

German and Latin, 14th century
 Transl. John Mason Neale, 1855; alt.

Descant

3 Good Chris - tian friends, re-joyce with heart and soul and voice;

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joyce with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joyce with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joyce with heart and soul and voice;

now you need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

now give heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now you know of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now you need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er -

Ox and ass be - fore him bow, a - sleep with - in the
 God has o - pened heav - en's door, and you are blessed for -
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er -

last - ing hall. Christ was born, Christ was born to save!

man-ger now. Christ is born to - day, Christ is born to - day!
 ev - er-more. Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!
 last-ing hall. Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!

This carol is very old. Heinrich Suso, a German mystic who died in 1366, related a vision in which angels, singing this carol, drew him into a dance. The words were originally macaronic, combining Latin phrases with the vernacular.

Tune: IN DULCI JUBILO 6.6.7.7.7.8.5.5.
 German melody, 14th century
 Harm. adapt. from John Stainer, 1871
 Descant, H. A. Chambers, 1931

Es ist ein' Ros entsprungen

(Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming)

Isa. 11:1

German, 15th century; transl. Theodore Baker, 1894; alt.

ein - er Wur - zel

1 Es ist ein' Ros ent - sprun - gen aus ein - er Wur - zel zart,
 1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom - ing from ten - der stem has sprung!
 2 I - sa - iah had fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,

Jes - se kam die

wie uns die Al - ten sun - gen: von Jes - se kam die Art
 Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as saints of old have sung.
 With Mar - y we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Moth - er kind.

und hat ein Blüm - lein bracht mit - ten im kal - ten
 It came a flower - et bright, a - mid the cold of
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to us a

der . . . hal - ben

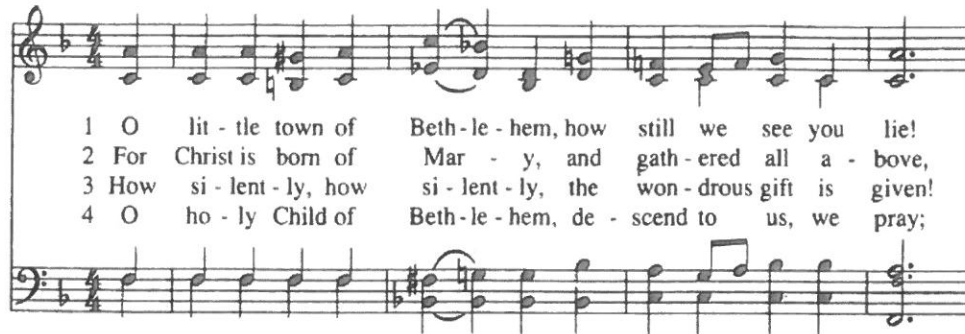
Win - ter wohl zu der hal - ben Nacht.
 win - ter, when half spent was the night.
 Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

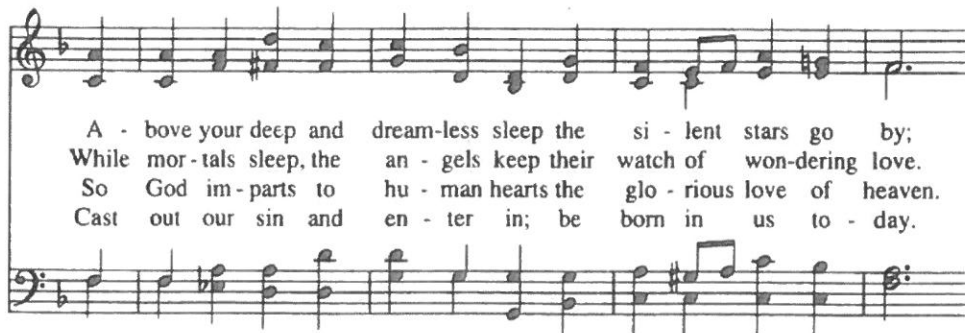
Possibly dating from the fifteenth century, this anonymous hymn was first published in a Catholic hymnal in Germany, where the rose was held in special regard and was employed as a symbol for Mary or for Christ.

