

Silent Night

Joseph Mohr · 1818 · Tune: Stille Nacht (Franz Xaver Gruber)

Meter: Irregular

Verse 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.

Verse 2

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight!
Glories stream from heaven afar,
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.

Verse 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.

History

Joseph Mohr wrote the German poem 'Stille Nacht' in 1816. On Christmas Eve 1818, organist Franz Gruber composed the tune in a few hours so it could be sung with guitar at St. Nicholas Church in Oberndorf, Austria. It was declared an Intangible Cultural Heritage by UNESCO in 2011.

Scripture References (KJV)

Luke 2:7

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Luke 2:13-14

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.