

# Come All You True Good Christians

Collected by Cecil Sharp 3-Apr-1907

Sung by Henry Thomas (76) at Chipping Sodbury, Glos

5 Come all you true good Chris-ti-ans, that liv-eth here on\_ earth, Oh

9 sal - u-tate the morn-ing Of our\_ Bles - sed Sa viour's birth. This

13 is the hap-py morn - ing! This is the bles-sed morn! To

save us from all ru - in The\_ Son of God was\_ born.

The musical score is written on a single treble clef staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four lines of music. The first line starts with a common rest and is followed by the lyrics '5 Come all you true good Chris-ti-ans, that liv-eth here on\_ earth, Oh'. The second line continues with '9 sal - u-tate the morn-ing Of our\_ Bles - sed Sa viour's birth. This'. The third line continues with '13 is the hap-py morn - ing! This is the bles-sed morn! To'. The fourth line concludes with 'save us from all ru - in The\_ Son of God was\_ born.' The score ends with a double bar line.

Come all you true good Christians, that liveth here on earth,  
Oh salute the morning of our Blessed Saviour's birth.  
This is the happy morning! This is the blessed morn!  
To save us from all ruin the Son of God was born.

Behold the Angel Gabriel, in scripture it is said,  
Did with his holy message come to the Virgin Maid.  
"Hail, blest among all women!" he thus did greet her then,  
"Lo! thou shalt be the mother of the Saviour of all men."

Oh! then replied the Virgin, "These things I know full well,  
That there are no such wonders, no, not in Israel!  
That I should be a mother, how could it be? or can?  
For me to conceive a Saviour that never knew a man?"

Oh! then replied the Angel "These things shall surely be,  
The powers of the Almighty shall overshadow thee.  
Rejoice at these glad tidings that come forth from the Lord."  
"Be it unto thy handmaiden according to thy word."

Her time, it being accomplished, she came to Bethlehem.  
And there she was delivered of the Saviour of all men  
No princely pomp attended Him, his honours were but small;  
A manger was His cradle, his bed an ox's stall.

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At twelve years old they found Him within the Temple sit  
Among the learned Doctors, the most renowned for wit,  
Hearing and asking questions, at which they wondered all.  
For, full well, they knew that His learning was but small.

Then He did many wonders, likewise from time to time  
He turned the purest water into the best of wine;  
He cured the bloody issue, he made the lame to walk:  
The blind had sight restored them, likewise the dumb to talk.

Then He did many wonders, likewise from day to day,  
Until the traitor Judas he did our Lord betray  
Into the hand of sinners, the evil-minded Jews,  
And they with many torments did basely Him abuse.

They brought Him before Pilate, who Governor was then,  
And had sentence passed upon Him, the vilest of all men.  
Though innocence pretending, they did Him crucify.  
Thus by the hand of sinners the Lamb of God did die.

While on the cross was suffering, to His Father He did call,  
"They know not what they are doing, so pray forgive them all".  
For the space of six hours was darkness o'er the earth,  
While the whole creation was trembling at His death.

The rocks were burst asunder, the Temple rent in twain.  
The graves they did open, the Lamb of God was slain;  
Each thing was struck with horror at this most dismal sight;  
Then spake the bold Centurion, "This was the God of might!"

Then Joseph came to Pilate and did His body crave,  
And did His body bury within a new-made grave.  
The third day when He had passed the regions of the dead,  
He arose, and then by Angels to heaven He was led.

Now up to Him ascended then let your praises be,  
That we His steps might follow, and He our pattern be.  
That when our lives are ended may hear the blessed call  
"Come, souls, receive the Kingdom prepared for you all

*Song for Singing prepared by GlosSongs*

*Source: Sharp manuscript (ref FT1289) for tune and first verse. Transposed down to D. Remaining words from 'Come All Ye Faithful Christians' sung by Mr Gallett, Leigh Sinton, Worcestershire, January 23rd 1902. Collected by Miss W. Norbury. The words taken from <http://www.btinternet.com/~radical/thefolkmag/wmcarols.htm>*

- Notes:*
- 1. Mr Gallett sings a different tune. His first verse is very similar and is:  
Come, all ye faithful Christians that dwell upon the earth,  
Come, celebrate the morning of our dear Saviour's birth.  
This is the happy morning, this is the happy morn  
When to save our ruined race the Son of God was born.*
  - 2. The song is also known as 'The Angel Gabriel'*
  - 3. Singers may wish to select verses if a shorter carol is required*

*Audit: Transcription prepared by VL Oct 2011/HT Nov 2011/Checked GCD Nov 2011*