

Angels We Have Heard on High



1. Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Refrain
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
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2. Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song?
Refrain
3. Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Refrain
4. See Him in a manger laid,
Whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
While our hearts in love we raise.
Refrain

"Les Anges dans nos compagnes" as this carol is known in French appeared in print in 1842 in *Choix de cantiques sur des airs nouveaux* by Abbe Lambillote. The tune is probably older than the 19th century but no printed sources have been found.

The tune plays surprisingly well on the banjo in G tuning and goes well in a medley with "Good King Wenceslas" and "Deck the Halls".