

AMNS 41 It came upon the midnight clear

E. H. Sears
(1810-1876)

Melody: Noel

Traditional melody,
arr. Arthur Sullivan (1842-1900)

1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
2. *Still through the clo - ven skies they come, with peace - ful wings un - furled;*
3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suf - fered long;
4. *And ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,*
5. For lo, the days are has - tening on, by pro - phet - bards fore - told,

from an - gels bend - ing near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
and still their heav'n - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world:
be - neath the an - gel - strain have rolled two thou - sand years of wrong;
who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow,
when, with the ev - er - circ - ling years, comes round the age of gold;

"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heav'n's all - gra - cious King!"
a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on ho - v'ring wing;
and man, at war with man, hears not the love - song which they bring:
look, now! for glad and gol - den hours come swift - ly on the wing;
when peace shall ov - er all the earth its an - cient splen - dours fling,

The world in so - lemn still - ness lay to hear the an - gels sing.
and ev - er o'er its Ba - bel - sounds the bless - ed an - gels sing.
O hush the noise, ye men of strife, and hear the an - gels sing.
O rest be - side the wear - y road, and hear the an - gels sing.
and the whole world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.