Shepherds, draw near

Christmas traditional

1. Shepherds, draw near, Your flocks and pastures leaving, And village home; What though the sheep should roam, Shed not one tear; Here's joy will cure all grieving, Draw near, your God adore, Who comes, who comes, near, your God adore, Who comes, who comes, who comes, that ye may weep no more, Who comes, who comes, who comes that ye may weep no more.
2.
Yes, it is He,
In this mean stable lying,
    An infant meek,
All naked, poor, and weak.
    Acknowledge ye,
His charity undying;
You, you He comes to tend,
He is your faithful Shepherd Friend.

3.
Ye Kings from afar,
Your light on high abideth;
    To this great King,
Your faith and homage bring.
    Yon shining star
Still to the true light guideth;
The rising Sun behold,
And give your incense, myrrh, and gold.

4.
To the Wise Three,
A crafty King is speaking;
    Go with your train,
Find where this King doth reign;
    And then to me
Bring word, that humbly seeking,
I, too, may Him adore.
And sing His praises evermore.

5.
Magi, beware!
Go not near Herod’s palace.
    A bad man, he,
And full of treachery;
    God’s gracious care
Would have you shun his malice;
The warning voice obey,
And pass home by another way.

6.
Ye mothers, dread
That cruel monarch’s madness;
    On every side,
Flows fast the crimson tide,
    By infants shed.
Oh, day of woful sadness!
Well may your wrung hearts quail
To hear your children’s dving wail!

7.
Spirit Divine,
By holy inspiration,
    To every heart
Thy burning love impart.
    Our Lord benign,
By His blest Incarnation,
Is come on earth to die,
That man may live eternally.