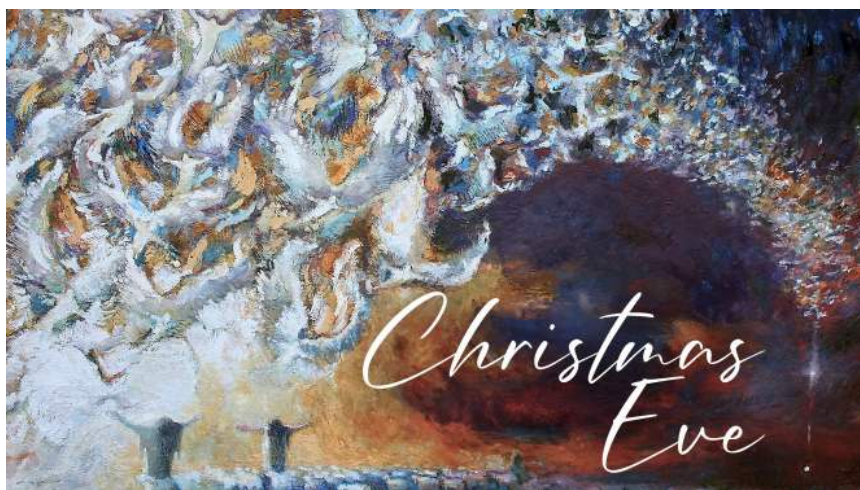


NORTH WILKESBORO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WELCOMING • GROWING • SERVING • LOVING

December 24, 2025 - 7:00 p.m.



Words of Welcome

Rev. R.C. Griffin III

Call to Worship

- One: What kind of hope can endure this world?
Many: The hopes and fears of all the years are met right here tonight.
One: How can we speak peace when the world is at war?
**Many: Tonight, there will be heavenly peace and mercy mild;
God and sinners reconciled.**
One: Where is the joy of celebration when so many are hungry and hurting?
Many: All heaven and nature sing; the weary world rejoices.
One: When will love come and save us?
**All: The wonders of God's love are made flesh tonight.
The angels sing "gloria," and we have nothing to fear.**

***Hymn (#133)**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

WELCOMING THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

The Light of Hope

Mike & Vicki Norman

Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9

One: With the candle of hope, we light the way for those who will come after us. We carry the light as we journey through to Bethlehem. The child of hope brings good news for the world; news of hope endures through all fear.

Hymn (#112)

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

The Light of Peace

Rev. Amanda Horan

Lesson

Luke 1:46-56

One: This is the light of peace, to honor the child who will teach us the way. Mary knew that her baby would be the one to end all war. We witness to the light, doing our part to create a nonviolent world. We welcome the Prince of Peace, who casts out all fear.

Hymn (#145)

What Child Is This

The Light of Joy

Sharilyn Owens & J.D. Granade

Lesson

Palm 118:1-7, 22-24

One: A flame of joy flickers and grows against the darkness. It burns brightest when we are together. God's joy comes to live among us, and in the longest, darkest nights, we find joy that releases us from fear.

Hymn (#134)

Joy to the World

The Light of Love

Caroline Czerkawski & Rebecca Skidmore

Lesson

Luke 2:1-7

One: The light of love always shows the way. For the holy family on a dark night

in Bethlehem, and for all who come to worship the child, who is God with us. Love still shows us where to go: a way where there is no way and a light of love that knows no fear.

Hymn (#110)

Love Has Come

The Christ Candle

Martha & Catherine Brame

Lesson

Luke 2:8-20

One: We welcome hope, peace, joy, and love tonight. The light of the world is born, bringing all that and more! It is a light for the ages. God's people answer the call to keep the light and shine it for all to see. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not overcome it.

Hymn (#119)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Meditation

The Light of Love

Rev. R.C. Griffin III

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Thanksgiving (Hymn #508)

Come to the Table

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer of Gratitude

The Candle Lighting Service

***Candle Lighting Hymn (#122)**

Silent Night, Holy Night!

After the singing of Silent Night, you may remain in your pews for a time of prayer and reflection, you may meet and greet those around you, or you may go to share the light and love of Christ. Merry Christmas to you all!

