From the hallowed belfry tower

G. C. E. Ryley

1. From the hallowed belfry tower
   Hark! re-sounds the midnight hour,
   Seek who will the silent sleep,
   We our yearly vigil keep,
   And our solemn carol raise
   Duly to the Saviour's praise;
   Virgin born, Thy praise we sing, Son of the Almighty King.

2. Hail the night, and hail the morn
   Which beheld the Saviour born!
   When in Bethlehem's watchful fold
   Tidings good the angels told;
   Tidings full of joy and grace
   To each child of Adam's race;
   God in form of man arrayed,
   God for man a servant made.

3. Virgin born! Thy praise we sing,
   Song of the Eternal King!
   When in Thee the Angels' voice
   Bade the shepherds' hearts rejoice,
   Straight was heard the answering cry,
   "Glory be to God on high."
   Echoed from the heavenly train,
   "Peace on earth, good-will to men."

4. Hark! we catch the heavenly song;
   Hark! the cherubs' hymn prolong;
   "Glory be to God on high!"
   Who, enthroned above the sky,
   Deigns to cast his eye below,
   And to bless this world of woe,
   Send His Son our flesh to take,
   Humbled thus for sinners' sake.

5. Thus to hail Thy natal day,
   Prompted by those angels' lay;
   Virgin born! Thy praise we sing,
   Son of the Eternal King!
   Grant us as we sing to live,
   Grant us, day by day, to give
   Glory first to God, and then
   Peace on earth, good-will to men.