

The Glory of Christmas

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Date: 13 December 2020

Preacher: Highland Park Choir

[0 : 00] Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis, Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

Angels, we have heard of hearts Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in recline Echo back their joyous strength.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.

[1 : 44] Chant. Chant. Chant. Chant. Chant. Chant.

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring.

News of great joy is of great birth, news of our merciful King's birth.

All out of darkness we have minds which made the angels sing this night. All out of darkness we have minds which made the angels sing this night.

Glory to God if I am scared. Now live the Lord. Amen.

[2 : 59] Angels from the bells of glory bring your flight o'er all the earth.

He who sang creation's glory now prolific as Zion's birth. Come and worship. Come and worship.

Worship Christ the newborn King. Come and worship. Come and worship.

Worship Christ the newborn King.

Amen. Amen. This is a day of celebration.

[4 : 07] A time to worship Christ, the newborn King. A moment to cherish the glory of Christmas.

Emmanuel, God with us. This is an hour to recall and rejoice in the wonder and mystery of the incarnation story when God sent himself in the form of a baby, the Messiah, to become one of us.

That we might become one with him. This is the hope of Christmas. Israel, the chosen people of God, were a people walking in darkness. Living in a land of deep darkness.

For generations, they toiled under the oppressive rule of Egypt. Living in bondage and torture.

Longing to experience release from their captivity.

Yearning for a Savior who would come and deliver them from their pain and sorrow. Their sustaining hope was found in a profound conviction that a Messiah would eventually come to save them.

That this Savior would one day deliver them from their long days of darkness to a place of perpetual light. It was this hope, this promise, which carried them forward when they were weary with the daily tasks of life.

[5 : 16] And it is this same hope which sustains us in the journey of faith and life. That this Messiah, this Deliverer, comes to us when we need him most. Children, don't grow weary, for the time is drawing nigh.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning. The time is drawing nigh.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning. Keep your lamps trimmed and burning. Keep your lamps trimmed and burning.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning. The time is drawing nigh. Children, don't grow weary.

Children, don't grow weary.

[6 : 23] Children, don't grow weary. For the time is drawing nigh. Darker midnight lies before us.

Darker midnight lies before us. The time is drawing nigh. See the morning star. See the morning star. See the morning star. See the morning star arising, the time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't grow weary, children, don't grow weary, children, don't grow weary, for the time is drawing nigh.

Now our night will soon be over, our night will soon be over, yes our night will soon be over, the time is drawing nigh.

Keep your legs trimmed and burning, keep your legs trimmed and burning, keep your legs trimmed and burning.

[7 : 43] The time is drawing nigh. The time is drawing nigh.

The time is drawing nigh.

A man named John. His father, Zechariah, had faithfully served the Lord as a priest. John was to be blessed with the spirit and power of Elijah, gifts that would prepare the hearts of people young and old for the coming Messiah.

This was the promise of Christmas. The voice cries out, prepare the way.

Prepare the way of the Lord. The prophet cries out, prepare the way.

[9 : 28] Prepare the way of the Lord. Every valley shall be lifted up.

Every mountain and hill may go. Every crooked path shall be made straight.

And the wrong places plain. The glory of the Lord shall be revealed.

A voice cries out, prepare the way. A voice cries out, prepare the way.

Prepare the way of the Lord. The prophet cries out, repair the way of the Lord So comfort, comfort my people Says the Lord God who reigns on high To Jerusalem's sea, your light is come For the Lord has heard your cry Prepare the way of the Lord A voice cries out, repair the way

[11 : 30] Prepare the way of the Lord The prophet cries out, repair the way Prepare the way of the Lord Prepare the way of the Lord God's plan for sending a Savior was far different than anyone could have imagined.

He chose a young woman by the name of Mary to give birth to this one. He was sending to rescue and redeem his children. The angel Gabriel greeted Mary saying, Do not be afraid, you have found favor with God.

You are to bear a child, a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. Mary was overwhelmed at the news.

In amazement and wonder, she exclaimed, But how can this be? The angel responded, The power of the Most High will overshadow you, And the Holy One to be born will be called the Son of God.

In humble response, Mary said, I am the Lord's servant. May your word to me be fulfilled. This is the wonder of Christmas. My soul rejoices in the Lord.

[13 : 37] I've seen his love and his power proclaim. His faithful servant, I shall be a bearish child, Jesus is his name.

Glory to the Lord, who's dying, who's to set his people free.

God with us, Emmanuel, the fiends of peace, peace for you, for me.

Child of promise, child of love, over the world, glory of God.

