

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

Sears / NOEL

1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come, with peace - ful wings un - furled,
3. And ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load whose forms are bend - ing low,
4. For, lo! the days are has - t'ning on, by proph - et bards fore - told,

1. from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
2. and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world:
3. who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow,
4. when, with the ev - er - cir - cling years, comes 'round the age of gold;

1. "Peace on the earth, good will to men from heav'n's all - gra - cious King!"
2. a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov - 'ring wing,
3. look now! for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing:
4. when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dours fling,

1. The world in sol - emn still - ness lay, to hear the an - gels sing.
2. and ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
3. O rest be - neath the wear - y road, and hear the an - gels sing.
4. and all the world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

Inspiration: Luke 2: 10-11.

Lyrics: 86.86 D; Edmund H. Sears, 1810-1876, in the Boston "Christian Register", 1849.

Music: NOEL; trad. English melody; adapt. by Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842-1900, in "Church Hymns with Tunes", 1874