

It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

CHRISTMAS

Words: Edmund H. Sears, 1849. Music: 'Carol' Richard S. Willis, 1861.
 Setting: "Order of worship for the Reformed Church in the United States", 1866.
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♩ = 60

1. It came up - on the mid - night clear, That glor - ious 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 - t'ning on, By pro - phet - bards fore - told,

From an - gels bend - ing near the earth, To touch their harps of gold;
 And still their hea - ven - 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 - en's all gra - cious King."
 A - bove its sad and low - ly plains, They bend on hov - 'ring wing,
 And man, at war with man, hears not The love - song which they bring;
 Look now! for glad and gold - en hours Come swift - - ly on the wing.
 When peace shall ov - er all the earth Its an - - cient splen - dors fling,

The world in so - lemn still - ness lay, To hear the an - gels sing.
 And ev - er ov - er its Ba - bel sounds The bless - èd 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 send back the song Which now the an - gels sing.