


# Hark How All the Welkin Rings

"Hymn for Christmas Day"



1. Hark how all the wel-kin rings! "Glo - ry to the King of kings,  
2. Christ by high - est heaven a dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,  
3. Hail the heaven - ly Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right - eous - ness!  
4. Come, De - sire of na - tions, come, fix in us thy hum - ble home;  
5. Ad - am's like - ness, Lord, ef - face; stamp thy im - age in its place;



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."  
late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of a Vir - gin's womb.  
Light and life to all he brings, Risen with heal - ing in his wings.  
rise, the wom - an's con - quering seed, bruise in us the ser - pent's head.  
Sec - ond Ad - am from a - bove, re - in - state us in thy love.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
Veiled in flesh the God - head see! Hail the in - car - nate de - i - ty!  
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that man no more may die,  
Now dis - play thy sav - ing power, ru - ined na - ture now re - store,  
Let us Thee, though lost, re - gain, Thee the life, the in - ner Man;

u - ni - ver - sal na - ture say: "Christ the Lord is born to Day."  
 Pleas - ed as man with men to ap - pear, Je - sus! Our Im - man - uel here!  
 born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them sec - ond birth.  
 now in mys - tic un - ion join thine to ours, and ours to thine.  
 O! to all Thy - self im - part, form'd in each be - liev - ing heart.

Hark how all the wel - kin rings! "Glo - ry to the King of kings."

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739 (Luke 2:8-14)

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

MENDELSSOHN

77.77 D with Refrain

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Wesley's text here appears in its original form without the various later alterations, with the exception of the final repetition of "Hark how all the welkin rings! 'Glory to the King of kings,'" to complete the extra line of music. The hymn first appeared in *Hymns and Sacred Poems*, 1737, under Wesley's title, "Hymn for Christmas Day." In the 18th century the hymn was often sung to "Salisbury Tune," which modern hymnals title EASTER HYMN and use with another Wesley text, "Christ, the Lord is Risen Today." (Further discussion of the hymn text and tune are in Carlton Young's *Companion to The United Methodist Hymnal*, Abingdon Press, 1993.)