

## **An Advent Poem for Lessons and Carols**

No sermon, nay, to read this day  
But a poem that stirs the soul to roam  
Of words and songs that set apart  
This day of days, a holy respite from the fray

Silent night, holy night  
All is calm, all is bright  
Angels being heard on high  
Gently singing far and wide

Peace on earth good will to all  
The cattle low from manger stall  
Beautiful star of Bethlehem  
To crown the king with diadem

What child is this who lays to rest  
Here in our hearts we are keeping  
Anthems ring, we angels sing  
Our tears of joy still weeping

O little town amid farm and field  
The ancient mystery now revealed  
To those who wake from dreamless sleep  
Sacred shepherd this flock will keep

The years like silent stars go by  
Gone are friends with tear and sigh  
But memories of love still gently linger  
Worn like rings upon the finger

The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are gathered here this morn  
A fellowship bound by bread and wine  
Into this church is born

O come, O come Emmanuel  
To ransom us like Israel  
That we may sing with one loud voice  
Christ is born, the perfect light, rejoice

Joy to the world, the savior reigns  
Broken finally are sin's cold chains  
No more lonely exile here  
The Son of God does now appear

So come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant  
Filled with hope and faith abundant  
Candles lit against the dark  
Its Christmas time here on the Park

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Amen