

(Topics and Lead-in Below)

The Shepherd's Carol

Luke 2:8-20

♩ = 96

Unison

Fm F^{sus}_C Fm Cm7 Fm Cm7

1. The night was dark, the wind was cold, Our well of hope was
2. We en - tered in a sta - ble dark, And there up - on some
3. Come kneel with us, you hum - ble ones; O come from ev - 'ry

dry hay, land. When He the Might - y Spir - it came From
Sur - round - ed by the an - i - mals, The
He gives Him - self to low - ly hearts And

far be - yond the sky. We woke, and light was
Great Cre - a - tor lay. I saw no glow - ing
rough and rug - ged hands. The jour - ney here is

B \flat m B \flat m7 C7 D \flat B \flat m7 B \flat m⁶_G C⁷_{sus} C⁷_{m7}
ten. ten. ten.

WORDS: Ken Bible, inspired by a native American (Huron) carol
MUSIC: French Carol Melody; arr. by Ken Bible

UNE JUENE PUCELLE
8.6.8.6.8.8. w. Ref.

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REFRAIN

Glo - ri - a! Glo - ri - a! Lift up your

hearts, For the King of Love is come.

TOPICS: Christmas

LEAD-IN: *There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angels said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."*

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests."

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." (Luke 2:8-11, 13-15, NIV)

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

Mysterious Wonders

There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified.

But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.” (Luke 2:8-12, NIV)

Imagine the mysterious wonders of that first Christmas night.

A world-changing event, foretold for centuries, was actually happening, and only a handful of the commonest people knew it.

God Himself was becoming flesh and blood, arriving as the most helpless of creatures: a human infant.

This child had been conceived by an infinite spirit being and a young virgin, probably a teenage girl.

Imagine what the shepherds saw and heard and felt. In the blackness of a silent night in the open fields, suddenly a blazing light, a stunning message, and a sky full of angels.

But how would the shepherds recognize this “Savior...Christ the Lord”? What would make Him unique? It would be His shocking lowliness and poverty. They would find an infant, wrapped up like a newborn, lying in a feeding trough.

Imagine yourself a shepherd, on the ground, gazing out into the blackness, hearing only the night sounds.