



Singing Christmas



Angels We Have Heard on High

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!

Angels We Have Heard on High

See Him in a manger laid
Jesus Lord of heaven and earth;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
With us sing our Savior's birth.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Did you Know...?

- One of your favorite Christmas carols says *nothing* about Jesus.
- Created by a Unitarian pastor, it gently (yet completely) ignores the birth of Christ; instead, it speaks only about the angels

Did you Know...?

- Many of our Christmas carols were first written with verses we've never seen and put to music we have never sung...
- ...including the most famous "Angel Carol" ever written

What's an Angel?

- A being of pure spirit, created by God before time (NOT a chubby child who's died)!
- One who delivers (from Greek: *angellos*--messenger)
- Described (somewhat) in Mt 22:30 & Heb 12:22-23
- Elect or evil

Angels at Christmas

- In a dream to Joseph - conception (Mt 1:20)
- In a dream to Joseph - warning (Mt 2:13)
- In a dream to Joseph - return (Mt 1:19)
- Gabriel to Zechariah (Lk 1:11-20)
- Gabriel to Mary (Lk 1:26-38)
- An angel--& army--to Shepherds (Lk 2:8-15)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

- Written (1739) by Charles Wesley
- Originally 10 verses long and titled, "Hark! How all the Welkin Rings"
- Altered (1753) by George Whitefield

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!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
hail th' incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with men to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Come, Desire of nations, come,
Fix in us Thy humble home;
Rise, the woman's conqu'ring Seed,
Bruise in us the serpent's head.
Now display Thy saving power,
Ruined nature now restore;
Now in mystic union join
Thine to ours, and ours to Thine.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"

Adam's likeness, Lord, efface,
Stamp Thine image in its place:
Second Adam from above,
Reinstate us in Thy love.
Let us Thee, though lost, regain,
Thee, the Life, the inner man:
O, to all Thyself impart,
Formed in each believing heart.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"