

ADVENT

[Year B]



We light a candle for HOPE.

We light a candle for LOVE.

We light a candle for JOY.

We light a candle for PEACE.

We welcome the coming of CHRIST.

1. Light One Candle

Music and words by Natalie Sleeth

Light one candle for HOPE

[PEACE, LOVE, JOY]

One bright candle for Peace

Christ brings Peace to every heart

He comes, He comes

ADVENT 1

THIS PLACE IS A MESS!

[Isaiah 64:1-9](#) & [Mark 13:24-37](#)

Advent is a spiritual preparation season. We aren't just preparing our external space to receive *the Guest* and our guests. We are also preparing our internal space for that reception. Our devotions and worship, therefore, need to include both times of reflection and acts of repentance. We might give space for and invitation to new commitments. We begin the season of Advent by acknowledging our need to clean house, because "Company's Coming".

Preparation may include the lighting of Advent candles. Usually there are five candles. Four of these are lit progressively over the four weeks of Advent and the 5th is to be lit at Christ's coming at Christmas. It is a symbolic way to remember our place in witnessing to an ancient story and committing ourselves to the Hope, Love, Joy and Peace to be found in the story of God's gift to the world in the coming of Jesus Christ.

Candles are often placed in, on or around a wreath. Together, the circular shape and the evergreen material make the wreath a representation of eternal life. It is also a representation of faith, as Christians in Europe often placed a candle on the wreath during Advent to symbolize the light that Jesus brought into the world.

2. O Come, O come Emmanuel (Em/E)

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and fill our lives, all dark and fear dispel,
as once an exiled Israel you found,
redeemed, restored and set on holy ground.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to us and in our hearts will dwell.

O come, O light of Christ, so bright and clear
and lift our spirits by your advent here.
In all who gather, show us your face,
that we may know the warmth of your embrace.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to us and in our hearts will dwell.

O come, O Wisdom, mind and heart divine,
help us restore a world we've let decline.
Enlighten us; your way we would know
and show us where new seeds of hope to sow.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to us and in our hearts will dwell.

O Advent God of hope, joy, love and peace,
in you we pray our sad divisions cease.
Bind us as one, a people of grace,
for at your table each one has a place.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to us and in our hearts will dwell.

These fresh words to an ancient hymn were penned by Susan Wickham in 2010, who is a Minister of the Word, serving the UCA in Adelaide, SA.

<https://youtu.be/iO7ySn-Swwc>

O Come, O Come Emmanuel – An Advent Reflection

This Latin hymn takes us back over 1,200 years to monastic life in the 8th- or 9th-century. Seven days before Christmas Eve monasteries would sing the “O antiphons” in anticipation of Christmas Eve when the eighth antiphon, “O Virgo virginum” (“O Virgin of virgins”) would be sung before and after Mary’s canticle, the Magnificat (Luke 1:46b-55).

According to British hymnologist J.R. Watson: “The antiphons, sometimes called the ‘O antiphons’ or ‘The Great O’s’, were designated to concentrate the mind on the coming Christmas, enriching the meaning of the Incarnation with a complex series of references from the Old and New Testaments.”

Each antiphon begins as follows:

- O *Sapientia* (Wisdom)
- O *Adonai* (Hebrew word for God)
- O *Radix Jesse* (stem or root of Jesse)
- O *Clavis David* (key of David)
- O *Oriens* (dayspring)
- O *Rex genitium* (King of the Gentiles)
- O *Emmanuel*

Put together, the first letter of the second word of each antiphon spells SARCORE. If read backwards, the letters form a two-word acrostic, “Ero cras,” meaning “I will be present tomorrow.”

All of the Latin attributions to the coming Messiah are from the Old Testament except “Emmanuel,” which is found both in Isaiah 7:14 and Matthew 1:23. Matthew quotes Isaiah virtually verbatim— “Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Emmanuel” —with the exception that Matthew adds the phrase: “which being interpreted is, God with us.” The “O Emmanuel” antiphon was traditionally sung on the night before Christmas Eve, revealing the meaning of the liturgical riddle through the completion of the acrostic.

Neale translated the opening line as “Draw nigh, draw nigh, Emmanuel” for his volume of translations, *Mediaeval Hymns and Sequences*. It appeared in *The Hymnal Noted, Part 2* in 1854 with a tune supplied by Thomas Helmore entitled VENI EMMANUEL.

