

# Christ Came To Christmas

Collected by Cecil Sharp 2-April-1912

Sung by Peter Gill (83) of Sheepscombe, Glos

Recorded at the Stroud Union

Christ came to Christ-mas the name of the best;— Time full of  
6 Joy from the great to the lest;— Christ-mas to Christ ma-ny ca - rols we  
12 sing,— And give ma - ny gifts to the glo - ry of our King.  
(a)  
(a) Variation

Christ came to Christmas the name of the best;  
Time full of joy from the great to the lest;  
At Christmas was Christ, our Saviour, born,  
The world through sin altogether forlorn. (x2)

Of Christ cometh Christmas, the name with the feast,  
A time full of joy, to the greatest and least  
(the above two lines are original Tusser poem)

At Christmas the days do begin to take length,  
Of Christ doth religion, chiefly take strength:  
As Christmas is only a figure or trope,  
So only in Christ is the strength of our hope. (x2)

At Christmas we banquet, the rich with the poor,  
Who then, but the miser, but openeth his door?  
Christmas to Christ, many carols we sing,  
And give many gifts to the glory of our King (x2)

At Christmas, of Christ many carols we sing,  
And give many gifts, in the joy of that king.  
(the above two lines are original Tusser poem)

At Christmas, in Christ we rejoice, and be glad,  
As only of whom our comfort is had:  
At Christmas, we joy altogether with mirth,  
For his sake, that joyed us all with his birth. (x2)

Song for Singing prepared by GlosSongs.(tune transposed to G) and using words from Tusser's poem

Source: Sharp, manuscript copy ref FT2762 recorded at Stroud Union. Singer gave his age as 83.

Notes: Sharp only noted one verse which appears to be from a poem by Thomas Tusser (1524?-1580). Peter Gill's verse seems to be first 2 lines from v1 of poem and last 2 lines of v3. These have been used in the above singing copy, the rest of the words being Tusser's. We suggest repeat of the last line using the tune variation

Audit Transcription prepared by VL Oct 2012/HT Oct 2012/ Checked GD Oct 2012/

# Christ Came To Christmas (for Quire)

Collected by Cecil Sharp 2-April-1912

Sung by Peter Gill (83) of Sheepscombe, Glos

Recorded at the Stroud Union



Christ came to Christ-mas the name of the best;\_\_ Time full of  
2 At Christ- mas the days do be- gin to take length, Of Christ doth re-  
3 At Christ- mas we ban- quet, the rich with the poor\_\_, Who then, but the  
4 At Christ- mas, in Christ we re-joice, and be glad\_\_, As on - ly of



joy from the great to the lest\_\_; t Christmas was Christ, our Sav- i - our,  
lig - i - on, chief-ly take strength: Christmas is on - ly a fig- ure or  
mi- ser, but op'neth his door\_\_? Christmas to Christ, ma- ny car- ols we  
whom our\_\_ com-fort is had\_\_: At Christmas, we joy al- to - ge - ther with



born\_\_, The world through sin al - to - ge - ther\_ for - lorn\_\_.  
trope\_\_, So on - ly in Christ is the stre-ngth of our hope\_\_.  
sing\_\_, And give ma - ny gifts to the glo - ry of our King\_\_.  
mirth\_\_, For his sake, that joy - ed us all\_\_ with his birth\_\_.

## (a) Variation



World through sin al - to - ge - ther\_ for - lorn\_\_.  
On - ly in Christ is the stre-ngth of our hope\_\_.  
Give ma - ny gifts to the glo - ry of our King\_\_.  
His sake, that joy - ed us a - ll with his birth\_\_

Song for QUIRE Singing prepared by GlosSongs. (tune transposed to G) and using words from Tusser's poem

Source: Sharp, manuscript copy ref FT2762 recorded at Stroud Union. Singer gave his age as 83.

Notes: Sharp only noted one verse which appears to be from a poem by Thomas Tusser (1524?-1580). Peter Gill's verse seems to be first 2 lines from v1 of poem and last 2 lines of v3. These have been used in the above singing copy, the rest of the words being Tusser's. We suggest repeat of the last line using the tune variation

Audit Transcription prepared by VL Oct 2012/HT Oct 2012/ Checked GD Oct 2012/ HT extra Oct 2012