

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Charles Wesley (whose older brother, John Wesley, founded the Methodist movement) is credited with writing the lyrics to this popular hymn in 1739. The music was composed by Felix Mendelssohn in 1840, to commemorate the inventor of the printing press, Johann Gutenberg. George Whitfield is known to have changed the first two lines from “Hark, how the welkin rings, Glory to the King of kings,” to what we traditionally know today. William H. Cummings, an organist, later brought Mendelssohn’s music together with Wesley’s hymn. The final version was published in 1856.

**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 the angelic host proclaim:
"Christ is born in Bethlehem"
Hark! the herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Christ by highest heav'n adored
Christ the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come
Offspring of a Virgin's womb
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see
Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with man to dwell
Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! the herald angels sing
"Glory to the newborn King!"**

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!

Hail the Son of Righteousness!

Light and life to all He brings

Ris'n with healing in His wings

Mild He lays His glory by

Born that man no more may die

Born to raise the sons of earth

Born to give them second birth

Hark! the herald angels sing

"Glory to the newborn King!"