

# ***A Night of Glory***

## ***(Christmas Cantata)***

***By Gloria Emmerich***

### **Soloists include:**

Mary  
Joseph  
Mary's Sister  
Gabriel  
Anna (Mary's Mother)  
Elizabeth  
Joachim (Mary's Father)

### **List of Songs:**

1. A Night of Glory ..... JOSEPH and CHORUS
2. Closer Than Kin to Me .....MARY and HER SISTER
3. Heaven Came Down..... MARY and JOSEPH
4. Gabriel's Greeting..... GABRIEL
5. I Must Believe ..... ANNA and MARY
6. Mary, Why? ..... JOSEPH
7. In God's Hands ..... JOACHIM, ANNA, JOSEPH and MARY
8. Rejoice, Sing out My Soul.....MARY, ELIZ., ANNA, MARY'S SISTER
9. Joseph's Dream ..... GABRIEL
10. A Love, Forever..... JOSEPH and MARY
11. Heaven Came Down (reprise).....JOSEPH, MARY and CHORUS
12. A Night of Glory Finale..... JOSEPH and CHORUS

*Copyright © 2022 by Gloria L. Emmerich.  
Copyright dates for individual songs are noted on the sheet music.  
International copyright secured. All rights reserved.  
Published by Emmerich Publications, Inc., Henderson, NV  
No portion of this musical work may be reproduced by any means  
without specific permission in writing from the publisher.  
([www.christianmusicalsonline.com](http://www.christianmusicalsonline.com))*

# ***A Night of Glory***

## ***(Christmas Cantata)***

***By Gloria Emmerich***

### **SONG # 1 – A NIGHT OF GLORY (JOSEPH AND CHOIR)**

**JOSEPH:** A tiny village; a lonely stable;  
No one suspected that God was able.

**ALL:** Born in a manger in Bethlehem;  
A star from Heaven shines down upon Him.  
This is a night of glory, a time to praise the new born King.  
So spread the Christmas story,  
And let us lift our voice on high and sing! \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL:** A chosen couple, Joseph and Mary;  
Barely believing that she would carry,  
A son named Jesus, Immanuel.  
The best of Heaven on earth to dwell.  
This is a night of glory, a time to praise the new born King.  
So spread the Christmas story,  
And let us lift our voice on high and sing! \_\_\_\_\_

**NARRATOR:** A tiny village. A lonely stable. No one suspected that God was able. But, He was. And, He used ordinary people to fulfill the promise of Isaiah. Mary, the mother of Jesus, no doubt grew up in a humble home. The bible tells us she was “highly favored” and “blessed of God.” Mary and her sister had always been close and were very devoted to each other. So, we begin here... (\*#2) with two sisters, grateful they have each other to depend upon.

### **SONG # 2 – CLOSER THAN KIN TO ME (MARY AND HER SISTER)**

**Chloe:** Who do I share my secrets with? Who knows everything about me? Who do I tell my hopes and dreams? Who do I trust completely? Closer than kin to me.

**MARY:** Who cheers me up when I feel sad? Who completely understands me? Who makes me laugh so openly? Who takes the time to listen? Closer than kin to me.

**BOTH:** Always together, our friendship will never, ever end.  
No matter what happens, you know I will be your best friend.  
Although we don't know what tomorrow will bring, we'll always be, Closer than kin, dearest friend to me!

**BOTH:** Who do I share my secrets with? Who knows everything about me?  
Who do I tell my hopes and dreams? Who do I trust completely?  
Closer than kin to me. My dearest friend and sister,  
Closer than kin to me. Closer than kin to me.

**NARRATOR:** Mary and Joseph took their betrothal very seriously. It meant that they were engaged, promised and legally bound to each other. Like any couple in love, they no doubt had hopes and dreams of the wonderful life they would have together. What better place to envision the future than under a starry sky (\*#3) where they could thank God for the beauty of the moment and for the perfect love they shared.

### **SONG # 3 HEAVEN CAME DOWN (MARY AND JOSEPH)**

**MARY:** The stars above showing the Father's love,  
And twinkling bright, illumine the darkest night.  
The moon and stars You've made; all Your handiworks displayed.

