While shepherds watched their flocks by night



While shepherds watched their flocks by night, All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down, (x2)
And glory shone around. (x3)

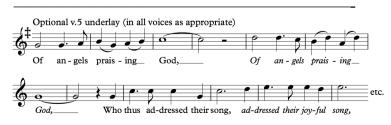
"Fear not," said he (for mighty dread Had seized their troubled minds); "Glad tidings of great joy I bring (x2) To you and all mankind. (x3)

"To you, in David's town, this day, Is born of David's line A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord; And this shall be the sign:

The heavenly Babe you there shall find To human view displayed, All meanly wrapped in swathing bands And in a manger laid."

Thus spake the Seraph, and forthwith Appeared a shining throng ‡ Of angels praising God, who thus Addressed their joyful song:

"All glory be to God on high, And to the earth be peace; Goodwill henceforth from Heav'n to men Begin and never cease."



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