

Welcome to
Cheltenham United
Methodist Church

A Child is Born

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ISAIAH 9:6A

Scripture

FOR TO US A CHILD IS BORN,
TO US A SON IS GIVEN,
AND THE GOVERNMENT WILL BE
ON HIS SHOULDERS.

ISAIAH 9:6A



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Christ is our HOPE, that shines in our darkness
(light first candle)

Christ is our Way, that directs us toward salvation
(light second candle)

Christ is our Joy, that allows us to rejoice. (light
third candle)



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Christ is our Peace, that calms all chaos (light fourth candle)

We acknowledge the coming of Christ into this season – may his presence live in us (light the Christ Candle)



O Come, O Come Emmanuel

UMH 211

Words: 9th cent. Latin; trans. St. 1,3, 5ab, 6cd, 7ab The Hymnal, 1940; st. 2, Henry

Music: 15th cent. French; arr. And harm. by Thomas Helmore, 1854

Tune: VENI EMMANUEL

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O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*



O come, thou Wisdom from on high,
and order all things far and nigh;
to us the path of knowledge show
and cause us in her ways to go.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*



O come, O come, great Lord of might,
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times once gave the law
in cloud and majesty and awe.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*



O come, thou Root of Jesse's tree,
an ensign of thy people be;
before thee rulers silent fall;
all peoples on thy mercy call.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.*



PRAYER

UMH 231

Eternal God, by the birth of Jesus Christ you gave yourself to the world. Grant that, being born in our hearts, he may save us from all our sins, and restore within us the image and likeness of our Creator, to whom be everlasting praise and glory, world without end. Amen.



O Little Town of Bethlehem

UMH 230

Words: Phillips Brooks, ca. 1868

Music: Lewis H. Redner, 1868

Tune: ST. LOUIS

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O Little town of Bethlehem, how still
we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the
everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.



For Christ is born of Mary, and
gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together, proclaim
the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King, and
peace to all on earth.



How silently, how silently, the
wondrous gift is given;
so God imparts to human hearts the
blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming, but in
this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him,
still the dear Christ enters in.



O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to
us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born
in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the
great glad tidings tell;

O come to us, abide with us, our Lord
Emmanuel!



Silent Night, Holy Night

UMH 239

*Words: Joseph Mohr, 1818, alt; sts. 1, 2, 3 trans. By John F. Young; st. 4 trans.
Anon (Lk. 2:6-20)*

Music: Franz Gruber, 1818

Tune: STILLE NACHT

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Silent night, holy night,
all is calm, all is bright
round yon virgin mother and child.
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.



Silent night, holy night,
shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!



Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light;
radiant beams from thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

