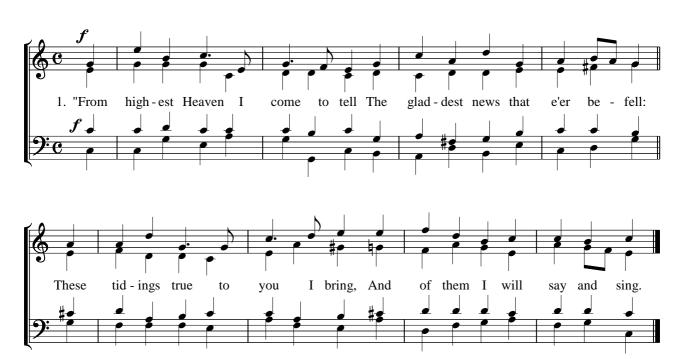
Luther's carol

Christmas traditional



- "To you this day is born a Child, Of Mary, chosen Virgin mild: That blessed Child, so sweet and kind Shall give you joy and peace of mind.
- "'Tis Christ our Lord and God indeed, Your help and stay in every need: Himself your Saviour He will be, From sin and death to set you free.
- 4. "All blessedness to you He bears, Which God the Father's love prepares: The Heavenly Kingdom ye shall gain, And now and ever with us reign.
- 5. "Now hear the sign, and mark with care The swaddling clothes and crib so bare; There shall ye find this Infant laid Who all the world upholds and made."
- 6. Then let us all our gladness shew, And with the joyful shepherds go, To see what God for us has done, And given with His glorious Son.
- 7. Awake, my soul, my hearth behold Who lieth in that manger cold, Who is that lovely Baby-Boy? 'Tis Jesus Christ, our only joy.
- 8. Now, welcome, ever-blessed Guest, To sinful souls with guilt opprest; In mercy come to our distress! How can we thank Thy gentleness?

- 9. Ah! Lord, who all things didst create, How cam'st Thou to this poor estate, To make the hay and straw Thy bed, Whereon the ass and ox are fed?
- Nay, were the world ten times so wide, With gold and gems on every side, Yet were it all too small to be And narrow cradle, Lord, for Thee.
- 11. Thy samite and Thy silk array
 Are swathing-bands and coarsest hay,
 Whereon Thou shinest, King most bright,
 As though Thou sat'st in heavenly light.
- 12. And all this woe hath come to Thee,
 That Thou might'st shew the truth to me;
 For all the goods and gifts of earth,
 To Thee are vile and nothing worth.
- 13. Ah! Jesus, my heart's treasure blest, Make Thee a clean, soft cradle-nest; And rest and dwell within my heart, That I from Thee may never part.
- 14. So shall I evermore rejoice,
 And bounding sing, with heart and voice,
 A lullaby which Thou wilt own,
 The spirit's song of sweetest tone.
- 15. To God on high all glory be, Who gave His only Son for me; For which the Angels carol clear, And sing us such a glad New Year.