As with Gladness Men of Old  150

1 As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold;
2 As with joy-ful steps they sped, Sav-i or, to thy low-ly bed,
3 As they of-fered gifts most rare at thy man-ger, rude and bare,
4 Ho-ly Je-sus, ev-ery day keep us in the nar-row way;

As with joy they hailed its light, lead-ing on-ward, beam-ing bright;
there to bend the knee be-fore thee, whom heaven and earth a-dore;
so may we with ho-ly joy, pure and free from sin’s al-loy,
and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ran-somed souls at last

so, most gra-cious Lord, may we ev-er-more be led to thee.
so may we with will-ing feet ev-er seek thy mer-cy seat.
all our cost-liest tre-a-sures bring, Christ, to thee, our heaven-ly king.
where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo-ry hide.

The first three stanzas here use an as/so structure to draw parallels between the coming of the Magi and the spiritual lives of the singers, summed up in the prayer of the fourth stanza. Even though this adapted German tune was named for him, the author did not care for it.

TEXT: William Chatterton Dix, c. 1858
Glory to God

Gloria, gloria

Capo 3: (Bm) (Em) (A) (D)

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est!

Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, in ex-æl-sis De-o!

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

*May be sung as a canon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979

Jesus Entered Egypt

Capo 5: (Am) (G) (Am) (C) (Am) (Dm) (Am)

1 Jesus entered Egypt fleeing Herod's hand,
2 Jesus was a migrant living as a guest
3 Jesus crosses borders with the wandering poor,

(C) (G) (Am) (C) (Dm)

living as an alien in a foreign land.
with the friends and strangers who could offer rest.
searching for a refuge, for an open door.

(G) (Em) (Am) (G) (D) (G)

Far from home and country with his family,
Do we hold wealth lightly so that we can share
Do our words and actions answer Jesus' plea:

(Am) (G) (Em) (Dm) (C) (G) (Am)
was there room and welcome for this refugee?
shelter with the homeless, and abundant care?
"Give the lowly welcome, and you welcome me?"

Human beings create divisions for many political, social, economic, and military reasons, but God is no respecter of the boundaries we erect. Jesus taught us to look for and respect the image of God that can be found in every human being, and to care for "the least of these."
Praise God, from Whom
All Blessings Flow
Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below; praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise

Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

"Or "God"
O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

1 O sing a song of Beth-le-hem, of shep-herds watch-ing there,
2 O sing a song of Naz-a-rath, of sun-ny days of joy;
3 O sing a song of Gal-i-lee, of lake and woods and hill,
4 O sing a song of Cal-va-ry, its glo-ry and dis-may,

and of the news that came to them from an-gels in the air.
O sing of fra-grant flow-ers’ breath, and of the sin-less boy.
of him who walked up-on the sea and bade its waves be still.
of him who hung up-on the tree, and took our sins a-way.

The light that shone on Beth-le-hem fills all the world to-day.
For now the flowers of Naz-a-rath in ev-ery heart may grow.
For though, like waves on Gal-i-lee, dark seas of trou-ble roll,
For he who died on Cal-va-ry is ris-en from the grave,

Of Je-sus’ birth and peace on earth the an-gels sing al-way.
Now spreads the fame of his dear name on all the winds that blow.
when faith has heard the Mas-ter’s word, falls peace up-on the soul.
and Christ, our Lord, by heaven a-dored, is might-y now to save.

This hymn created by a noted Presbyterian hymnal editor and scholar employs place names and sensory images (light, fragrance, wind) to sketch the events of Christ’s life. The tune name commemorates the village in Sussex where the arranger first heard the traditional melody.

TEXT: Louis FitzGerald Benson, 1899
MUSIC: English County Songs, 1891; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
KINGSFOLD
CMD