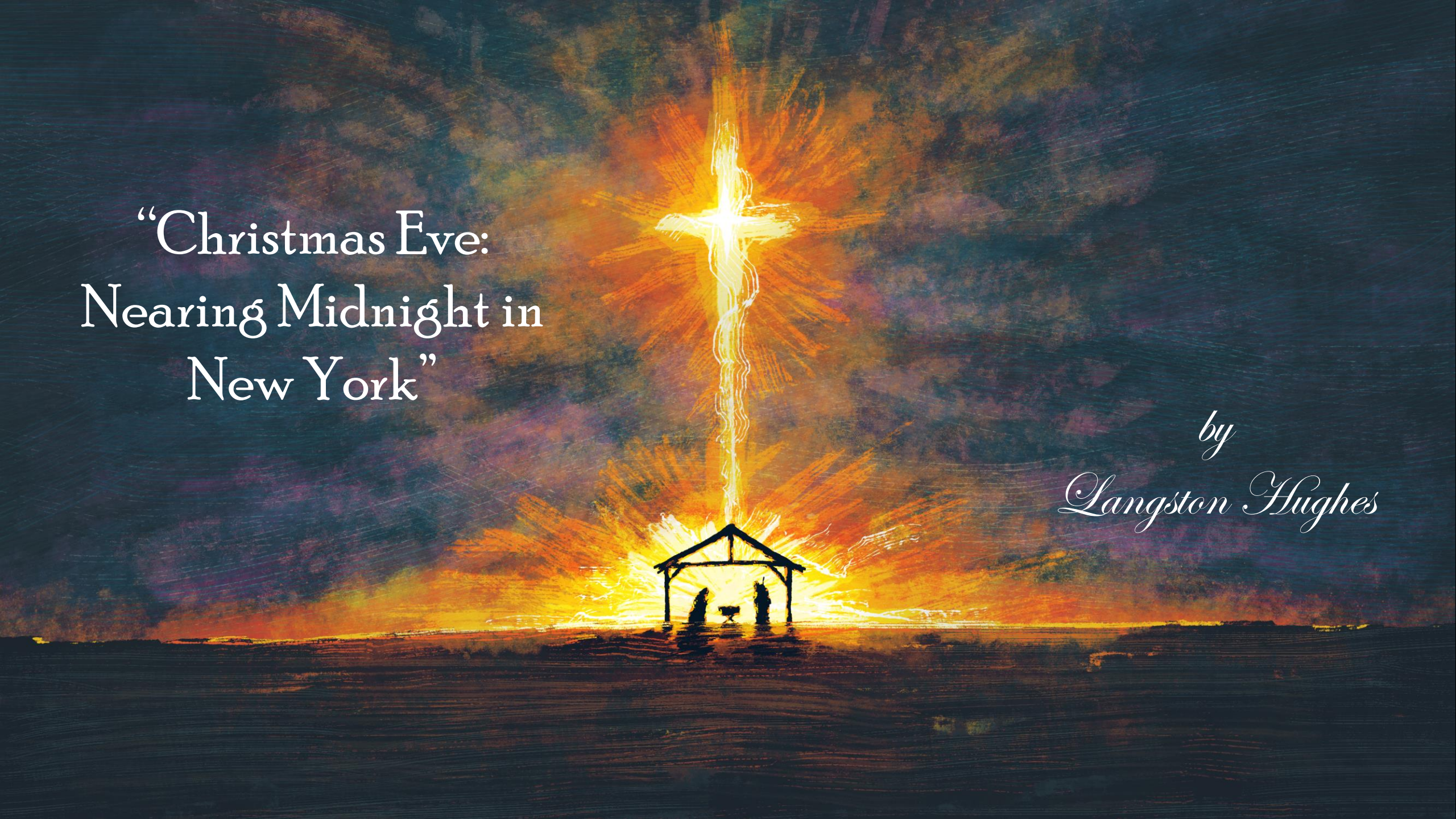


Silent night, holy night,
wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing,
Alleluia to our King;
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born!



“Christmas Eve:
Nearing Midnight in
New York”

by
Langston Hughes



Away in a Manger

UMH 217

Words: Anon. (Lk. 2:7)

Music: James R. Murray, 1887

Tune: AWAY IN A MANGER

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Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his
sweet head.

The stars in the sky look down where
he lay,
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the
hay.



The cattle are lowing, the baby
awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he
makes;
I love the Lord Jesus, look down from
the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is
nigh.



Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to
stay
close by me forever, and love me, I
pray;
bless all the dear children in thy
tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee
there.



What Child is This

UMH 219

Words: William C. Dix, 1865 (Luke 2: 6-20, Mt. 2:1-12)

Music: 16th cent. English melody

Tune: GREENSLEEVES

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What child is this who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems
sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

*This, this is Christ the King, whom
shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the
babe, the son of Mary.*



Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians fear, for sinners here
the silent word is pleading.

*This, this is Christ the King, whom
shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the
babe, the son of Mary.*



So bring him incense, gold, and
myrrh,
come peasant, king, to won him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him.

*This, this is Christ the King, whom
shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the
babe, the son of Mary.*



SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-38

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."



SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-38

²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.



SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-38

³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?”



SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-38

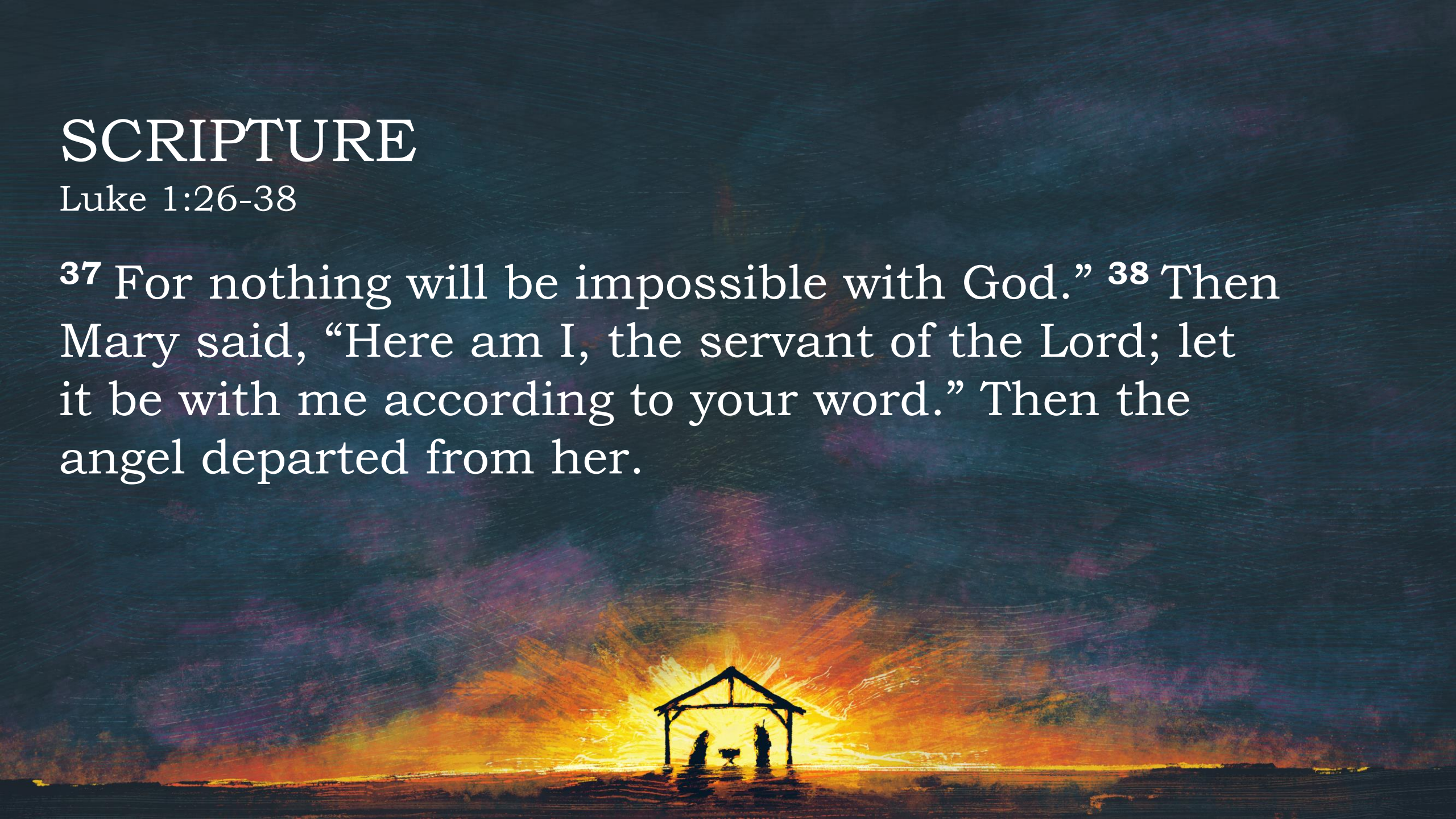
³⁵ The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren.



SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-38

³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.



The First Noel

UMH 245

Words: Trad. English carol (Lk. 2:8-14; Mt. 2:1-12)

Music: Trad. English carol; harm. from Christmas Carols New and Old, 1871

Tune: THE FIRST NOEL

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The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherd in
fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping
their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so
deep

*Noel, Noel,
Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.*



They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them
far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and
night.

