

When Christ was born of pure Marie

Herbert Stephens Irons (1834 - 1905)

1. When Christ was born of pure Ma-rie, In Beth-le-hem, that fair ci-tie,

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The An-gels sang with mirth and glee, In ex-cel-sis Glo-ri-a, In ex-cel-sis Glo-ri-a.

2. Herdmen beheld those Angels bright,
To them appeared they with great light;
And said God's Son is born to-night,
In Excelsis Gloria.

3. This King is come to save mankind,
In Scripture promised, as we find,
Therefore this Song have we in mind,—
In Excelsis Gloria.

4. Grant us, O Lord, for Thy great Grace,
In heaven the bliss to see Thy Face,
Where we may sing to Thy solace,—
In Excelsis Gloria.

(Source: Carols old and carols new, Boston, 1916)