

133 O Come, All Ye Faithful

1 O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant; O come
 2 True God from true God, Light from light e - ter - nal, born
 3 Sing, choirs of an - gels; sing in ex - ul - ta - tion; sing,
 4 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this hap - py morn - ing; Je -

ye; O come ye to Beth - le - hem! Come, and be - hold him,
 of a vir - gin, a mor - tal he comes; ver - y God, be -
 all ye cit - i - zens of heaven a - bove! Glo - ry to God, all
 sus, to thee be all glo - ry given; Word of the Fa - ther,

Refrain

born the King of an - gels!
 got - ten, not cre - at - ed! O come, let us a - dore him; O come, let
 glo - ry in the high - est!
 now in flesh ap - pear - ing!

us a - dore him; O come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord!

134 Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes

her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him
 em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 the ground; he comes to make his bless - ing
 tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teou

and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven ar
 re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat th
 far as the curse is found, far as th
 and won - ders of his love, and won - d
 and heaven and na - ture sing,

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sou
 found, far as, far as the cur
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of
 heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely
 Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So
 Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

152 What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

Capo 2: (C) (Am) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G) (C) (F) (C)
 D Bm A D G D A D G D

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more love - ly
 2 'Tis now ful - filled what God de - creed, "From Ja - cob
 3 While out - ward signs the star dis - plays, an in - ward
 4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im - pels us

(G) (C) (F) (C) (G) (Am) (D7) (G) (C)
 A D G D A Bm E7 A D

than the noon - day light? 'Tis sent to an - nounce a
 shall a star pro - ceed"; and lo! the east - ern
 light the Lord con - veys and urg - es them, with
 on to seek your face, let not our sloth - ful

(F) (C) (Dm) (G) (C) (G) (C) (F) (G) (C)
 G D Em A D A D G A D

new - born king, glad ti - dings of our God to bring.
 sa - ges stand to read in heaven the Lord's com - mand.
 ten - der might, to seek the giv - er of the light.
 hearts re - fuse the guid - ance of your light to use.

153 In Bethlehem a Newborn Boy

1 In Beth - le - hem a new - born boy was hailed with songs of
 (2 The) sol - diers sought the child in vain; not yet was he to
 (3 Still) rage the fires of hate to - day, and in - no - cents the
 (4 Lord) Je - sus, through our night of loss shines out the won - der
 (5 May) that great love our lives con - trol and con - quer hate in

praise and joy. Then warn - ing came of dan - ger near King
 share our pain; but down the a - ges rings the cry of
 price must pay, while ach - ing hearts in ev - ery land cry
 of your cross, the love that can - not cease to bear our
 ev - ery soul, till, pledged to build and not de - stroy, we

Her - od's troops would soon ap - pear. 2 The
 those who saw their chil - dren die. 3 Still
 out, "We can - not un - der - stand!" 4 Lord
 hu - man an - guish ev - ery - where. 5 May
 share your pain and find your joy.

Guitar chords in Pew Edition do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This 18th-century Latin text calls attention to three kinds of light: the light of the star leading the Magi to the Christ-child, the inward light inspiring their journey, and Christ who is the Light of the world. The simple unison melody unites everything in a gentle arc.

The Slaughter of the Innocents (Matthew 2:16-18) is not an event we like to think about, but this text shows how it connects to the ongoing suffering of parents and children in our world today. Only the love that led Christ to the cross can bear the weight of such human anguish.

The First Nowell

1 The first Now-ell the an-gel did say was to cer-tain poor
2 They look-ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the
3 And by the light of that same star three wise men
4 This star drew nigh to the north-west; o'er Beth - le -

shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing
east be-yond them far; and to the earth it gave
came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was their
hem it took its rest, and there it did both stop

their sheep, on a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.
great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher-ev - er it went.
and stay, right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.

Refrain

Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell,

"Nowell" is the English form of the French "noel," a shout of joy formerly used at Christmas (as in Chaucer's "Franklin's Tale"), a clue that the word is older than its first printing. It may have Latin and French roots related to "born" (*natus / natus*) as well to "news" (*nova / nouvelle*).

born is the King of Is - ra - el.

- 5 Then entered in those wise men three, 6 Then let us all with one accord
full reverently upon their knee, sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
and offered there in his presence that hath made heaven and earth of nought,
their gold, and myrrh, and and with his blood our life hath bought.
frankincense. Refrain

Mary and Joseph Came to the Temple 148

G D/F# C/G G Am7

- 1 Mar-y and Jo - seph came to the tem - ple brought the boy
2 An-na had prayed there, wid-owed, long wait - ing, wor - ship - ing
3 Sim - e - on sings now: God prof - fers bless - ing, bril - liant - ly

G/B C Dsus D Bm Em

Je - sus, of - fered him there. Peo - ple were wait - ing
God by day and by night. Now she is prais - ing,
gild - ing dawn of his day. Light in the dark - ness,

Am G/B D Am7 G/B C D7 G

want - ing to greet him; long had they sought him, so - lace for care.
filled with e - la - tion: here is God's prom - ise, Christ is her light.
nev - er ex - tin - guished, Light of all na - tions, light up our way.

This text retells the story in Luke 2:22-39, usually called the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, which took place forty days after his birth. Mary, Joseph, and the Christ-child encounter there two devout people, Anna and Simeon, who identify this baby as the promised Messiah.