*Noel, Noel,
Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.*



And by the light of that same star
three Wise Men came from country
far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wherever it
went.

*Noel, Noel,
Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.*



This star drew nigh to the
northwest,
o'er Bethlehem it took its rest;
and there it did both stop and stay,
right over the place where Jesus
lay.

*Noel, Noel,
Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.*



Then entered in those Wise Men
three,
full reverently upon the knee,
and offered there, in his presence,
their gold, and myrrh and
frankincense

*Noel, Noel,
Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.*



SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly.



SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18-25

²⁰ But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”



SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18-25

22 All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

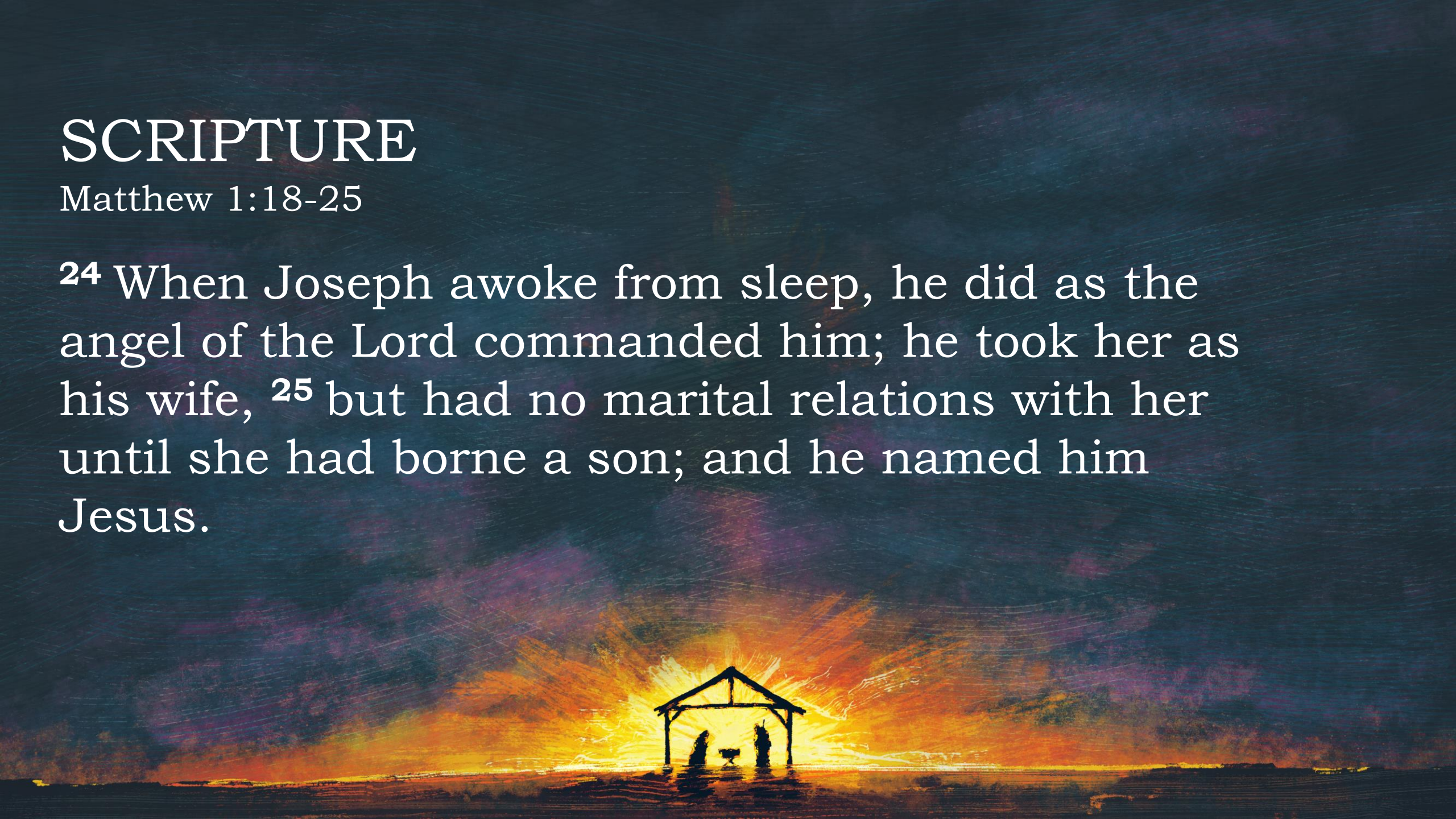
23 “Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel,” which means, “God is with us.”



SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:18-25

24 When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, **25** but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.



O Come All Ye Faithful

UMH 234

Words: John F. Wade, ca 1743; trans. By Frederick Oakley, 1841, and others

*Music: John F. Wade, ca 1743; harm. from Collections of Mottets or
Antiphons, 1792*

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES

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O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.
Come and behold him, born the King of
angels;

*O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*



True God of true God,
Light from Light Eternal,
lo, he shuns not the Virgin's womb;
Son of the Father, begotten, not
created;

*O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*



Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;

*O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*



See how the shepherds,
summoned to his cradle,
leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;
we too will thither bend our joyful
footsteps;

*O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*



Child for us sinners
poor and in the manger,
we would embrace thee with love and
awe.

Who would not love thee, loving us so
dearly

*O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*



Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given.
Word of the Father, now in flesh
appearing:

*O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*



“Christmas Bells”

by
*Henry Wadsworth
Longfellow*



Angels We Have Heard on High

UMH 238

Words: Trad. French carol; trans. Crown of Jesus, 1862, alt. (Lk. 2:6-20)

Music: French carol melody; arr. By Edward Shippen Barnes, 1937; harm. by Austin C. Lovelace, 1964

Tune: GLORIA

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Angels we have heard on high
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply
echoing their joyous strains.

Glo- - - - -ri-a, in excelsis Deo!
Glo- - - - -ri-a, in excelsis Deo!



Shepherd, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song?

Glo- - - - -ri-a, in excelsis Deo!
Glo- - - - -ri-a, in excelsis Deo!



Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.

Glo- - - - -ri-a, in excelsis Deo!
Glo- - - - -ri-a, in excelsis Deo!



See him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while our hearts in love we raise.

Glo- - - - -ri-a, in excelsis Deo!
Glo- - - - -ri-a, in excelsis Deo!



SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-21

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered.



SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-21

⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child.



SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-21

⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.



SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-21

⁸ In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people:



SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-21

¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,



SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-21

14 “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he
favors!” **15** When the angels had left them and gone
into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,
“Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing
that has taken place, which the Lord has made
known to us.”



SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-21

¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them.



SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-21

¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. ²¹ After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.



Hark the Herald Angels Sing

UMH 240

Words: Charles Wesley, 1734; alt. by George Whitefield, 1753, and others (Lk. 2:8-14)

Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1840; arr. by William H. Cummings, 1856

Tune: MENDELSSOHN

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Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory
to the newborn King;
peace on earth and mercy mild, God
and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the
triumph of the skies;
with angelic host proclaim, "Christ is
born in Bethlehem!"

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn King!"*



Christ by highest heaven adored;
Christ, the everlasting Lord;
late in time behold him come,
offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail
th'incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”*



Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen
with healing in his wings,
Mild he lays his glory by, born that
we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born
to give us second birth

*Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”*



“Shepherd’s Song at
Christmas”

by
Langston Hughes



Joy to the World

UMH 238

Words: Issac Watts, 1719 (Ps. 98:4-9)

Music: Arr. from G. F. Handel, 1741, by Lowell Mason, 1848

Tune: ANTIOCH

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Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and
heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature
sing.



Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks hills,
and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the
sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.



No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found, far as the
curse is found,
far as far as the curse is found.



He rules the world with truth and
grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love, and wonders
of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.



God Bless