Our God who comes from heaven above, child of promise, child of love.

[14 : 54] Glory to the Lord, who's dying, who's to set his people free.

Glory to the Lord, most high he comes to set his people free.

Now with us, Emmanuel, the Prince of Peace, for you, for me.

Child of promise, child of love, all about the world alone. Be all by God who comes from there upon.

Child of promise, child of love. Child of love.

[16 : 02] Mary and Joseph, to whom she was to be married, had gone to Bethlehem for a census of the entire Roman world. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born.

She gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger because there had been no room for them in the inn. Gentle Mary lay her child lowly in a manger.

There he lay beyond, deviled to the world of strangers.

He was the son of God of hope of birth. Beautiful the story.

Great. Praise his name in all the earth. Hail the King of glory.

[17 : 24] My soul rejoices in the Lord.

The Lord, I've seen his love, his love and power, proclaim. The Messiah, the Savior of the world, had been born in the remote village of Bethlehem with no one other than Mary and Joseph to witness this miraculous event.

But God's plan included a means of making the fulfilled promise public. There were shepherds keeping watch over their flocks out in the fields nearby that night.

Infant holy, infant lowly, born his men on cattle's stall. Foxen lowing, little going, Christ the babe is Lord of all.

[27 : 31] Swift are weaning, angels singing, Noel's ringing, tidings ringing. Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Christ is born this holy night. Christ is born this holy night.

Christ the babe is Lord of all. Christ the babe is Lord of all.

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light. On those living in the land of the shadow of death, a light has shined. Christ the babe is Lord of all.

[28 : 43] Here is the one who has been born King of the Jews. We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him. After determining where the prophets had foretold that Jesus would be born, Herod sent the Magi to Bethlehem saying, Go and make a careful search for the child.

Then report to me so that I too may go and worship him. They went on their way and the star they had seen in the east guided them to the place where the child was.

They bowed down and worshipped him as they offered their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Guided by a shining star in the east, these Magi had found the bright and morning star, the eternal light of heaven.

Arise, shine, for your light has come and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. This is the brilliance of Christmas. Lightest at best of the stars of the morning.

Dawn on our darkness and come to our haze. Star of the east, the horizon adorning.

[30 : 18] Night where our infant Redeemer is laid. Night where our Redeemer is laid.

What shall we give Him in costly devotion? Shall we bring His sins and offerings divine?

Chains of the mountains and pearls of the ocean. Myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine.

Bring our myrrh or gold from the mine. O star of wonder, star of night.

Star with royal beauty bright. Westward leading, still the cross-seeming.

[31 : 48] Guide us to Thy perfect eyes.

O brightest and best of the stars of the morning.

Dawn on our darkness and come to our haze. A star of the east, the horizon adorning.

Night where our infant Redeemer is laid.

And where the Redeemer is laid And guide us to the perfect light The perfect light Jesus, Son of the living God Came to deliver not only Israel From her long dark night But also to guide us on our journey of faith The sun will no longer be your light by day Nor will the brightness of the moon shine on you For the Lord will be your everlasting light And your God will be your glory In the beginning was the Word And the Word was with God

[33 : 40] And the Word was God He was with God in the beginning Through Him all things were made In Him was life And that life was the light to all people Jesus has come The Word now flesh Who made His dwelling among us We have seen His glory The glory of the one and only Who came from the Father Full of grace and truth This is the glory of Christmas Gloria Hosanna in excelsis Gloria Hosanna in excelsis

He is born the divine Christ child Play the oboe and bagpipes merrily He is born the holy child Sing me all of the Savior my Oh how lovely, oh how pure Lord is this perfect child of heaven Oh how lovely, oh how pure Gracious gift of God Set down He is born the divine Christ child Play the oboe and bagpipes merrily He is born the holy child Sing me all of the Savior my O come ye, oh come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem

Joyful and triumphant O come ye, oh come ye to Bethlehem Come and behold Him, boy my King of angels Oh come let us adore Him, oh come let us adore Him Oh come let us adore Him, oh come let us adore Him Oh come let us adore Him, oh come let us adore Him Oh come let us adore Him, oh come let us adore Him, oh come let us adore Him, oh come let us adore Him, rise the Lord Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation.

O Savior, ye citizens of heaven above.

Glory to God, all glory in the highest. O come, let us adore Him.

[37 : 14] O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him.

Christ the Lord. He is born, but in Christ's child.

He is born, a holy child. O glory of all, sadly there shall cease. Sing glory, sing glory on.

Sing glory on, glory on. Sing glory on. Sing glory on. Sing glory on.

Sing glory on. Thank you.