Tune: ES IST EIN' ROS 7.6.7.6.6.7.6.
 Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Cologne, 1599
 Harm. Michael Praetorius, 1609

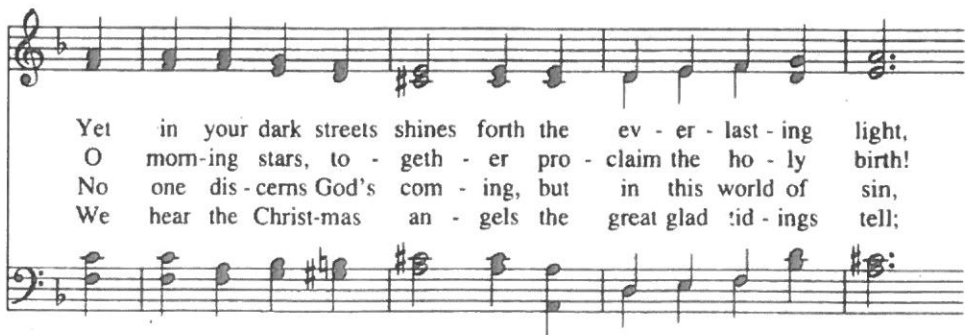
O Little Town of Bethlehem



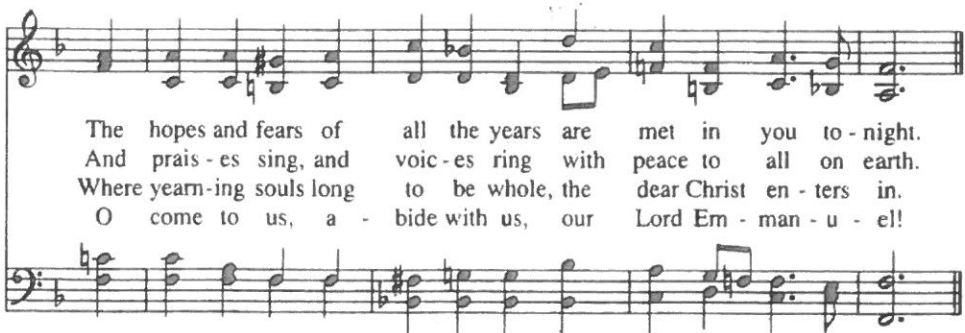
1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see you lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Mar - y, and gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!
 4 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



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!

Silent Night, Holy Night

Joseph Mohr, 1818

Transl. John F. Young, c. 1863; alt.

Luke 2:1-20

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep-herds quake at the sight,
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Child of God, love's pure light,

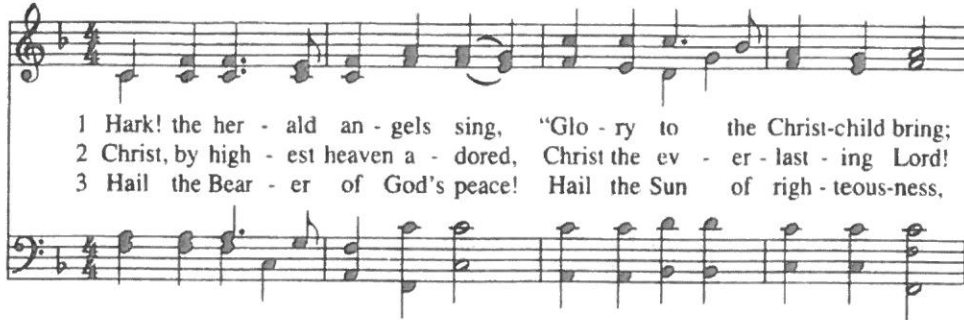
Round you vir - gin moth-er and child. Ho - ly in - fant so ten - der and mild,
 Glo - ries stream from heav-en a - far, heav-en-ly hosts sing Al - le - lu - ia;
 Ra - diant beams from your ho-ly face bring the dawn of re - deem - ing grace;

Sleep in heav - en-ly peace, sleep in heav - en-ly peace.
 Christ the Sav - ior is born, Christ the Sav - ior is born.
 Je - sus Christ at your birth, Je - sus Christ at your birth.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Luke 2:10-11, 25-32; 24:46-51;
1 Thess. 4:13-18; Isa. 60:19-20

