

Christmas is Here.

The angels announce the coming of Christ Jesus

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Hymns

Hymn 170

Hymn 170

JOHN GREENLEAF WHITTIER

Adapted

(170)

CREATION

FRANZ JOSEPH HAYDN

Let every creature hail the morn
On which the holy child was born,
And know, through God's exceeding grace,
Release from things of time and place.
I listen, from no mortal tongue,
To hear the song the angels sung,
And wait within myself to know
The Christmas lilies bud and blow.

The outward symbols disappear
From him whose inward sight is clear,
And small must be the choice of days
To him who fills them all with praise.
Keep while ye need it, brothers mine,
With honest zeal your Christmas sign,
But judge not him who every morn
Feels in his heart the Lord Christ born.

Hymn 23

Hymn 23–28, 432, 433

CHRISTMAS MORN

MARY BAKER EDDY

(23)

SERENITY

ARR. FROM WILLIAM V. WALLACE

(24)

CHRISTMAS MORN

ALBERT F. CONANT

(25)

KINGTON

F. LLEWELLYN EDWARDS

(26)

DRANSFIELD

G. THALBEN-BALL

(27)

INFINITAS

PERCY WHITLOCK

(28)

SELWORTHY

E. NORMAN GREENWOOD

Blest Christmas morn, though murky clouds
Pursue thy way,
Thy light was born where storm enshrouds
Nor dawn nor day!

Dear Christ, forever here and near,
No cradle song,
No natal hour and mother's tear,
To thee belong.

Thou God-idea, Life-encrowned,
The Bethlehem babe—
Beloved, replete, by flesh embound—
Was but thy shade!

Thou gentle beam of living Love,
And deathless Life!
Truth infinite,—so far above
All mortal strife,

Or cruel creed, or earth-born taint:
Fill us today
With all thou art—be thou our saint,
Our stay, alway.

Hymn 362

Hymn 362

JOHN MORISON

Adapted

(362)

CHRISTMAS

GEORG FRIEDRICH HÄNDEL

To us a Child of Hope is born,
To us a Son is given;
Him shall the tribes of earth obey,
And all the hosts of heaven.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace,
Forevermore adored;
The Wonderful, the Counsellor,
The great and mighty Lord.

His power, increasing, still shall spread;
His reign shall never cease;
For justice ever guards his throne,
And all his paths are peace.

Bible

1. Isa. 9:6 1st unto

- 6 unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

2. Luke 1:26-35 2nd the, 37, 38

- 26 the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth,
- 27 To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name *was* Mary.
- 28 And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, *thou that art* highly favoured, the Lord *is* with thee: blessed *art* thou among women.
- 29 And when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be.
- 30 And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God.
- 31 And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.
- 32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:
- 33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.
- 34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

- 35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.
- 37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.
- 38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

3. Matt. 1:18-25

- 18 ¶ Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost.
- 19 Then Joseph her husband, being a just *man*, and not willing to make her a public example, was minded to put her away privily.
- 20 But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost.
- 21 And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.
- 22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying,
- 23 Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us.
- 24 Then Joseph being raised from sleep did as the angel of the Lord had bidden him, and took unto him his wife:
- 25 And knew her not till she had brought forth her firstborn son: and he called his name JESUS.

4. Luke 2:1, 4-21, 25-32

- 1 AND it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Cæsar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed.
- 4 And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judæa, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)
- 5 To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.
- 6 And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.
- 7 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.
- 8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

- 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.
- 10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.
- 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.
- 12 And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.
- 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,
- 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.
- 15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.
- 16 And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.
- 17 And when they had seen *it*, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.
- 18 And all they that heard *it* wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.
- 19 But Mary kept all these things, and pondered *them* in her heart.
- 20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.
- 21 And when eight days were accomplished for the circumcising of the child, his name was called JESUS, which was so named of the angel before he was conceived in the womb.
- 25 And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name *was* Simeon; and the same man *was* just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost was upon him.
- 26 And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.
- 27 And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law,
- 28 Then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said,
- 29 Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word:
- 30 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
- 31 Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people;
- 32 A light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel.

