

Quintet Christmas

Service of Lessons and Carols

1. Once in Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that Mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and mean and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him
through His own redeeming love;
For that child, so dear and gentle,
is our Lord in heaven above
And He leads his children on
to the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
where like stars his children crowned
all in white shall wait around.

2. Bidding Prayer

3. Hark! the Herald-Angels Sing

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!*

Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the 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!*

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!"*

4. First Lesson: Micah 5: 2-4

5. Gallery Carol (The Quintet Choir)

6. Second Lesson: Luke 1: 26-38

7. It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon a 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 heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

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

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

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!

8. Third Lesson: Luke 2: 1-7

9. Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (The Quintet Choir)

10. Fourth Lesson: Luke 2: 8-16

11. Calypso Carol

See him lying on a bed of straw;
draughty stable with an open door,
Mary cradling the babe she bore;
The prince of glory is his name.

*Oh, now carry me to Bethlehem
to see the Lord appear to men;
Just as poor as was the stable then,
The prince of glory when he came.*

Star of silver sweep across the skies,
show where Jesus in the manger lies.
Shepherds swiftly from your stupor
rise
to see the Saviour of the world.

Chorus

Angels, sing again the song you sang,
bring God's glory to the heart of man;
Sing that Beth'hem's little baby can
be salvation to the soul.

Chorus

12. Fifth Lesson: Matthew 2: 1-11

13. The Little Road to Bethlehem

14. Sixth Lesson: John 1; 1-14

15. O Come, all ye Faithful

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;
Refrain

Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
in the highest:
Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing;
Refrain

16. Blessing