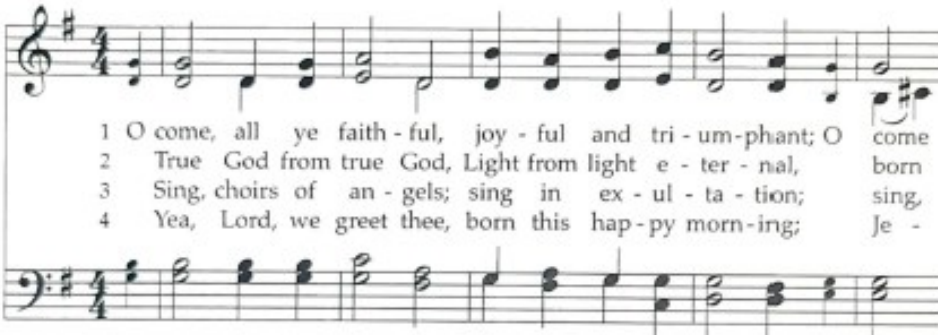
***Please rise, in body or spirit.**



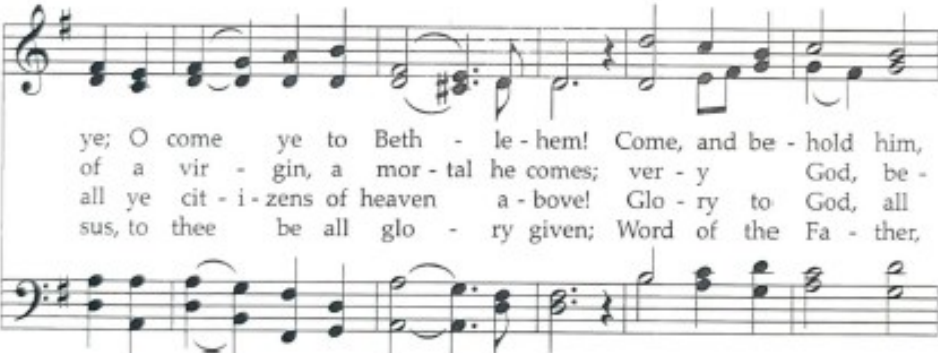
scan for bulletin info,
news, and more!

O Come, All Ye Faithful

133



1 O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-phiant; 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!

From its Roman Catholic origins, this 18th-century hymn has spread to worldwide use by many denominations in both Latin and vernacular versions. Once popular with a wide range of hymn texts, this tune is now firmly associated with this Christmas text from which it is named.

[TEXT] John Francis Wade, c. 1743; trans. Frederick Oakley, 1841, alt.
 [MUSIC] John Francis Wade, c. 1743; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing 112

Capo 3: (D) F (G) B $\flat$ (D) F (A7) C7 (D) F



1 On Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing, to hear the
 2 Then why should we on earth be sad, since our Re -
 3 When sin de - parts be - fore his grace, then life and
 4 All out of dark - ness we have light, which made the

(G) B $\flat$ (A) C (D) F (G) B $\flat$



news the an - gels bring; on Christ - mas night all
 deem - er made us glad; then why should we on
 health come in its place; when sin de - parts be -
 an - gels sing this night; all out of dark - ness

(D) F (A) C (D) F (G) B $\flat$ (A) C (D) F



Chris - tians sing, to hear the news the an - gels bring,
 earth be sad, since our Re - deem - er made us glad,
 fore his grace, then life and health comes in its place;
 we have light, which made the an - gels sing this night:

(A) C (Em) Gm (D) F (A) C



news of great joy, news of great mirth,
 when from our sin he set us free,
 heav - en and earth with joy may sing,
 "Glo - ry to God in high - est heaven;