The heading in this hymnal stated: “From a French Missal in the National Library, Lisbon.” Scholars have not been able to locate the French missal, but Sister Thomas More (Dr. Mary Berry) located the tune in the Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris, identifying it as a 15th-century “Processional” for French Franciscan nuns.

According to Amelia Koh-Butler, “When she visited the Uniting Church in 1991, Mary Berry described the stone tablets the nuns would carry as they sang the antiphon. On one side would be the melody and next to it would be the harmony. It was to be shared by two nuns processing into the church, walking alongside each other.”

With this hymn, the essence of the original Latin text remains. By singing “O come, O come, Emmanuel” with the antiphons interspersed, Christians today may participate in a sacred Advent ritual at least 11 centuries old.

Household Prayer

O Wisdom of God,
2020 has been a year filled with waiting.
We enter this new season
struggling to imagine a future that feels a bit mysterious.
As we confront our losses and regrets,
our fears and anxieties,
we ask you to grow in us
the virtues of Hope, Love, Joy and Peace.
AMEN

CONGREGATIONAL LIGHTING OF CANDLES



We sing together:

'Christmas is coming'
the church is glad to sing
and let the Advent candles
brightly burn in a ring.

The first is for God's promise
to put the wrong things right,
and bring to earth's darkness
the hope of love and light.

'Christmas is coming'
the church is glad to sing
and let the Advent candles
brightly burn in a ring.

One:

If ever there was a year we needed Advent, this is the year.
We hardly know how to describe the year we have lived through.
We hesitate to reflect on all the mess around us in 2020.
All we know is that nothing seems right,
nothing seems like it used to be, nothing.
We need Advent!

Two:

The prophet Isaiah cried out for us,
"O that you would tear open the heavens and come down ...
To make your name known ... so that nations might tremble at your
presence."
So tear through the mess, O Lord, and come down to us again.
We long to be your people, a people of hope.

One:

We light this first candle as a sign of our hope.
Hope that you can meet us, even in the mess of our world.
Hope that you still see us, though we feel we are lost in the rubble.
Let this light be the guide that brings us to Emmanuel once more.

Two: O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

*Remember when you feel like the water is getting over your head...
there is Hope.*

http://ctm.ucahost.com/Movie_files/ZoriahHope.mov

ADVENT 2

CLEAN-UP CREW

[Isaiah 40:1-11](#) & [Mark 1:1-8](#)



One:

Our lists are long, even in these strange days.
And we want to do it right, we want to be safe,
but we want to be able to enjoy the season.
We've got work to do to put right what has gone wrong,
to heal what is broken, to mend the relationships,
and to prepare for the company that will come.

Two:

The prophet Isaiah reminded us that there is loving to be done.
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God."
When God comes in, then healing is to be found,
but we need to make the way;
we need to open the door into our lives.

One:

So, we light these candles as a sign of our active love,
that the God we worship is not far from us
and that we can clear the way for that God
to come and dwell with us.
We light these candles in faith that company is coming.

Two: O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

Reflect on the impact of Love

http://ctm.ucahost.com/Movie_files/Zoriahlove.mov

3. Christmas is coming J.Bell/WGRG

'Christmas is coming'
the church is glad to sing
and let the Advent candles
brightly burn in a ring.

The first is for God's promise
to put the wrong things right,
and bring to earth's darkness

the hope of love and light.

The second for the prophets,
who said that Christ would come
with good news for many
and angry words for some.

The third is for the Baptist,
who cried, 'Prepare the way.
Be ready for Jesus,
both this and every day.'

The fourth is for the Virgin,
who mothered God's own son
and sang how God's justice
was meant for everyone.

ADVENT 3

DECK THE HALLS

[Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11](#) & [John 1:6-8, 19-28](#)



Reader One:

We want everything to look nice: the decorations of the season,
our homes with their lights and tinsel, wreaths and ribbons.
We want to lighten the darkness around us,
bring beauty to the ugliness that wears us down.
We decorate, because it is tradition.
Because it lifts our hearts.
Because it makes us feel like children again.
We deck our halls because company is coming.

Reader Two:

The prophet Isaiah smiled when he said,
“God will give a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead
of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.”
No matter how far we feel from the spirit of the season,
God promises to decorate us with love and with joy.

Reader One:

We light these candles as a sign of our joy in the beautiful things of
this season – not just the things that glitter and flash,
but the deeper things, the beauty of the heart and the soul,
the beauty of love shared in service and hospitality.
We light this candle of joy because company is coming.

