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- 1 Long ago, prophets knew  
Christ would come, born a Jew,  
come to make all things new;  
bear his people's burden,  
freely love and pardon.

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!  
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!  
When he comes,  
when he comes,  
who will make him welcome?*

- 2 God in time, God in man,  
this is God's timeless plan:  
he will come, as a man,  
born himself of woman,  
God divinely human.
- 3 Mary, hail! Though afraid,  
she believed, she obeyed.  
In her womb, God is laid:  
till the time expected,  
nurtured and protected,
- 4 Journey ends! Where afar  
Bethlem shines, like a star,  
stable door stands ajar.  
Unborn Son of Mary,  
Saviour, do not tarry!

*Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring!  
sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!  
Jesus comes!  
Jesus comes!  
We will make him welcome!*

- 1 Longing for light, we wait in  
darkness.  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy  
people,  
light for the world to see.  
*Christ, be our light!  
Shine in our hearts. Shine through  
the darkness.  
Christ, be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered  
today.*
- 2 Longing for peace, our world is  
troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has power to save  
us.  
Make us your living voice.
- 3 Longing for food, many are  
hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for  
others,  
shared until all are fed.
- 4 Longing for shelter, many are  
homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering  
others,  
walls made of living stone.
- 5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
many the hearts that yearn to  
belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
making your kingdom come.

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come  
down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.
- 2 Jesu, thou art all compassion,  
pure unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.
- 3 Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy grace receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more thy temples leave.
- 4 Thee we would be always  
blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above;  
pray, and praise thee, without  
ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.
- 5 Finish then thy new creation:  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee;
- 6 Changed from glory into glory  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before  
thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

- 1 On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he  
brings  
glad tidings from the King of  
kings.
- 2 Then cleansed be every breast  
from sin;  
make straight the way for God  
within;  
prepare we in our hearts a home,  
where such a mighty guest may  
come.
- 3 For thou art our salvation, Lord,  
our refuge and our great  
reward;  
without thy grace we waste away,  
like flowers that wither and  
decay.
- 4 To heal the sick stretch out thine  
hand,  
and bid the fallen sinner stand;  
shine forth, and let thy light  
restore  
earth's own true loveliness once  
more.
- 5 All praise, eternal Son, to thee  
whose advent sets thy people free,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Ghost for evermore.