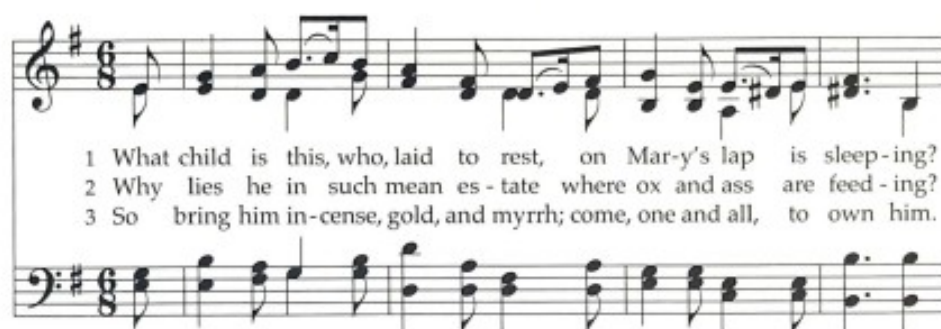
(D) F (G) B $\flat$ (A) C (G) B $\flat$ (D) F



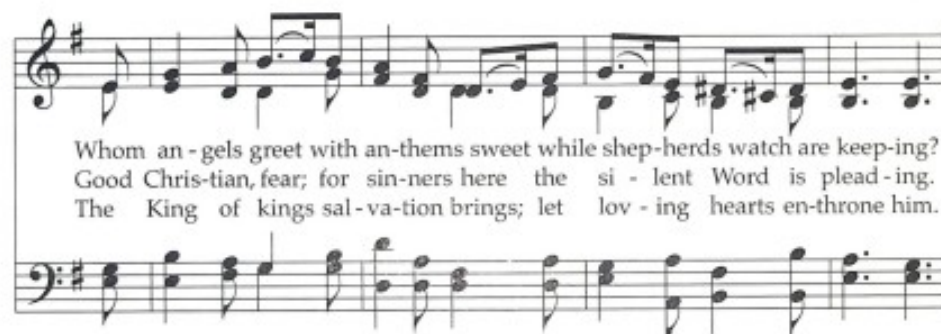
news of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
 all for to gain our lib - er - ty?
 all for to see the new - born King.
 peace on earth and good - will. A - men!"

The words of this carol first appeared in 1684 in a collection by an Irish bishop, Luke Wadding. Whether they were his own work or something gleaned from popular use is not clear. The tune name recalls that the tune was collected in 1904 from Mrs. Verrall of Monk's Gate, Sussex.

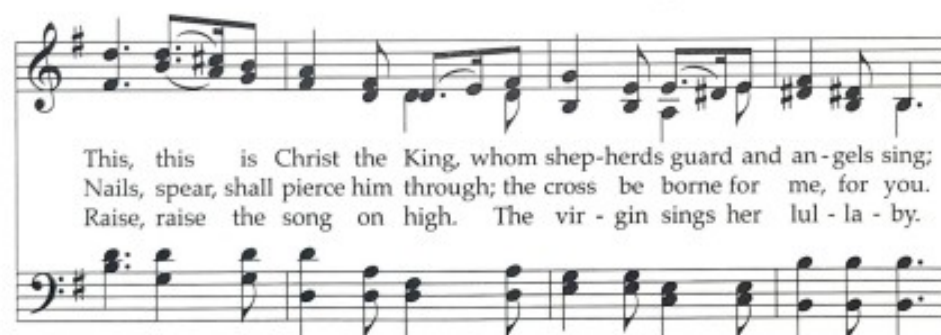
What Child Is This



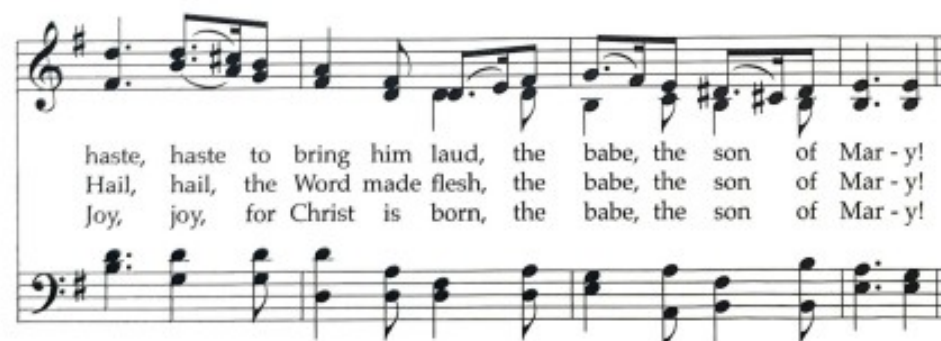
1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
 2 Why lies he in such mean es - tate where ox and ass are feed - ing?
 3 So bring him in-cense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing?
 Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead - ing.
 The King of kings sal - va-tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the King, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you.
 Raise, raise the song on high. The vir - gin sings her lul - la - by.