Reader Two: O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

http://ctm.ucahost.com/Movie_files/Zoriahjoy.mov

ADVENT 4

WAITING ON THE THRESHOLD

[2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16](#) & [Luke 1:26-38](#)



Reader One:

We live on the brink every day.
We stand on the threshold between this world and the next one.
We live and move between the ordinary and divine,
between the mundane and the mystery.
Too often, we forget to look up and see the angels in our living
room. We forget that the love we give and live is a sign of eternity,
God with us, right now. We forget that company is coming.

Reader Two:

Luke tells us that God’s favour came to a girl, an ordinary girl.
It might have been you or your daughter;
it might have been the girl down the street or your grandchild.
But the messenger of God came and greeted her and said,
“The Lord is with you.”
What a gift and a promise: Emmanuel, God is with us.

Reader One:

We light these candles with peace in our hearts for the promise of
proximity, the nearness of God.
Even when we forget to listen, to lean into that presence,
God is as close as our own breath.
This, in a confused and confusing world, is a peace that passes all
understanding. It is the peace that knows that company is coming.

Reader Two: O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

http://ctm.ucahost.com/Movie_files/Zoriahpeace.mov

Christmas Eve: December 24

WELCOMING THE GUEST

Our Christmas Affirmation

Advent hope moves us; Advent love leads us; Advent joy stirs us;
Advent peace stills us, that we might affirm our King Jesus.

It is time we set flame to this Advent affirmation by lighting the
Christ Candle.

**We believe that Jesus is the Son of God.
He was born of the Virgin Mary in Bethlehem of Judea.
He was the long-awaited Messiah
whose coming was prophesied.
The same Jesus lives today in our hearts.
He deserves our highest loyalty and total commitment.
In Jesus Christ our hope is fulfilled;
our love is consummated;
our joy is complete;
and our peace is sealed.**

Rejoice, a Saviour is born.

**A Saviour is born, indeed.
Joy to the world!**

4. Joy to the World (C/C)

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.

Joy to the world! the Saviour reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world 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.

[Psalm 98, Isaac Watts 1719]

<https://youtu.be/DLT9dSt8cwg>

Joy to the World – A Christmas Reflection

“Joy to the world” is perhaps an unlikely popular Christmas hymn. First of all, it is based on a psalm, and, second, it celebrates Christ’s second coming much more than the first. This Christmas hymn draws its initial inspiration not from the Christmas narrative in Luke 2, but from Psalm 98. Isaac Watts was an English poet and dissenting clergyman (1674-1748). He paraphrased the entire Psalm 98 in two parts, and it first appeared in his famous collection, *The Psalms of David, Imitated in the Language of the New Testament* (1719).

“Joy to the world” was taken from the second part of the paraphrase (Psalm 98:4-9), entitled “The Messiah’s Coming and Kingdom.” Watts, notes: “In these two hymns I have formed out of the 98th Psalm I have fully exprest what I esteem to be the first and chief Sense of the Holy Scriptures . . .” Compare the hymn with the bible passage below:

Psalm 98:4-9 [NRSV]

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.
Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.
Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.*

Stanza 3 is not based on Psalm 98 and is sometimes omitted. The “curse” is a reference to Genesis 3:17 when God says to Adam following the eating of the apple from the tree, “Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life.” George Frederic Handel (1685-1759), was a popular German-born composer residing in London. If you listen to Handel’s “Messiah” you can hear phrases that can also be found in this hymn.

5. Come, thou long expected Jesus (F/C)

Come, Thou long expected Jesus
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Charles Wesley

<https://youtu.be/huHEA3n1Lu8>

6. Long ago, prophets knew (Em/B)

LONG ago, prophets knew
Christ would come, born a Jew.
Come to make all things new;
Bear his People's burden,
Freely love and pardon.

Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!
Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes,
When he comes,
Who will make him welcome?

God in time, God in man,
This is God's timeless plan:
He will come, as a man,
Born himself of woman,
God divinely human. [Refrain]

Mary, hail! Though afraid,
She believed, she obeyed.
In her womb God is laid;
Till the time expected
Nurtured and protected. [Refrain]

Journey ends! Where afar
Bethlem shines, like a star,
Stable door stands ajar.
Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!

