

Sing we now of Christmas!

Christmas Eve 2020 Script / Songtexts

Narrative

This evening we celebrate the birth of a baby, a Holy Infant tender and mild - the lovely words of a favorite carol. But we know that the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ is vastly more than that. "His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace."

It all came together on that silent and holy night, announced by the Heavenly Host to quaking shepherds, who were invited, as we are invited, to see this marvelous thing which came to pass, which our great God has made known to us.

So we come to see, to hear, to believe ... and to give thanks.

Carol

Sing we now of Christmas -

Ladies quartet with Ann Forman pianist, Ed Manzo guitar
(Tom Fettke version in SongSelect)

Vs 1

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel sing we here
Listen to our praises, to the Babe so dear
Sing we Noel; the King is born Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, Sing we all Noel

Vs 2

Shepherds on the hillside heard the angels sing
Glory, honor, praises to the infant King
Sing we Noel; the King is born Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, Sing we all Noel

(song continues)

Vs 3

In the town they found Him, Son of Mary mild
Sleeping in a manger was the Holy Child
Sing we Noel; the King is born Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, Sing we all Noel

Vs 4

Wise Men sought and found Him; treasures did they bring
Bowing down they worshiped Christ the King of kings
Sing we Noel; the King is born Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, Sing we all Noel

Reading - Matthew 1:18-25

Joseph learns the truth

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ^[a] took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).

²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife,²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Special Music:

Mary, did you know? - Suzanne Forman, vocalist; Ann Forman, pianist

Vs 1

Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would one day walk on water
Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would save our sons and daughters

Did you know
That your baby boy
Has come to make you new
This Child that you delivered
Will soon deliver you

Vs 2

Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would give sight to the blind man
Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Would calm a storm with His hand

Did you know That your baby boy
Has walked where angels trod
And when you kiss your baby,
You've kissed the face of God
Oh Mary did you know

The blind will see, The deaf will hear,
The dead will live again The lame will leap,
The dumb will speak,
The praises of the Lamb

Vs 3

Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Is Lord of all creation
Mary did you know
That your baby boy
Will one day rule the nations

Did you know
That your baby boy
Is heaven's perfect Lamb
And the sleeping Child you're holding
Is the great I Am

Children's Story - Pastor Casey

Special Music

Now the Holy Child is Born - Laurie N, flute, Ed Manzo guitar

Reading - Luke 2:1-7 (ESV)

The Birth of Jesus Christ

¹ In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴ And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵ to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶ And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

Carol Medley

Away in a Manger / Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

Ladies' quartet, Ann Forman, pianist; Ed Manzo, guitarist

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed
But the little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care
And fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.

Infant holy, Infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the Babe is Lord of all
Swift are winging, angels singing, Noels ringing, tidings bringing
Christ the Babe is Lord of all. Christ the Babe is Lord of all.

Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Save the glory, heard the story - tidings of a gospel true
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow
Christ the Babe is born for you. Christ the Babe is born for you.

Reading - Luke 2:8-14 (ESV)

The Angels announce His birth

⁸ And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰ And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and 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 among those with whom He is pleased!"

Special music - **How Many Kings?** - Josh Papritz vocalist, Lea Papritz, pianist

Verse 1

Follow the star to a place unexpected
Would you believe after all we've projected
A child in a manger
Lowly and small the weakest of all
Unlikeliest hero wrapped in His mother's shawl
Just a child
Is this who we've waited for 'cause

Chorus 1

How many kings stepped down from their thrones
How many lords have abandoned their homes
How many greats have become the least for me
And how many gods have poured out their hearts
To romance a world that is torn all apart
How many fathers gave up their sons for me

Verse 2

Bringing out gifts for the newborn Savior
All that we have whether costly or meek
Because we believe
Gold for His honor and frankincense for His pleasure
And myrrh for the cross He'll suffer (cont.)
Do you believe?
Is this who we've waited for?

Bridge

Only one did that for me
All for me, All for me, all for you (4X)

Chorus 2

How many kings stepped down from their thrones
How many lords have abandoned their homes
How many greats have become the least
How many gods have poured out their hearts
To romance a world that is torn all apart
How many fathers gave up their sons for me

Ending

Only one did that for me... All for me all for you

Special Music - **Sing we all Noel!** - Josh & Hayley Papritz, vocalists; Lea Papritz, pianist

Sing We all Noel

Sing we all Noel! Noel! Noel! Now we sing Noel! (repeat)

Sing and rejoice, Noel, Noel!
Sing it both loud and clear!
For the Baby Boy is born,
And we have cause for cheer!

Sing and rejoice, Noel, Noel!
Sing and rejoice, we pray.
For the Holy Child is born
In Bethlehem this day!

Masters in this hall
Hear ye all the news today
That comes across the ocean
Now be glad, I pray.

Noel, Noel, Noel!
Noel, sing we clear!
Happy are the folk on earth
Born the little Child so dear

Noel, Noel, Noel!
Now we sing Noel! (repeat)

Masters in this hall
Hear ye all the news today
That comes across the ocean
Now be glad, I pray.

Sing and rejoice, Noel, Noel!
Sing it both loud and clear!
For the Baby Boy is born,
And we have cause for cheer!

Sing and rejoice, Noel, Noel!
Sing and rejoice, we pray.
For the Holy Child is born
In Bethlehem this day!

Noel, Noel, Noel!
Noel sing we loud.
For today the folk are raised up
And cast a - down the proud!

Now we sing Noel!
Sing we all Noel!

Reading - Luke 2:15-20 (ESV)

The Shepherds find the Holy Child

¹⁵ When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. ¹⁷ And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸ And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰ And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told to them.

Special Music - **Gesu Bambino** - Niederbrach family

When blossoms flower'd midst the snow, upon a winter night
Was born the Child, the Christmas Rose, the King of love and light.
The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth rejoiced,
And at His blessed birth the stars their exultation voiced:
O come let us adore Him (2x) O come let us adore Him - Christ the Lord.

Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night
That gave the world its Christmas rose, its King of love and light.

Let every voice acclaim His name. The grateful chorus swell,
From paradise to earth He came, that we with Him might dwell
O come let us adore Him (2x) O come let us adore Him - Christ the Lord.
Ah! O come let us adore Him, adore Him Christ the Lord.
O come, O come! O come, let us adore Him! Let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Meditation - Pastor Kenny

Congregational Carol (Candle lighting by worship team?)

Silent Night

Verse 1

Silent night holy night
All is calm all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace (2x)

Verse 2

Silent night holy night
Shepherds quake at the sight
Glories stream from heaven afar
Heav'nly hosts sing alleluia
Christ the Savior is born (2x)

Verse 3

Silent night holy night
Son of God love's pure light
Radiant beams from Thy holy face
With the dawn of redeeming grace
Jesus Lord at Thy birth (2x)

Prayer and Benediction