

The Angels Bring Good News

by Rev. Kurt Horigan Asplundh

Good shepherds watched their flocks by night
Though starry skies gave little light.

The air was still, the sheep at rest,
And shepherds in their cloaks were pressed.

They did not know their Lord was born
In lowly stall before the morn

Until, in brightness dazzling white,
The shepherds saw a wondrous sight.

An angel stood before their eyes!
The men arose in their surprise.

What could this bright appearing mean,
This sudden vision, unforeseen?

This glorious unexpected sight
Filled all who saw with holy fright.

The angel spoke then in their ears;
His message meant to calm their fears.

“Be not afraid! I bring good news,”
Were words that he began to use.

“For unto you is born this day,
In David’s town, not far away,

“A Savior promised from of old;
His birth by prophets long foretold.

“The Savior’s name is Christ, the Lord.
And by this sign you’ll be assured:

“You’ll find Him now in stable small,
Laid in a manger on the wall

In swaddling cloths He’s warmly bound
Where gentle beasts their food have found.”

Then suddenly, a multitude
Of angels the great light renewed.

The shepherds listened now in awe,
Amazed by what they heard and saw.

This heavenly host, with voices raised,
In glorious song the Savior praised:

“God in the highest, Glory be!”
They sang to Him most joyously!

The angels’ song the night did fill,
“Peace on the earth, to men, good will.”

And then the heav’nly host was gone,
And that brightness like the dawn.

The shepherds hearts were pounding still,
And filled with joy on Judah’s hill.

They said now, “Let us go and see
This wondrous thing that’s come to be.

“To Bethlehem, not far away,
We’ll seek what God’s made known today.”

They came with haste, these men of old,
To find the Babe where they’d been told.

They saw the mother, Mary, there,
And Joseph, too, give tender care,

But in the manger they adored
That holy Child, Christ, the Lord.