5. Matt. 2:1-15

- 1 NOW when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judæa in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem,

- 2 Saying, Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.
- 3 When Herod the king had heard *these things*, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.
- 4 And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he demanded of them where Christ should be born.
- 5 And they said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judæa: for thus it is written by the prophet,
- 6 And thou Bethlehem, *in* the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel.
- 7 Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared.
- 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found *him*, bring me word again, that I may come and worship him also.
- 9 When they had heard the king, they departed; and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was.
- 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy.
- 11 ¶ And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh.
- 12 And being warned of God in a dream that they should not return to Herod, they departed into their own country another way.
- 13 And when they were departed, behold, the angel of the Lord appeareth to Joseph in a dream, saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and flee into Egypt, and be thou there until I bring thee word: for Herod will seek the young child to destroy him.
- 14 When he arose, he took the young child and his mother by night, and departed into Egypt:
- 15 And was there until the death of Herod: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Out of Egypt have I called my son.

6. Luke 2:40

- 40 And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

7. Matt. 4:23

- 23 ¶ And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

8. Matt. 28:18-20

- 18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me
in heaven and in earth.
- 19 ¶ Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the
Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:
- 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:
and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world. Amen.

Science and Health

1. SH 351:13-15

- It
was the living, palpitating presence of Christ, Truth, which
15 healed the sick.

2. SH 501:10

- The incarnation of Truth, that amplifi-
cation of wonder and glory which angels could only
12 whisper and which God illustrated by light and har-
mony, is consonant with ever-present Love. So-called
mystery and miracle, which subserve the end of natural
15 good, are explained by that Love for whose rest the
weary ones sigh when needing something more native
to their immortal cravings than the history of perpetual
18 evil.

3. SH 248:19-21

- Do you not hear from all
mankind of the imperfect model? The world is holding
21 it before your gaze continually.

4. SH 473:6-7

- Christ
came to destroy the belief of sin.

5. SH 494:5-11

- Is it not a species of infidelity to believe that so great
6 a work as the Messiah's was done for himself or for God,
who needed no help from Jesus' example to
preserve the eternal harmony? But mortals
9 did need this help, and Jesus pointed the way for them.
Divine Love always has met and always will meet every
human need.

Inexhaustible
divine Love

6. SH 332:9-22 Jesus; 333:3-27 The

- 9 Jesus was born of Mary. Christ is the true idea
voicing good, the divine message from God to men speak-

ing to the human consciousness. The Christ
12 is incorporeal, spiritual, — yea, the divine
image and likeness, dispelling the illusions of the senses;
the Way, the Truth, and the Life, healing the sick and
15 casting out evils, destroying sin, disease, and death. As
Paul says: “There is one God, and one mediator between
God and men, the man Christ Jesus.” The corporeal
18 man Jesus was human.

The Son of God

X. Jesus demonstrated Christ; he proved that Christ
is the divine idea of God — the Holy Ghost,
21 or Comforter, revealing the divine Principle,
Love, and leading into all truth.

Holy Ghost or
Comforter

3 The word *Christ* is not properly a synonym for
Jesus, though it is commonly so used. Jesus was a human
name, which belonged to him in common with
6 other Hebrew boys and men, for it is identical
with the name Joshua, the renowned Hebrew leader. On
the other hand, Christ is not a name so much as the divine
9 title of Jesus. Christ expresses God’s spiritual, eternal
nature. The name is synonymous with Messiah, and al-
ludes to the spirituality which is taught, illustrated, and
12 demonstrated in the life of which Christ Jesus was the
embodiment. The proper name of our Master in the
Greek was Jesus the Christ; but Christ Jesus better sig-
15 nifies the Godlike.

Messiah or
Christ

XIII. The advent of Jesus of Nazareth marked the
first century of the Christian era, but the Christ is
18 without beginning of years or end of days.
Throughout all generations both before and
after the Christian era, the Christ, as the spirit-
21 ual idea, — the reflection of God, — has come with some
measure of power and grace to all prepared to receive
Christ, Truth. Abraham, Jacob, Moses, and the prophets
24 caught glorious glimpses of the Messiah, or Christ, which
baptized these seers in the divine nature, the essence of
Love. The divine image, idea, or Christ was, is, and
27 ever will be inseparable from the divine Principle, God.

The divine
Principle and
idea

7. SH 30:5-8, 11

Born of a woman, Jesus’ advent in the flesh partook
6 partly of Mary’s earthly condition, although he was en-
dowed with the Christ, the divine Spirit, with-
out measure. Had his origin and birth been wholly apart from mortal
12 usage, Jesus would not have been appreciable to mortal
mind as “the way.”

Jesus the
way-shower

8. SH 482:16-17, 19

15 Jesus called himself “the
Son of man,” but not the son of Joseph. Jesus was the highest human
concept of the perfect man. He was inseparable from
21 Christ, the Messiah, — the divine idea of God outside
the flesh. This enabled Jesus to demonstrate his con-
trol over matter. Angels announced to the Wisemen of
24 old this dual appearing, and angels whisper it, through
faith, to the hungry heart in every age.

