As with Gladness Men of Old

When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. Matt. 2:10

1. As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold; as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright; so, most gracious God, may we evermore be led to thee.

2. As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly cradle-bed, there to bend the knee before him whom heav'n and earth adore; so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.

3. As they offered gifts most rare at that cradle rude and bare; and when earth-ly things are past, bring our ransomed souls at last where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glory hide.

4. Holy Jesus, ev'ry day keep us in the narrow way; its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down; all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heav'n-ly King.

5. In the heav'n-ly country bright need they no created light; so, most gracious God, may we evermore be led to thee.

William Chatterton Dix, 1860
Alt. 1961

Dix 7.7.7.7.7
Conrad Kocher, 1838
Arr. by William H. Monk, 1861
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

The LORD is in his holy temple; let all the earth be silent before him. Hab. 2:20

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly minded,
   earth he stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture,
   for with blessing in his hand, Christ our God to
   earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

2. King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on the way, as the Light of light descendeth
   heaven spreads its vanguard
   as with ceaseless voice they cry, "Alleluia,
   all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

3. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard
   sleepless eye, veil their faces to the presence,
   from the realms of endless day, that the pow'rs of
   hell may vanish as the darkness clears a way,

4. At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim, with
   trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly minded,
   in the body and the blood, he will give to
   alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!"

Liturgy of St. James, 5th cent.
Adapted by Gerard Moultie, 1864

PICAREY 8.7.8.7.8.7
French melody, 17th cent.
Arr. by Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

Lift up your heads, O you gates; be lifted up, you ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in. Ps. 24:7

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits; the King of kings is humble, his kingly crown is set a part from earthy use for drawing near, the Savior of the world is here.

2. A helper just he comes to thee, his chariot is humbleness, his scepter, pity in distress.

3. O blest the land, the city blest, where Christ the happy homes to whom this King in triumph comes!

4. Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

5. Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide! Let me thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.


Based on Psalm 24
Georg Weisevel, 1642
Tr. by Catherine Winkworth, 1855; alt.

TRURO L.M.
Psalmica Evangelica, 1799