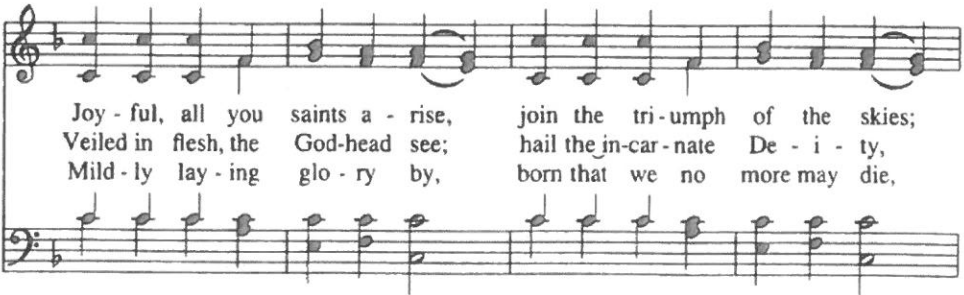
Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.



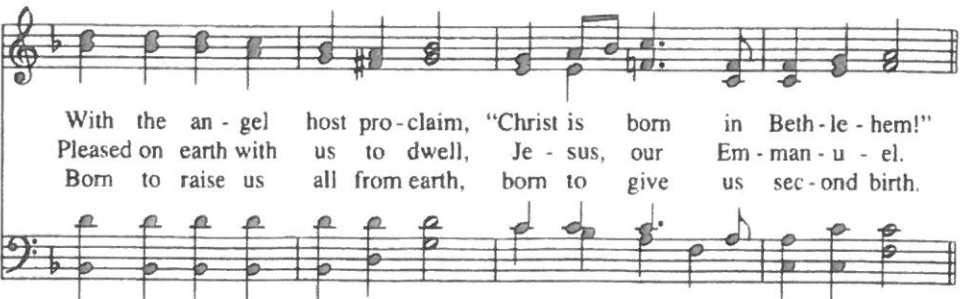
1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the Christ-child bring;
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ the ev - er - last - ing Lord!
3 Hail the Bear - er of God's peace! Hail the Sun of righ - teous-ness,



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ner rec - on - ciled!"
Late in time the Sav - ior comes, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
Light and life our Sav - ior brings, risen with ra - diant, heal - ing wings.

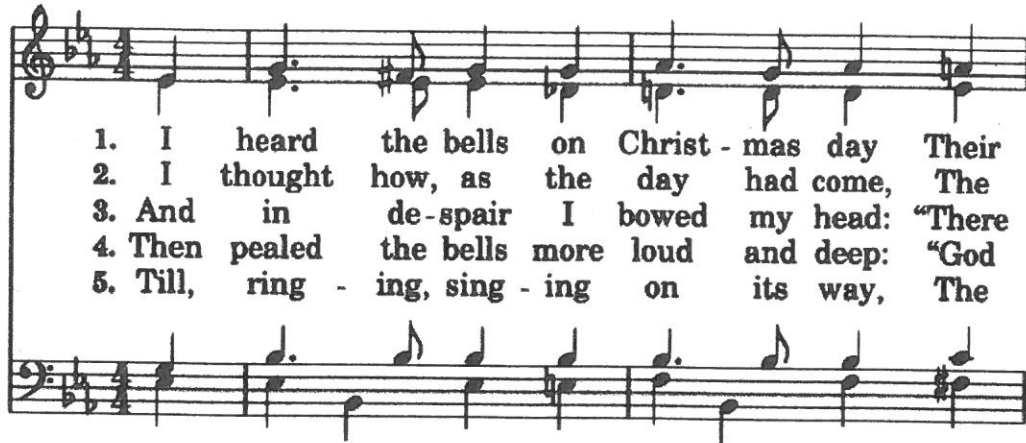


Joy - ful, all you saints a - rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh, the God-head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty,
Mild - ly lay - ing glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