Sonship of Jesus

9. SH 581:4-7

ANGELS. God’s thoughts passing to man; spiritual
intuitions, pure and perfect; the inspiration of goodness,
6 purity, and immortality, counteracting all evil, sensuality,
and mortality.

10. SH 566:29-30; 567:1-8

The Old Testament assigns to the angels, God’s divine
30 messages, different offices. Gabriel has the more quiet task
of imparting a sense of the ever-presence of ministering
3 Love. These angels deliver us from the depths. Truth
and Love come nearer in the hour of woe, when strong
faith or spiritual strength wrestles and prevails through
6 the understanding of God. The Gabriel of His presence
has no contests. To infinite, ever-present Love, all is
Love, and there is no error, no sin, sickness, nor death.

Angelic offices

11. SH 298:25-30; 299:7

Angels are not etherealized human beings, evolving
animal qualities in their wings; but they are celestial
27 visitants, flying on spiritual, not material,
pinions. Angels are pure thoughts from God,
winged with Truth and Love, no matter what their indi-
30 vidualism may be.

Thought-
angels

My angels are exalted thoughts, appearing at the door
of some sepulchre, in which human belief has buried
9 its fondest earthly hopes. With white fin-
gers they point upward to a new and glo-
rified trust, to higher ideals of life and its joys. Angels
12 are God’s representatives. These upward-soaring beings
never lead towards self, sin, or materiality, but guide to
the divine Principle of all good, whither every real indi-
15 viduality, image, or likeness of God, gathers. By giving
earnest heed to these spiritual guides they tarry with us,
and we entertain “angels unawares.”

Our angelic
messengers

12. SH 512:9

These an-

gels of His presence, which have the holiest charge, abound in the spiritual atmosphere of Mind, and consequently reproduce their own characteristics. Their individual forms we know not, but we do know that their natures are allied to God's nature; and spiritual blessings, thus typified, are the externalized, yet subjective, states of faith and spiritual understanding.

Seraphic symbols

13. SH 548:10-13, 15

9 So Christian Science can be seen only as the clouds of corporeal sense roll away.
12 Earth has little light or joy for mortals before Life is spiritually learned. This is the new birth going on hourly, by which men may entertain angels, the true ideas of God, the spiritual sense of being.

The clouds dissolving

14. SH 463:6-10, 14-16

To attend properly the birth of the new child, or divine idea, you should so detach mortal thought from its material conceptions, that the birth will be natural and safe. The new idea, conceived and born of Truth and Love, is clad in white garments. Its beginning will be meek, its growth sturdy, and its maturity undecaying.

Scientific obstetrics

15. SH 334:10

XV. The invisible Christ was imperceptible to the so-called personal senses, whereas Jesus appeared as a bodily existence. This dual personality of the unseen and the seen, the spiritual and material, the eternal Christ and the corporeal Jesus manifest in flesh, continued until the Master's ascension, when the human, material concept, or Jesus, disappeared, while the spiritual self, or Christ, continues to exist in the eternal order of divine Science, taking away the sins of the world, as the Christ has always done, even before the human Jesus was incarnate to mortal eyes.

The Son's duality

16. SH vii:2

vii:1 The wakeful shepherd beholds
3 the first faint morning beams, ere cometh the full radiance of a risen day. So shone the pale star to the prophet-shepherds; yet it traversed the night, and came where, in cradled obscurity, lay the Bethlehem babe, the human herald of Christ, Truth, who would make plain to benighted understanding the way of salvation through Christ Jesus, till across a night of error should dawn the morning beams and shine the guiding star of being. The Wise-

men were led to behold and to follow this daystar of
12 divine Science, lighting the way to eternal harmony.

17. SH 150:4

To-day the healing power of Truth is widely demon-
strated as an immanent, eternal Science, instead of a
6 phenomenal exhibition. Its appearing is the
coming anew of the gospel of “on earth peace,
good-will toward men.” This coming, as was promised
9 by the Master, is for its establishment as a permanent
dispensation among men; but the mission of Christian
Science now, as in the time of its earlier demonstration,
12 is not primarily one of physical healing. Now, as then,
signs and wonders are wrought in the metaphysical heal-
ing of physical disease; but these signs are only to demon-
15 strate its divine origin, — to attest the reality of the higher
mission of the Christ-power to take away the sins of the
world.

The main
purpose