<https://youtu.be/T2sc-GdARvA>

7. The First Noel <https://youtu.be/oqhXCOWMaKU>

The First Noel, the Angels did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!*

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the East beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night. *Noel, Noel...*

And by the light of that same star
Three Wise men came from country far
To seek for a King was their intent
And to follow the star wherever it went. *Noel, Noel...*

This star drew nigh to the northwest
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest
And there it did both pause and stay
Right o'er the place where Jesus lay. *Noel, Noel...*

Then entered in those Wise men three
Full reverently upon their knee
And offered there in His presence
Their gold and myrrh and frankincense. *Noel, Noel...*

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
That hath made Heaven and earth of nought
And with his blood mankind has bought.

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel!*

8. O little town of Bethlehem

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 everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars together proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King And Peace to men on earth,
For Christ is born of Mary and gathered all above;
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may God's coming but in this world of sin;
Where meek souls will receive him still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem descend to us, we pray,
Cast out our sin and enter in - be born to us today,
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us Our Lord Emmanuel!
<https://youtu.be/CwfkGj51S2c>

9. Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (G/D)

1. Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all.

2. Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning
new Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you.

10. Away in a manger <https://youtu.be/M2ULTkNmIEY>

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.

11. Ding dong merrily on high <https://youtu.be/OppQRVsdKNs>

Ding dong! merrily on high,
In heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky
Is riv'n with angel singing.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below,
Let steeple bells be swungen,
And "Io, io, io!"
By priest and people sungen.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime
Your evetime song, ye singers.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

12. Good King Wenceslas

<https://youtu.be/bMmxhhfQw0c>

Good King Wenceslas looked out
On the feast of Stephen
When the snow lay round about
Deep and crisp and even

Brightly shone the moon that night
Though the frost was cruel
When a poor man came in sight
Gath'ring winter fuel.

“Hither, page, and stand by me
If thou know'st it, telling
Yonder peasant, who is he?
Where and what his dwelling?”
“Sire, he lives a good league hence
Underneath the mountain

Right against the forest fence
By Saint Agnes' fountain.”

“Bring me flesh and bring me wine
Bring me pine logs hither
Thou and I will see him dine
When we bear him thither.”

Page and monarch forth they went
Forth they went together
Through the rude wind's wild lament
And the bitter weather.

“Sire, the night is darker now
And the wind blows stronger
Fails my heart, I know not how,
I can go no longer.”

“Mark my footsteps, my good page
Tread thou in them boldly
Thou shalt find the winter's rage
Freeze thy blood less coldly.”

In his master's steps he trod
Where the snow lay dinted
Heat was in the very sod
Which the Saint had printed
Therefore, Christian men, be sure
Wealth or rank possessing

Ye who now will bless the poor
Shall yourselves find blessing.

13. O Come All Ye Faithful

<https://youtu.be/60JFEsgruEY>

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...

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God in the highest;
O come...

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...

14. The Servant King. https://youtu.be/A0FSZ_iSYO8

From heaven you came helpless babe
Entered our world, your glory veiled
Not to be served but to serve
And give Your life that we might live

This is our God, The Servant King
He calls us now to follow Him
To bring our lives as a daily offering
Of worship to The Servant King

There in the garden of tears
My heavy load he chose to bear
His heart with sorrow was torn
'Yet not My will but Yours, ' He said

Come see His hands and His feet
The scars that speak of sacrifice
Hands that flung stars into space
To cruel nails surrendered

15. Angels we have heard on high (F/A)

1. 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!

2. Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

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

https://youtu.be/B5iaV989_5M

16. Once in royal David's city

Once in Judah's least known city
Stood a boarding house with back-door shed,
Where an almost single-parent mother
Tried to find her new born son a bed.
Mary's man and dad went wild
When they heard their daughter had a child.

He brought into earth a sense of heaven,
Lord of none and yet the Lord of all;
and his shelter always was unstable
For his mission was beyond recall.
With the poor, with those least holy,
Christ the King was pleased to live so lowly.

Can he be our youth and childhood's pattern
When we know not how he daily grew?
Was he always little, weak and helpless,
Did he share our joys and problems too?
In our laughter, fun and madness,
Does the Lord of love suspect our gladness?

Not in that uncharted stable
With the village gossips standing by,
But in heaven we shall see him -
Here as much as up above the sky -
If, in love for friend and stranger,
We embrace the contents of the manger.

