

# Angels We Have Heard on High

Luke 2:15

Traditional French carol  
 Transl. st. 1-3, "Crown of Jesus Music II," 1862; alt.  
 St. 4, "Carols Old and Carols New," Boston, 1916; alt.

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
 2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
 3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Christ whose birth the an - gels sing;  
 4 See the babe in man - ger laid whom the choirs of an - gels praise;

And the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o back their joy - ous strains.  
 Say what may the tid - ings be, which in - spire your heaven - ly song.  
 Come a - dore on bend - ed knee, God, our world now en - ter - ing.  
 Mar - y, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.

Refrain

Glo - - - - - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o, Glo - - - - -

The earliest version of this anonymous French carol was first published in 1855. There have been numerous English translations since the 1860s, but the carol did not gain widespread ecumenical usage until the first half of the twentieth century.

Tune: GLORIA 7.7.7.7. with refrain  
 (LES ANGES DANS NOS CAMPAGNES)  
 French carol melody

## Away in a Manger

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Anon., United States, 1885; st. 3, 1892; alt.

Luke 2:7

F B $\flat$  F

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, the  
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the poor ba - by wakes, but  
 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask you to stay close

C7 F

lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head. The  
 lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing he makes. I  
 by me for - ev - er and love me, I pray. Bless

F B $\flat$  F

stars in the sky 'looked down where he lay, the  
 love you, Lord Je - sus; pro - tect me, I pray, and  
 all the dear chil - dren in your ten - der care, and

C7 F B $\flat$  C7 F

lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a - sleep on the hay.  
 stay by my side un - til night turns to day.  
 fit us for heav - en to live with you there.

*This anonymous United States carol is often misattributed to Luther. The poem first appeared in a Lutheran hymnal for schools and families. Though he never credited himself with it, the tune most likely was composed by Murray.*

Tune: AWAY IN A MANGER 11.11.11.11.  
 (MÜLLER)  
*Attrib. to James R. Murray, 1887*

## O Little Town of Bethlehem

1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see you lie!  
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and gath - ered all a - bove,  
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
 4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

A - bove your deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
 While mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the glo - rious love of heaven.  
 Cast out our sin and en - ter in; be born in us to - day.

Yet in your dark streets shines forth the ev - er - last - ing light,  
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!  
 No one dis - cerns God's com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in you to - night.  
 And prais - es sing, and voic - es ring with peace to all on earth.  
 Where yearn - ing souls long to be whole, the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!