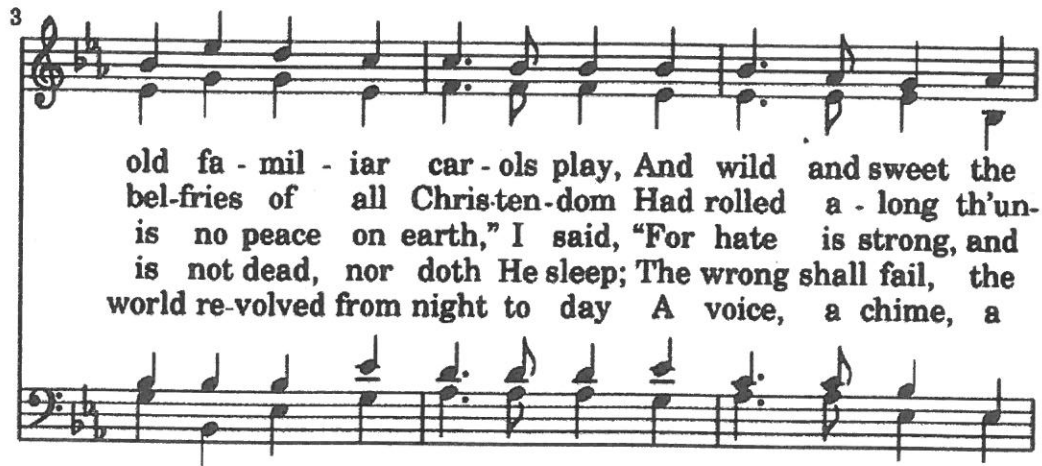
With the an - gel host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
Pleased on earth with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
Born to raise us all from earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day



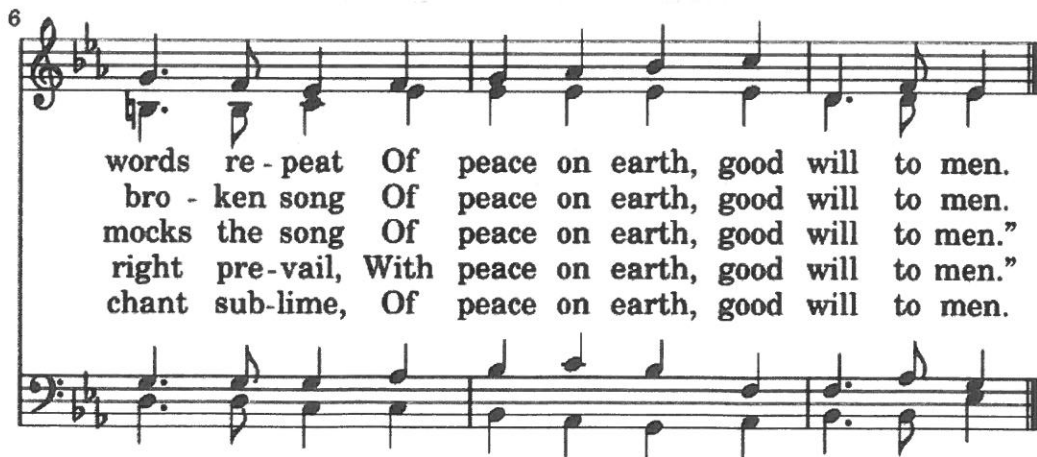
1. I heard the bells on Christ - mas day Their
 2. I thought how, as the day had come, The
 3. And in de - spair I bowed my head: "There
 4. Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: "God
 5. Till, ring - ing, sing - ing on its way, The

3



old fa - mil - iar car - ols play, And wild and sweet the
 bel-fries of all Christen-dom Had rolled a - long th'un-
 is no peace on earth," I said, "For hate is strong, and
 is not dead, nor doth He sleep; The wrong shall fail, the
 world re-volved from night to day A voice, a chime, a

6



words re - peat Of peace on earth, good will to men.
 bro - ken song Of peace on earth, good will to men.
 mocks the song Of peace on earth, good will to men."
 right pre-vail, With peace on earth, good will to men."
 chant sub-lime, Of peace on earth, good will to men.

Go Tell It on the Mountain

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African-American spiritual
 Arr. John W. Work II, 1907

Luke 2:8-20; Isa. 18:3; 52:7

Refrain

G D7 G

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hill and ev - ery - where.

G Em C G/D D7 *Last time, end*
 G

Go tell it on the moun - tain, that Je - sus Christ is born!

G D7 G

1 While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
 2 The shep - herds feared and trem - bled when lo! a - bove the earth
 3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

to Refrain

G A7 D7

Be - hold through - out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.
 Rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
 And God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn.

This is one of the few spirituals heard inside as well as outside African-American churches. It was adapted by John Wesley Work II, who is remembered as the director of the Jubilee Singers of Fisk University.

Tune: African-American spiritual
 Adapt. Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992