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!

This Victorian text gains scope and power by having the original second halves of stanzas two and three restored. They give a stark forward glimpse of what lies ahead for this "babe, the son of Mary!" The tune is much older, dating from Tudor England.

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

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

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

and

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

heaven and na - ture sing,

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

TEXT: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.

MUSIC: Alt. George Frederick Handel, 1742; arr. Lowell Mason, 1836

ANTIOCH

CM with repeat

(alternate tune: RICHMOND, 264)

Love Has Come

110

Capo 3: (D) F (Bm7) Dm7 (Em7) Gm7 (A) C

1 Love has come: a light in the dark - ness!
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der.
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us!

(D) F (Bm7) Dm7 (Em) Gm (A7) C7 (D) F

Love shines forth in the Beth - le - hem skies. See, all
 Love is God now a - sleep in the hay. See the
 Love is life ev - er - last - ing and free. Love is

(A) C (D) F (Bm) Dm (D) F (A) C (G) B^b (D) F

heav - en has come to pro - claim it; hear how their song of
 glow in the eyes of his moth - er; what is the name her
 Je - sus with - in and a - mong us. Love is the peace our

(Em7) Gm7 (F#7) A7 (G) B^b (A) C (Bm) Dm (A7) C7

joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to you, a
 heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the name she
 hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the gift of

(D) F (A) C (G) B^b (A) C (D) F (A) C (A7) C7 (Dsus) F (D) F

Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.
 whis - pers. Love! Love! Je - sus, Em - man - u - el.
 Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Here is a chance to sing a familiar French carol tune with new words, the most important clearly being "Love." The senses "seen and heard" (as in Acts 4:20 and elsewhere) organize the first two stanzas, while the third holds the summary statement: "Love is the gift of Christmas."

*TCE: Ken Bible, 1996

*T/MC: French melody; arr. Eric T. Myers, 2012

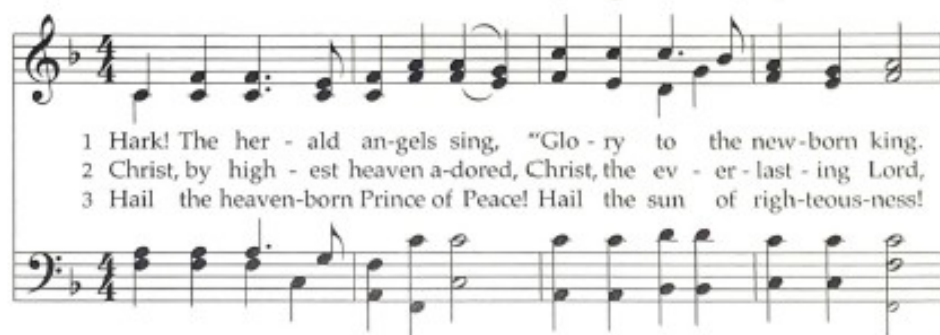
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BRING A TORCH

9.9.10.9.9.8

119 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing



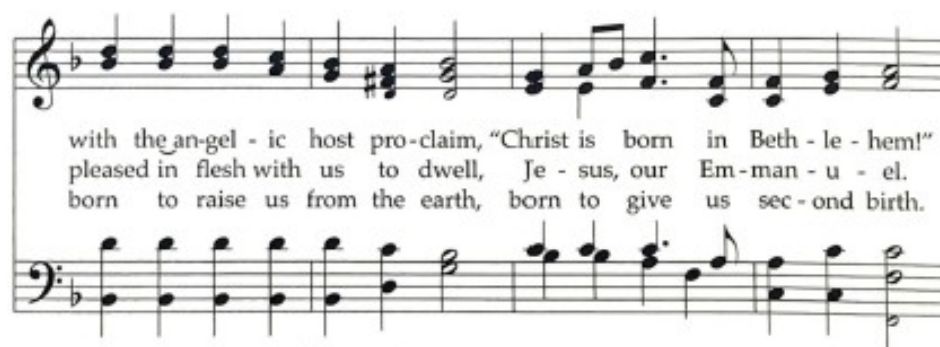
1 Hark! The her - ald an-gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king.
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a-dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righ-teous-ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
late in time be-hold him come, off-spring of the vir-gin's womb.
Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri-umph of the skies;
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail the in-car - nate de - i - ty,
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with the an-gel - ic host pro-claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em-man - u - el.
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Brought together in the mid-19th century, the text and tune of this familiar carol began in quite different forms. The text had ten stanzas and began, "Hark, how all the welkin rings." The tune was created for a festival celebrating Gutenberg's introduction of moveable type.

Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king!"

This musical score is for the hymn "Hark! The herald angels sing." It is written for a piano accompaniment in G major, 4/4 time. The score consists of two staves: a treble staff and a bass staff. The treble staff features a melody with eighth and sixteenth notes, while the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff, aligned with the melody. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

식탁에 와서

G Em7 Am7

*1 Come to the ta - ble, all you who praise God.
 2 Come eat this bread now, my bro - ken bod - y.
 3 All is now read - y, like the first ta - ble.

G Em A7 Dsus D

Laid in a sta - ble, God's gift of love:
 My vow re - mem - ber: I am your Lord.
 Pray for the Spir - it; lift up your hearts.

G G7 C Cm

Je - sus our Sav - ior poured out his life's blood.
 Drink of this wine, the cup of sal - va - tion,
 Christ has a - ris - en, our Lord and Sav - ior.

G D7 G

Our sins for - giv - en, God's gift of love.
 for you are mine, and I am your Lord.
 With great thanks - giv - ing, lift up your hearts.

KOREAN

- 1 식탁에 와서 찬양드리세,
 사랑의 선물 나누시네
 주님의 몸과 주님의 피를
 우리를 위해 주시었네
- 2 너희를 위한 나의 몸이니
 받아서 먹고 기념하라
 이 잔은 나의 새 언약이니
 죄사함 위해 흘린 피라
- 3 주님의 성령 임-하시네,
 거룩한 주의 살-과 피
 나를 새롭게 바꿔 주시네
 새생명 주심 감사하세

*Stanza 1 may be sung by a leader.

This Korean text accomplishes a rare feat in a Lord's Supper hymn by dealing with the full range of Christ's life from the Nativity to the Resurrection. The first and third stanzas are in the voice of the congregation, while the middle stanza recalls Christ's words of institution.

Silent Night, Holy Night! 122

1 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright
 2 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Shep - herds quake at the sight;
 3 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light
 4 Si - lent night, ho - ly night! Won - drous star, lend thy light;

'round yon vir - gin moth - er and child! Ho - ly In - fant, so ten - der and
 glo - ries stream from heav - en a - far, heav - en - ly hosts sing "Al - le - lu -
 ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing
 with the an - gels let us sing Al - le - lu - ia to our

mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace, sleep in heav - en - ly peace.
 ia: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born!"
 grace, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth, Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.
 King: Christ the Sav - ior is born; Christ the Sav - ior is born.

GERMAN

1 *Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht!*
Alles schläft, einsam wacht
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

KOREAN

1 고요한밤 거룩한밤
 어둠에 묻힌밤
 주의부모 앉아서
 감사기도 드릴때
 아기잘도 잔다
 아기잘도 잔다

SPANISH

1 *¡Noche de paz, noche de amor!*
Todo duerme en derredor,
entre los astros que esparcen su luz,
bella, anunciando al niño Jesús,
brilla la estrella de paz,
brilla la estrella de paz.

The tradition that this carol's tune was created for guitar accompaniment at its first singing on Christmas Eve 1818 seems reliable, though a recent find shows that the text was about two years old. But there is no question that this is now a favorite Christmas carol worldwide.

TEXT: Joseph Mohr, 1816; stanzas 1-5, English trans. John Freeman Young, 1863;
 stanza 6, English trans. Jane Montgomery Campbell, 1861, alt.
 1815?; Franz Xaver Gruber, 1818
 Korean trans. © The Christian Literature Society of Korea

STILLE NACHT
 Irregular