

The Song of the Angels at the Nativity of our Blessed Saviour  
St. Luke, Chap. ii. Ver. 8. A 4 Voice.

Nahum Tate, 1700 2 4 William Knapp, 1753

Treble  
1. While shep - herds watched their flocks by night, All

Alto

Tenor  
1. While shep-herds watched their flocks by night, All

Bass

6 8 10  
 sea - ted on the ground, The an - gel of the  
 The an - gel of the  
 sea - ted on the ground, The an - gel of the  
 The an - gel of the

12 14 16  
 Lord came down, And glor, And glor, And  
 Lord came down, And glor, And glor, And  
 Lord came down, And glor, And  
 Lord came down, And glor, And glor, And

This carol, set to William Knapp's tune, was published under the full title given above, but was soon called by the abbreviated form of *Song of the Angels*. It was first printed in Knapp's *New Church Melody*, in London: [1753]. It was copied into many church manuscript books and is found up and down the country, quite often with local variations to the original harmonies. Known variously as *Leicester*, *Old Glory*, etc., the version called *Lindfield* in the *Singing Seat* (Macadam & Singleton, 1995) which we have used for years also contained a variation of the word fit to the music, This version thus replaces "the man with the bassoon".  
For *Immanuel's Ground*, Warwick, 2013-23.

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17 18 20

glo - - - ry shone a - round And

glo - - - ry shone a - round And

glo - - - ry shone a - round And

glo - - - ry shone a - round And

22 24 26

glor, And glor, And glo - - - ry shone a - round.

glor, And glo - - - ry shone a - round.

glor, And glo - - - ry shone a - round.

glor, And glo - - - ry shone a - round.

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
 All seated on the ground;  
 The Angel of the Lord came down,  
 And glory shone around.

2. "Fear not" said he, for mighty dread  
 Had seized their troubled mind;  
 "Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
 To you and all mankind."

3. "To you in David's town this day  
 Is born of David's line;  
 A Saviour who is Christ the Lord  
 And this shall be the sign."

4. "The Heavenly Babe you there shall find  
 To human view displayed,  
 All meanly wrapped in swaddling bands  
 And in a manger laid."

5. Thus spake the seraph and forthwith  
 Appeared a shining throng  
 Of angels praising God who thus  
 Addressed their joyful song.

6. "All glory be to God on high,  
 And to the earth be peace;  
 Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men,  
 Begin and never cease".