**BOTH:** I am so small compared to the world I see;  
And stand in awe to think that You care for me.  
I can feel Your love pouring down from Heav'n above.  
Tonight Heaven came down.  
Just now a piece of Heaven came down to the ground.  
You made us a little lower than the angels.  
Guardians over all the universe; Your handiworks.  
Yes, tonight Heaven came down.

**MARY:** Father, let us remember Your love pouring down,

The night that Heaven came down.

**JOSEPH:** The night that Heaven came down.

**BOTH:** Tonight, when Heaven came down, \_\_\_\_\_ Heaven came down.

**NARRATOR:** While Mary was alone, she was visited by the Angel Gabriel. (\*#4) She was no doubt troubled and confused. Mary learned from Gabriel that she had been chosen to bear the Son of the Most High God.

#### **SONG #4 GABRIEL'S GREETING (GABRIEL)**

**GABRIEL:** Greetings and Salutations! Oh Mary, congratulations!  
I am an angel, Mary; God sent me here.  
My name is Gabriel; no need to fear.  
God is with you. Blessed are you among women;  
Honored and most highly favored.  
Don't be afraid, Mary; anointed one.  
For God has chosen you to bear His Son: Our Messiah,  
Jesus Christ, the Lord; the Son of God!\_\_\_\_\_

**NARRATOR:** Gabriel told Mary that her son would be the Savior of the world...the Messiah. He reminded her that the prophet Isaiah had written, "...Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and give Him the name Immanuel, which means, 'God is with us.' The Holy Spirit shall come upon you, and the power of God shall overshadow you. That is why this baby born to you will be completely holy. He will be the Son of the Most High God, for nothing is impossible with God."

Confused, Mary knew she had to tell her parents. This was going to be one of the hardest things she had ever done. Worried about their reaction, Mary may have gone to her mother, Anna first. Anna must have been stunned. (\*#5) But, well aware of the scriptures, she no doubt ended up believing Mary's remarkable story.

#### **SONG #5 – I MUST BELIEVE (MARY AND ANNA)**

**ANNA:** How many times did I asked God for a miracle?  
How many times did I pray, "Lord, hear my prayer?"  
How many times have I wondered if He's listening?  
How many times have I doubted that He cares?  
I must believe.\_\_\_\_\_ I must believe.\_\_\_\_\_

**MARY:** Oh, please believe!\_\_\_\_\_ You must believe!\_\_\_\_\_

**BOTH:** For how many times has God been faithful?  
And how many times have His promises come true?

Now is the time for us to trust Him.

And now is the time to wait and see what God will do.

**ANNA:** I must believe. \_\_\_\_\_ I must believe. \_\_\_\_\_

**MARY:** I must believe. \_\_\_\_\_ I must believe. \_\_\_\_\_

**BOTH:** I believe. \_\_\_\_\_

**NARRATOR:** Joseph was a just and righteous man. But, you can imagine his dismay and disbelief when Mary told him she was already with child. The Gospel tells us that Joseph was “faithful to the law and could have disgraced Mary publicly, but instead contemplated divorcing her quietly.” Needless to say, he was confused and full of questions. (\*#6)

### **SONG # 6 – MARY, WHY? (JOSEPH)**

**JOSEPH:** Mary, tell me, Mary; why did this happen?  
Our hopes and dreams for tomorrow are gone, replaced with  
sorrow.  
You’ve ruined all that mattered; our future now is shattered.  
My heart, once full, has been broken, by the cruel words you  
have spoken.  
Still, I’ll protect you, trying not to reject you.  
Yet, I feel in my heart that this could tear us apart.  
Oh, Mary, tell me, Mary; what, what am I to do now?  
Although you have betrayed me, I’ll try to go on somehow.  
But why, tell me, why? I hope and I pray that somehow, some  
day,  
Our love finds a way...oh, Mary, why? \_\_\_\_\_

**NARRATOR:** Before long Mary also had to tell her father, Joachim about the visit from Gabriel. Like Joseph, he too must have wondered how such news could be true. He knew the scriptures well but must have questioned how it could be that *his* daughter was in fact *the chosen one*. Joachim, his wife, Anna, Joseph and Mary spent agonizing hours praying for answers. (\*#7)

### **SONG # 7 - IN GOD’S HANDS (JOACHIM, ANNA, JOSEPH AND MARY)**

**JOACHIM:** Right from the start she had my heart.  
Once our eyes met, my life was set:  
From this day on I would teach her all I knew.  
How to love, how to give her life to You.

