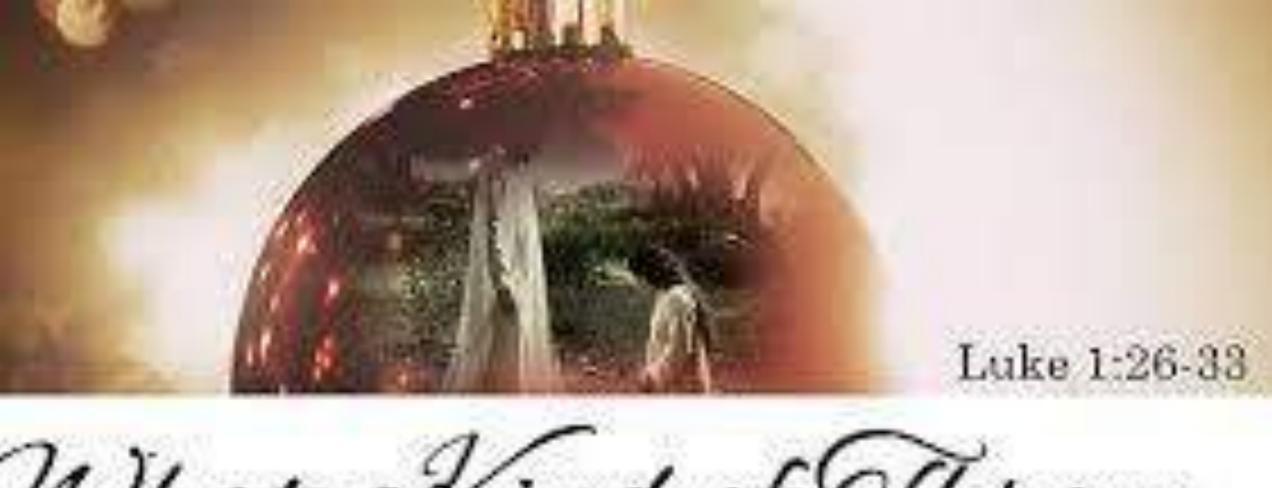
O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; Yet in thy dark streets shineth the ever-lasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight. O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in; be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.



Kindle a flame to lighten the dark and take all fear away (2x)







What Kind of Throne
The Throne of Incarnation

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung, of Jesse's lineage coming, as seers of old have sung.

It came a blossom bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind,, with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.

To show God's love aright she bore for us a Saviour when half spent was the night.



Thus says the prophet to those of Israel, "A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel." One whose name is "God with us," our Saviour shall be, through whom hope will blossom once more within our hearts.



Still, still: the night is calm and still. The Christ-child in his crib lies sleeping, angels round him watch are keeping. Still, still, still: the night is calm and still.

Sleep, sleep, sleep: sweet Jesus, softly sleep, while Mary sings and gently holds you, safely in her arms enfolds you. Sleep, sleep, sleep: sweet Jesus softly sleep.

Joy, joy, joy; glad tidings of great joy! For through God's holy incarnation Christ is born for our salvation. Joy, joy, joy; glad tidings of great joy!



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 excelcis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ whose birth the angels sing; come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!



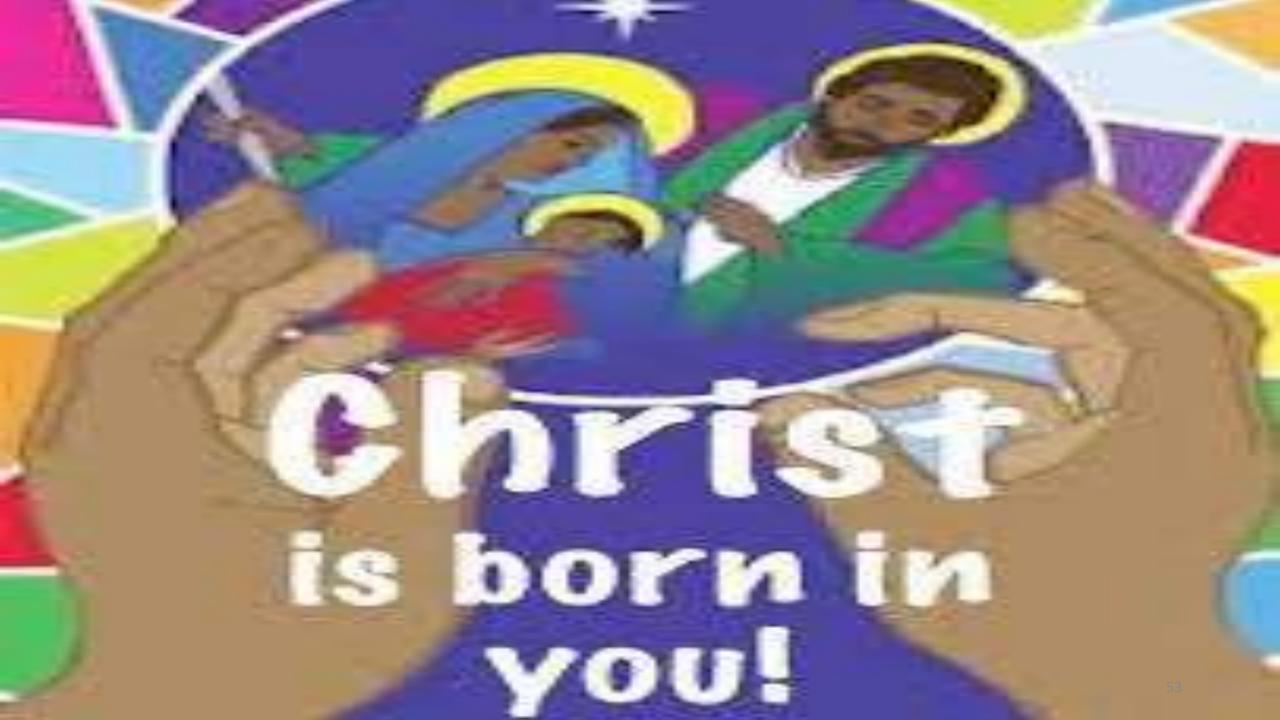




While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo, above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Saviour's birth!

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born, and God sent our salvation that blessed Christmas morn.



CHRISTMAS OFFERING

We give because He gave.

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise [one], I would do my part; yet what I can I give him – give my heart.







Joy to the world! The Lord is come: let earth receive her King! Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the earth with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.



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 Hallelujah, 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.

