



Voices



# sounds OF THE season



*It Came Upon The Midnight Clear*



# It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

1

It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth  
to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
from heaven's all-gracious King."  
The world - in solemn stillness lay,  
to hear the angels sing.

2

Still through the cloven skies they come  
with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats  
o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains,  
they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel sounds  
the blessed angels sing.





Edmund Sears  
1810-1876



# Luke 2

8 And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. 9 An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. 11 Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. 12 This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.'

13 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

14 'Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.'







# The Christmas angel appearances

To Zechariah

To Mary

To Jospheh (3 times)

To the shepherds

# It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

3

Yet with the woes of sin and strife  
the world has suffered long  
beneath the angel strain have rolled  
2,000 years of wrong  
and man at war with man hears not  
the long song which they bring  
O hush the noise ye men of strife  
And hear the angels sing







Question ...  
*... can you hear the angels sing?*

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How can we turn down the volume –  
enough to hear the angels' song?



How can we turn down the volume –  
enough to hear the angels' song?

Actively reflecting  
Resisting complacency  
... & pausing

