



- 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 swathing 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 on the earth be peace;
Good-will henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease.'

Nahum Tate, 1652-1715