

# The Moon Shines Bright (a singing version)

Collected by Cecil Sharp 2-April-1912

Sung by Peter Gill (83) of Sheepscombe, Glos  
Recorded at the Stroud Union



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1. The moon shines bright, and the stars give a light  
A little before it was day  
Our Lord our God he called on us  
And bid us awake and pray.
2. Awake, Awake! good people all  
Awake and you shall hear  
Our Lord, Our God died on the cross,  
For us whom he loved so dear
3. O fair, O fair Jerusalem,  
When shall I come to thee?  
When shall my sorrows have an end,  
Thy joy that I may see.
4. The fields were green as green could be,  
When from his glorious seat,  
Our Lord our God he watered us,  
With His heavenly dew so sweet.
5. And for the saving of our souls  
Christ died upon the cross,  
We ne'er shall do for Jesus Christ  
As he has done for us.
6. The life of man is but a span,  
And cut down in his flower,  
We are here to-day, to-morrow we are gone,  
We are all dead in an hour.
7. O pray teach well your children, man  
The while that you are here;  
It will be better for your souls  
When your corpse lies on the bier.
8. To-day you may be alive dear man  
Worth many a thousand pound.  
To-morrow may be dead dear man,  
And your body laid under ground.
9. With a turf at your head, O man,  
And another at your feet;  
Thy good deeds and thy bad, O man,  
Will all together meet.
10. My carol is done, I must be gone,  
I can stay no longer here;  
God bless you all both great and small,  
And send you a joyful New Year.

*Song for singing. Tune as collected by Cecil Sharp with words added by GlosChristmas*

*Source: Sharp, manuscript copy ref FT2761 (Sharp write down no words but on his manuscripts says 'Sung to the Jerusalem and later verses – not the two opening ones)*

*Notes: The words are a suggestion and include a 'Jerusalem' verse. They are taken from*

**Printer:** Bloomer, T. (Birmingham) **Date:** between 1821 and 1827

**Imprint:** T. Bloomer, Printer, 53, Edgbaston-street, Birmingham Illus. Ballads on sheet: 1

[http://bodley24.bodley.ox.ac.uk/cgi-](http://bodley24.bodley.ox.ac.uk/cgi-bin/acwwweng/ballads/image.pl?ref=Douce+adds.+137%288%29&id=14936.gif&seq=1&size=1)

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