

Royal Tunbridge Wells Choral Society

Christmas Concert - Goudhurst - 14th December 2013

Carols for Audience

HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

1 Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

2 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, the Incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King,*

3 Hail, the heaven-born Prince of peace
Hail, the Son of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings
Risen with healing in His wings
Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.

*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

- 1 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!
- 2 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!
- 3 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!
- 4 Yea, Lord we greet thee,
Born on Christmas morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;
Word of the Father.
Now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him
O come, let us adore him
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED

- 1 While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.
- 2 'Fear not' said he (for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind);
'Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind.
- 3 To you in David's town this day
Is born of David's line
A saviour, who is Christ the Lord;
And this shall be the sign
- 4 The heavenly babe you there shall find
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,
And in a manger laid'.
- 5 Thus spake the Seraph: and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, who thus
Addressed their joyful song:
- 6 All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace;
Good will henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease.

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

- 1 It came upon the midnight clear
That glorious song of old,
From Angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold,
'Peace on the earth, goodwill to men,
From heavn's all gracious King!'
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

- 2 Still through the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurl'd
And still their heav'nly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

- 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love song which they bring:
Oh, hush your noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!

- 4 For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet-bards foretold,
When, with the ever-circling years
Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling,
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.