17. The Silver Stars are in the Sky

[Australian– John Wheeler and William James]
<https://youtu.be/AMOGxyDPuGg>

The silver stars are in the sky,
The red-gold moon is riding high,
O, sleep my little one sleep!
Once long ago against her breast,
A mother hush'd a babe to rest
Who was the Prince of Heav'n above
The Lord of gentleness and love,
O, sleep, my little one, sleep.

The boo-book calls across the across the night,
The brown moths flutter in the light,
O, sleep, my little one, sleep!
In Bethlehem long, long ago,
When roads and paddocks gleamed with snow;
On this same night, that mother mild
Lull'd into dreams her Royal Child,
So, sleep, my little one, sleep! my little one sleep!

18. Go, tell it on the mountain (G/B)

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.*

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 the Saviour's birth.

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

19. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (F/C)

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 with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

<https://youtu.be/Xw38pGhPXIk>

20. Silent Night (Bb/F) <https://youtu.be/vKvKMgR8H7k>

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht
nur das traute hoch heilige Paar, Holder Knabe mit lockigem Haar,
schlaf im himmlischer Ruh, schlaf im himmlischer Ruh.

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.

21. Feliz Navidad <https://youtu.be/xMtuVP8Mj4o>

Feliz Navidad,
próspero año y Felicidad

I wanna wish you a Merry Christmas
from the bottom of my heart

22. Star-Child [NZ carol – S.Murray]

Star-Child, earth-Child, go-between of God,
love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lightning rod,

This year, this year, let the day arrive
when Christmas comes for everyone, everyone alive!

Street child, beat child, no place left to go,
hurt child, used child - no one wants to know,

Grown child, old child, mem'ry full of years,
sad child, lost child, story told in tears,

Spared child, spoiled child, having, wanting more,
wise child, faith child, knowing joy in store,

Hope-for-peace Child, God's stupendous sign,
down-to-earth Child, Star of stars that shine,

Words © 1994 Hope Publishing Co
<https://youtu.be/jVcZBUP63qw>

Shirley Erena Murray (b. 1931, NZ), answers this question , *What does the God who came to earth in a human form mean for us today?* with a poignant text set to a beautiful melody by Carlton Young (b. 1926). The text "Star-Child, earth-Child" (1994) has a New-Age sound to it at first, but a closer examination of the words reveals a song rooted in Christian and human reality.

Shirley Murray, wife of Presbyterian Rev John Murray, studied Classics and French at the University of Otago in Dunedin in the far south of NZ. Her career has included experience as a teacher, researcher, and radio hymn program producer. She began to write hymns in the 1970s to undergird the theology of her husband's progressive theology and the work of Amnesty International. Fellow New Zealander and hymn writer, Colin Gibson highlights the themes in her songs: "The search for peace, justice and human rights, inclusiveness, the honoring of women and the feminine element in spirituality, celebration of the natural world and the New Zealand environment, a call to social responsibility and a life of faith lived out with compassion and hopefulness."

Even in a season of wonder and hope, our songs should include those that remind us that there are many among us for whom the joy of Christmas has never been experienced. *Star-Child* achieves this message through a series of short descriptive modifiers before "child." In very economical language she catalogues children of all ages and stations of life: "street child, beat child," "hurt child, used child," "grown child, old child," "sad child, lost child."

All of these children are created in the image of the "Star-Child, earth-Child" of stanza one and the "Hope-for-peace Child" of stanza five. The refrain, "This year, let the day arrive," is a petition for the presence of the "Christ Child" for "everyone alive."

[Adapted from Michael Hawn - Dr. Hawn is distinguished professor of church music at Perkins School of Theology. He is also director of the seminary's sacred music program.]

23. We wish you a merry Christmas (G/D)

We wish you a Merry Christmas, We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas, And a happy New Year.

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;
We wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

O, bring us some figgy pudding, O, bring us some figgy pudding,
O, bring us some figgy pudding, and bring it right here.

We won't go until we get some, We won't go until we get some,
We won't go until we get some, So bring it right here.

We wish you a Merry Christmas, We wish you a Merry Christmas,
We wish you a Merry Christmas, And a happy New Year.

24. What Child is This? (Em/E) https://youtu.be/XzhZd_10_eQ

What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste, to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

25. We Three Kings (Em/B)

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

O, star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising, worshipping God on high.

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies.

<https://youtu.be/k8mjRxkMBkE>

26. Angels from the Realms of Glory (Bb/F)

1. Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

2. Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by
night, God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

3. Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations, ye have seen his natal star: Come
and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King.