I've done my best, but I don't understand,  
So I'm leaving the rest in God's hands. \_\_\_\_\_

**JOACHIM/ANNA:** Right from the start she had my heart.  
That beautiful face, so full of God's grace.

**ANNA:** I prayed that God would keep her safe within His arms.

**JOACHIM/ANNA:** Protect and lead her away from sin and harm.  
She's answered God's call; but I don't understand,  
So I'm placing it all in God's hands. \_\_\_\_\_ (key change)

**JOACHIM/ANNA/JOS:** In God's hands. \_\_\_\_\_  
Right from the start she had my heart.  
It's hard to let go, when I love her so!  
I've tried and tried to figure out what I did wrong.  
I never dreamed a problem like this would come along.  
I just can't see, and I don't understand,  
So it has to be in God's hands. \_\_\_\_\_ (key change)

**JOAC/ANNA/JOS/MARY:** I can't believe this is happening to me!  
What I've been told is an impossibility!  
And yes, I pray, but I don't understand,  
So this must stay in God's hands; in God's hands;  
It's in God's hands. \_\_\_\_\_

**NARRATOR:** When Mary was visited by the Angel Gabriel, he *also* said to her, "Even now, Zechariah and Elizabeth are rejoicing in God, for they too are expecting a son, a child anointed of God who will prepare the way for Jesus, the Messiah...the baby *you* now carry in your womb. Go to her, Mary. For the child she now carries lies dormant, awaiting a touch from the Holy Spirit. At the sound of your voice, the baby in her womb will leap for joy in the presence of God's Son. Do not tarry; go to her, Mary."

Like Joseph, Mary's father, Joachim also likely needed time alone to pray and learn to accept that God had chosen Mary to become the mother of His Son. So, Mary, her sister and her mother traveled together to visit Elizabeth and Zechariah. When Elizabeth heard Mary's voice, the infant *she* was carrying leapt in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out and said, "Most blessed are you among women, Mary, (\*#8) and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

**SONG # 8 – REJOICE, SING OUT MY SOUL!**  
**(MARY, ELIZABETH, ANNA AND MARY’S SISTER)**

**MARY:** Rejoice, sing out my soul! Rejoice, sing out my soul!  
I give myself to You; to do what You must do.  
Lord, I avow; come fill me now. Come fill me now! Let my  
soul rejoice!

**ALL:** Rejoice, sing out my soul! Rejoice, sing out my soul!  
God’s highly favored one, will bear His only Son,  
O magnify, and glorify, His name on high;  
Let your [my] soul rejoice! \_\_\_\_\_  
O blessed chosen one, great things the Lord has done!  
God’s bringing, through this girl, Salvation to the world;  
His name shall be Immanuel, God with us,  
Jesus Christ, the Lord! \_\_\_\_\_

**MARY:** I lift my voice! \_\_\_\_\_

**ELIZ/ANNA/JO:** Bless the Lord, my Savior, I will lift my voice.

**MARY:** Sing out, my soul! \_\_\_\_\_

**ELIZ/ANNA/JO:** Magnify the Lord, sing out, my soul; rejoice!

**MARY:** Rejoice! My soul, rejoice! Rejoice, sing out, my soul!

**ELIZ/ANNA/JO:** Rejoice; sing out, my soul! Rejoice; sing out, my soul!

**ALL:** The humble lifted high, the hungry satisfied;  
To those who fear, the Lord, so dear,  
His mercy goes on forevermore! \_\_\_\_\_  
Bless the Lord, my Savior, I will lift my voice.  
Magnify the Lord, sing out, my soul; rejoice!  
My soul, rejoice! \_\_\_\_\_

**NARRATOR:** Still full of doubt, Joseph needed a sign from God (\*#9) to help him accept the fact that Mary, his betrothed was in fact carrying the Son of God. One restless night while Joseph slept, an angel appeared to him.

**SONG #9 – JOSEPH’S DREAM (GABRIEL)**

**GABRIEL:** Joseph, Joseph, don’t hesitate; don’t make her wait;  
For Mary is to be your wife. Love her, protect her.  
Mary’s been true, faithful to you; for this is God’s plan for  
your life.

