

**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:

Sing, choirs of angels  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God  
In the highest:

**God's rest to all who hear the news,**

Let nothing you dismay,  
Remember, Christ, our Saviour  
Was born on Christmas day  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy

From God our Heavenly Father  
A blessed Angel came;  
And unto certain Shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same:  
How that in Bethlehem was born  
The Son of God by Name.  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy

Now to the Lord sing praises,  
All you within this place,  
With Christian love and fellowship  
Each other now embrace;  
And let this Christmas festival  
All bitterness displace:  
O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy.

**In the bleak mid winter**

Frosty wind made moan.  
Earth stood hard as iron,  
Water like a stone;  
Snow had fallen, snow on snow,  
Snow on snow  
In the bleak midwinter,  
Long ago.

Our God heaven cannot hold him,  
Nor earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away  
When he comes to reign:  
In the bleak midwinter  
A Stable place sufficed  
The Lord God Almighty,  
Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels  
May have gathered there;  
Cherubim and seraphim  
Thronged the air;  
But only his mother  
In her maiden bliss,  
Worshipped the Beloved  
With a kiss.

What can I give him,  
Poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd,  
I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a wise man,  
I would play my part;  
Yet what I can I give him  
Give my heart.

**Love came down at Christmas,**

Love all lovely, love divine;  
Love was born at Christmas,  
Star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the godhead,  
Love incarnate, love divine;  
Worship we our Jesus:  
But wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token,  
Love be yours and love be mine,  
Love to God and all folk,  
Love for plea and gift and sign.

### **O Little town of Bethlehem**

How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

O morning stars together  
Proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King  
And peace to all on earth.  
For Christ is born of Mary  
And gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently  
The wondrous gift is given  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of his heaven.  
No ear may hear his coming;  
But in this world of sin  
Where meek souls will receive him still  
The dear Christ enters in.

O Holy Child of Bethlehem  
Descend to us we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in  
Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us  
Our Lord Immanuel.



**Tell out, my soul,**  
The greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings  
Give my spirit voice;  
Tender to me  
The promise of His word:  
In God my Saviour  
Shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul,  
The greatness of his name!  
Make known his might,  
The deeds his arm has done;  
His mercy sure,  
From age to age the same;  
His Holy Name - the Lord  
The Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul,  
The greatness of his might!  
Powers and dominions  
Lay their glory by;  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills  
Are put to flight;  
The hungry fed  
The humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul,  
The glories of his word!  
Firm is his promise,  
And his mercy sure:  
Tell out, my soul,  
The greatness of the Lord  
To children's children  
And for evermore!



## **Advent – Hang up your stocking.**

On seeing Mary, Elizabeth cried out: “Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfil his promises to her! (Luke 1:45)

And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour...” (Luke 1:46)

During Advent we reflect on the first coming of Jesus, his coming to us now and his promised return. If we believe that God's promises are being fulfilled and act accordingly (like hanging up our stockings with the sure and certain hope that they will be filled) then we will know the joy of the Lord.

### **A Daily Advent Exercise**

Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to do an act of mercy or justice – big or small – today. Do it joyfully!

### **A Daily Advent Prayer**

Merciful God, you chose your servant Mary to bear your Son and in so doing showed that yours is a Kingdom in which the first shall be last and the last shall be first. Fill me with your Spirit so that I might joyfully carry the good news of your Kingdom into a needy world through acts of mercy, justice and love.

O come, O King of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind.  
Bid all our sad divisions cease and be yourself our King of Peace.