



Stories  
by the  
Christmas  
Tree

## Silent Night

No. 239 (v. 1 & 3), *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

WORDS: Joseph Mohr, 1818, alt.; sts. 1, 2, 3 trans. by John F. Young; st. 4 trans. anon.

TUNE: STILLE NACHT by Franz Gruber, 1818

1.

Silent night, holy night,  
all is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin  
mother and child.  
Holy infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.

3.

Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light;  
radiant beams  
from thy holy face  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.



## O Little Town of Bethlehem

No. 230 (v. 1-2, & 4), *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

WORDS: Phillips Brooks, ca. 1868

TUNE: ST. LOUIS by Lewis H. Redner, 1868

1.

O little town of Bethlehem,  
how still we see thee lie;  
above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
the everlasting light;  
the hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight.

2.

For Christ is born of Mary,  
and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep  
their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars together,  
proclaim the holy birth,  
and praises sing to God the King,  
and peace to all on earth!

4.

O holy Child of Bethlehem,  
descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels  
the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us,  
our Lord Emmanuel!

## The Friendly Beasts

No. 227, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

WORDS: 12th cent. French carol; trans. anon.

TUNE: ORIENTIS PARTIBUS, Medieval French melody harmonized by Carlton R. Young

1.

Jesus, our brother,  
strong and good,  
was humbly born  
in a stable rude,  
and the friendly beasts  
around him stood,  
Jesus, our brother,  
strong and good.

2.

“I,” said the donkey,  
shaggy and brown,  
“I carried his mother  
uphill and down,  
I carried his mother  
to Bethlehem town;  
I,” said the donkey,  
shaggy and brown.

3.

“I,” said the cow,  
all white and red,  
“I gave him my manger  
for his bed,  
I gave him hay  
to pillow his head;  
I” said the cow,  
all white and red.

4.

“I,” said the sheep  
with curly horn,  
“I gave him my wool  
for his blanket warm,  
he wore my coat on Christmas  
morn;  
I” said the sheep  
with curly horn.

5.

“I,” said the dove,  
from rafters high,  
“I cooed him to sleep  
that he should not cry,  
we cooed him to sleep,  
my mate and I;  
I,” said the dove,  
from rafters high.

6.

Thus all the beasts,  
by some good spell,  
in the stable dark  
were glad to tell  
of the gifts they gave  
Emmanuel,  
the gifts they gave  
Emmanuel.

### Stories Shared by the Christmas Tree

#### *Christmas Begins with Christ*

by Gina Kirkland, illustrated by Marissa Napolitano (Gina Kirkland, 2022)

#### *The Night before Jesus*

by Herbert Brokering, illustrated by David Miles (Concordia Publishing House, 2018)

#### *The Beginner's Bible: Timeless Children's Stories*

Illustrated by Kelly Pulley (Zondervan, 2005)

## Love Has Come

No. 3059, *Worship & Song* (2011)

WORDS: Ken Bible

TUNE: BRING A TORCH, traditional French

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### 1.

Love has come  
—a light in the darkness!  
Love shines forth  
in the Bethlehem skies.  
See, all heaven  
has come to proclaim it;  
Hear how their song of joy arises:  
Love! Love!  
Born unto you, a Savior! Love!  
Love! Glory to God on high.

### 2.

Love is born!  
Come, share in the wonder.  
Love is God  
now asleep in the hay.  
See the glow  
in the eyes of his mother;  
What is the name  
her heart is saying?  
Love! Love!  
Love is the name she whispers. Love!  
Love! Jesus, Immanuel.

### 3.

Love has come  
and never will leave us!  
Love is life  
everlasting and free.  
Love is Jesus  
with in and among us.  
Love is peace our hearts are seeking.  
Love! Love!  
Love is a gift of Christmas. Love!  
Love! Praise to you, God on high!



## Go, Tell It on the Mountain

No. 251, *The United Methodist Hymnal* (1989)

WORDS: Afro-American spiritual; adapt. by John W. Work, Jr., 1907

TUNE: GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN, adapt. and arr. by William Farley Smith, 1986

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### Refrain

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere;  
go, tell it on the mountain,  
That Jesus Christ is born.

### 3.

Down in a lowly manger  
the humble Christ was born,  
and God sent us salvation  
that blessed Christmas morn.

### Refrain