This baby was conceived by the Holy Ghost.  
And Mary will be needing your love the most.  
Emmanuel; the Savior of the world. God is with us; and He  
shall be called: Jesus, Jesus; God's only Son, anointed One.  
So Joseph, do not tarry, God has chosen you and Mary, to be  
His guardians!\_\_\_\_\_

**NARRATOR:** Joseph awoke convinced that Mary *was* telling the truth. He now knew he  
*too* had been chosen to love and to help raise, Jesus – the Son of God.

At this time, a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world  
should be taxed. So, Mary and Joseph left Nazareth and traveled to Judea,  
to Bethlehem – the City of David. Mary and Joseph were anticipating  
Jesus' birth as they arrived, but they soon learned that all the inns were  
full and there were no rooms available. A kind innkeeper offered to let  
them stay in his stable. (**\*#10**) Their powerful love for God and for each  
other no doubt put their fears to rest as they prepared for the birth of the  
baby, Jesus.

### **SONG #10 – A LOVE, FOREVER (JOSEPH AND MARY)**

**JOSEPH:** Nothing will stop us! A love, forever!

**MARY:** Nothing can ruin this day!\_\_\_\_\_

**BOTH:** Through stormy weather, we'll be together, then watch the  
clouds roll away.

Our love is growing; God's blessings, flowing.

No one can keep us apart.\_\_\_\_\_

So much before us, with God to guide us. His love and joy fill  
my heart!

**JOSEPH:** Nothing will stop us. A love, forever. Nothing can ruin this  
day!

A love,\_\_\_\_\_

**MARY:** Our love,\_\_\_\_\_

**BOTH:** Forever.\_\_\_\_\_



**NARRATOR:** Jesus, Mary's first-born son who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, the Son of God, was born that night in a stable in Bethlehem just as the prophet Isaiah had foretold. The King of Kings was laid in a manger. (\*#11) And, a bright light, the brightest Mary and Joseph had ever seen, shone in the sky over Bethlehem that night, marking the place where Jesus was born.

**SONG # 11 – HEAVEN CAME DOWN (JOSEPH, MARY AND CHOIR)**

**MARY:** The star above showing the Father's love,  
And twinkling bright, illumines the darkest night.  
The Son of God is born, this holy, blessed morn.

**MARY/JOS:** For God so loved the world that He sent His Son;  
This baby brings Salvation to everyone.  
Can't you feel His love pouring down from Heav'n above?  
Tonight Heaven came down.  
Just now a piece of Heaven came down to the ground.  
Jesus, the Messiah, glory hallelujah! Savior, our deliv'rer;  
God's own Son, The Holy One... *(Key change)*

**ALL:** Christ has come! Tonight Heaven came down.  
Father, let us remember Your love pouring down,

**WOMEN:** The night that Heaven came down. \_\_\_\_\_

**MEN:** The night that Heaven came down. \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL:** Tonight, when Heaven came down. \_\_\_\_\_  
Heaven came down. \_\_\_\_\_

**NARRATOR:** So, the Savior of the world came to fill our lives with hope and meaning and purpose. They called him Wonderful, Counsellor, (\*#12) the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father and, the Prince of Peace.

**SONG # 12 – A NIGHT OF GLORY (JOSEPH AND CHOIR)**

**JOSEPH:** A tiny village; a lonely stable;  
No one suspected that God was able.

**ALL:** Born in a manger in Bethlehem;  
A star from Heaven shines down upon Him.  
This is a night of glory, a time to praise the new born King.  
So spread the Christmas story,  
And let us lift our voice on high and sing! \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL:** A chosen couple, Joseph and Mary;  
Barely believing that she would carry,  
A son named Jesus, Immanuel.  
The best of Heaven on earth to dwell.  
This is a night of glory, a time to praise the new born King.  
So spread the Christmas story,  
And let us lift our voice on high and sing! \_\_\_\_\_(Key change)  
This is a night of glory, a time to praise the new born King.  
So spread the Christmas story, and let us lift our voice on  
high and sing!  
A night of glory, so lift your voice and sing! \_\_\_\_\_

DO NOT COPY