<https://youtu.be/gudxOtrUXO0>

27. Let there be peace on earth

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me
Let There Be Peace on Earth - the peace that was meant to be

With God as our Father, brothers all are we
Let me walk with my sister in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me - Let this be the moment now.

With ev'ry step I take
Let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment and live
Each moment in peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me

Jill Jackson / Sy Miller © Mccg LLC. <https://youtu.be/bgL1v8FZaNM>

28. Aussie Jingle Bells

Dashing Through the bush
in a rusty Holden Ute
Kicking up the dust,
esky in the boot
Kelpie by my side,
Singing Christmas songs
It's summer time and I am in
my singlet, shorts and thongs!

Oh, Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Jingle all the way
Christmas in Australia on a Scorching summer's day
Jingle Bells, Jingle Bells, Christmas time is beaut
Oh what fun it is to ride in a rusty Holden Ute!

Engine's getting hot
Dodge the Kangaroos
Swaggie climbs aboard
He is welcome too
All the fam-I-ly is there
Sitting by the pool
Christmas day, the Aussie way
By the barbeque!

Come the afternoon
Grandpa has a doze
The kids and Uncle Bruce
Are swimming in their clothes
The time comes round to go
We take a family snap (photo)
Then pack the car and all shoot through (go home)
Before the washing up.

Colin Buchanan

<https://youtu.be/OnJ8jsw4BSo>

29. The Three Drovers

Across the plains one Christmas night
Three drovers riding blithe and gay,
Looked up and saw a starry light
More radiant than the Milky Way;
And on their hearts such wonder fell,
They sang with joy. 'Noel! Noel! Noel! Noel! Noel!'

The air was dry with summer heat,
And smoke was on the yellow moon;
But from the heavens, faint and sweet,
Came floating down a wond'rous tune;
And as they heard, they sang full well
Those drovers three. 'Noel! Noel! Noel! Noel! Noel!'

The black swans flew across the sky,
The wild dog called across the plain,
The starry lustre blazed on high,
Still echoed on the heavenly strain;
And still they sang, 'Noel! Noel!'
Those drovers three. 'Noel! Noel! Noel! Noel! Noel!'

Songwriters: John Wheeler / William James

<https://youtu.be/1wqoFg6Vabo>

30. Aussie 12 Days of Christmas

On the 1st day of Christmas my true love sent to me,
An emu up a gum tree.

On the 2nd day of Christmas my true sent to me,
2 pink galahs,
And an emu up a gum tree.

On the 3rd day of Christmas my true love sent to me,

3 kookaburras laughing,
2 pink galahs, and an emu up a gum tree.

On the 4th day of Christmas my true love sent to me
4 koalas cuddling,
3 kookaburras laughing, 2 pink galahs and an emu up a gum tree.

....

On the 12th day of Christmas my true love sent to me
12 parrots prattling,
11 numbats nagging,
10 lizards leaping,
9 wombats working,
8 dingoes digging,
7 possums playing,
6 broilgas dancing,

5 kangaroos,

4 koalas cuddling, 3 kookaburras laughing,
2 pink galahs, and an emu up a gum tree.

https://youtu.be/Y_YAmzI2o0k

31. We had seen the star [Leigh Newton]

1 & 4. We had seen the star, we had read the signs,
And we went back through the ancient scrolls;
And they seemed to say that a star would rise
On a king as prophets had foretold;
And the star in beckoned westward in the heavens
Come and follow, come and find the baby boy,
Who will heal the rift dividing all the nations,
Who will one day turn your tears to joy.

There was gold for wealth to rule this broken place,
this warring world,
There was frankincense to fill the priestly role,
There was honesty and myrrh enough for all that lay ahead,
But our hearts were filled with hope untold,
Yes, our hearts were full of hope untold.

Would they welcome us? Would they turn away.
When we came in search of dreams unknown?
In this foreign land would we lose our lives,
Before the chance of going home?
Had we seen the start of something more important?
Is this folly, is this wisdom? I don't know.
Are there others who now follow and come after,
Who are out there on that dusty road?

When we found the place, God forgive us all
For the lowly place in which he lay -
Just a tiny house! And the little child
Was lying a sheaf of hay.
Was the boy another king from ancient Israel?
Seems the star said something more had happened here
And they told us of the livestock and manger
Where the babe was wrapped to calm his fears.

https://youtu.be/lhG9Dz_SQN8