Les anges dans nos campagnes

Angels we have heard on high

Angels, we have heard your voices

I

(Christmas)

French traditional
(arr. editors)





[BERGERS:]

3 Ils annoncent la naissance
Du Libérateur d'Israël;
Et, pleins de reconnaissance,
Chantent en ce jour solennel

[FEMMES:]

4 Cherchons tous l'heureux village
Qui l'a vu naître sous ses toits;
Offrons-lui le tendre hommage
Et de nos cœurs et de nos voix:

[TOUS:]

5 Dans l'humilité profonde
Où vous paraissez à nos yeux,
Pour vous louer, Dieu du monde,
Nous redirons ce chant joyeux:

[BERGERS:]

6 Déjà, par la bouche de l'ange,
Par les hymnes des chérubins,
Les hommes savent les louanges
Qui se chantent aux parvis divins:

[FEMMES:]

7 Bergers, quittez vos retraites,
Unissez-vous à leurs concerts,
Et que vos tendres musettes
Fassent retentir les airs.

[TOUS:]

8 Dociles à leur exemple,
Seigneur, nous viendrons désormais
Au milieu de votre temple,
Chanter avec eux vos bienfaits:

French traditional
(Smidt, 1932)

TRANSLATION 1 [SHEPHERDS:] The angels have sung the celestial hymn on our plains, and the echo of our mountains repeats this melodious song: Glory to God in the highest!

2 [WOMEN OF BETHLEHEM:] Shepherds, what do you celebrate? Why all these songs? What victor, what conquest, inspires these triumphant cries? Glory to God in the highest!

3 [SHEPHERDS:] They [the angels] announce the birth of the Saviour of Israel; and, full of gratitude, they sing on this solemn day: Glory to God in the highest!

4 [WOMEN:] Let us all seek the fortunate village which has seen him born beneath its roofs! Let us offer to him the loving homage of both our hearts and our voices: Glory to God in the highest!

5 [ALL:] In the deep humility in which you appear to our eyes, to praise you, God of all the world, we repeat this joyful song: Glory to God in the highest!

6 [SHEPHERDS:] Already, from the mouth of the angel, from the hymns of the cherubim, men know the praises which are sung in the courts of heaven: Glory to God in the highest!

7 [WOMEN:] Shepherds, forsake your haunts: join with their concerts, and let your sweet bagpipes make melodies resound! Glory to God in the highest!

8 [ALL:] Obedient to their [the angels'] example, O Lord, we shall come henceforth into the midst of your temple, to sing with them your blessings: Glory to God in the highest!