

(Topics and Lead-in Below)

Jesus, the Gift of Christmas

TUNE: The Friendly Beasts (ORIENTIS PARTIBUS)

♩ = 100

D A D D_{F#} G⁶ A⁷ D A_{C#}

1. Al - might - y God, we hear You call. We come and
2. Qui - et our hearts while rest - ing here. No loud de -
3. Fa - ther, may sim - ple faith in - crease And bring our

G_B G A⁷_{sus} A⁷ B_m D_A G^{M7} G⁶ E_m D_{F#}

bow, so weak and small, To seek what You would
sire, no no anx - and small, To seek what You would
souls that sweet re - lease To know Your love while
and

E_m G_A B_m B_m_A G^{M9} E_{m7} D_A A⁷_{sus} A⁷ D

give us all: Je - sus, the Gift of Christ - mas.
He is near - Je - sus, the Gift of Christ - mas.
joy and peace - Je - sus, the Gift of Christ - mas.

WORDS: Ken Bible
MUSIC: French Melody, 13th c.; arr. by Ken Bible

ORIENTIS PARTIBUS
8.8.8.7.

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TOPICS: Christmas

LEAD-IN: *God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16, NIV)*

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

Christmas Is the Story of a Gift

On coming to the house, [the Magi] saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh. (Matthew 2:11, NIV)

Christmas is the story of a Gift.

Love enjoys giving gifts!
Love doesn't give out of obligation
 or selfish motives.
Love gives out of joy.
Love gives because it is kind
 and longs to bless everyone within its reach.

God is love.
He is the giver of every good gift.
He doesn't give out of need—
 He has no need.
God gives because He is full and overflows.
He gives because He longs to bless
 each and every one of us.

At Christmas God gives the greatest gift that can be given.
He gives us *Himself*.
To we who are so selfish
 He is love—
 pure, boundless, unconditional love.
To all who are fearful and despairing
 He is hope.
In our worries and anxieties
 He is joy and peace.
 He is deep, unshakable well-being.
And to all of us who are slaves to death
 He is life—
 rich, full, ever-growing life.

Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!
Thanks be to God for
 Jesus.

*Almighty Holy Father,
You do not abandon us to*

*our puny self-improvement schemes and
our stumbling efforts.
Your gift to each of us and all of us is
the mighty life of Jesus Christ,
ours by simple faith.*

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