

This translation is courtesy of Steve Doerr who compared the Latin in the Saint-Saëns to the Douay Bible, which is translated from the Vulgate rather than the Hebrew.

2. Recitative and Chorus Luke 2 : 8-14

Et pastores erant in regione eadem vigilantes, et custodientes vigilias noctis super gregem suum. Et ecce angelus Domini stetit juxta illos, et claritas Dei circumfulsit illos, et timuerunt timore magno. Et dixit illis angelus : Nolite timere : ecce enim evangelizo vobis gaudium magnum, quod erit omni populo : quia natus est vobis hodie...Christus Dominus, in civitate David. Et hoc vobis signum : Invenietis infantem pannis involutum, et positum in præsepio. Et subito facta est cum angelo multitudo militiæ cælestis laudantium Deum, et dicentium : Gloria in altissimis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis.

And there were in the same country shepherds watching, and keeping the night watches over their flock. And behold an angel of the Lord stood by them, and the brightness of God shone round about them; and they feared with a great fear. And the angel said to them: Fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, that shall be to all the people: For, this day, is born to you...Christ the Lord, in the city of David. And this shall be a sign unto you. You shall find the infant wrapped in swaddling clothes, and laid in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly army, praising God, and saying: Glory to God in the highest; and on earth peace to men of good will.

3. Aria Psalm 39 : 2

Expectans, expectavi Dominum, et intendit mihi.

With expectation I have waited for the Lord, and he was attentive to me.

4. Aria with women's chorus John 11 : 27

Domine, ego credidi, quia tu es Christus, Filius Dei vivi, qui in hunc mundum venisti.

Lord, I have believed that thou art Christ the Son of the living God, who art come into this world.

5. Duo Psalm 118 (117) : 26-28

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. Deus Dominus, et illuxit nobis. Deus meus es tu, et confitebor tibi ; Deus meus es tu, et exaltabo te.

Blessed be he that cometh in the name of the Lord. The Lord is God, and he hath shone upon us. Thou art my God, and I will praise thee: thou art my God, and I will exalt thee.

6. Chorus Psalm 1 : 1 and the Gloria Patri

Quare fremuerunt gentes, et populi meditati sunt inania?

Why have the Gentiles raged, and the people devised vain things?

Gloria Patri, gloria Filio, gloria Spiritui Sancto. Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

7. Trio Psalm 110 (109) : 3

Tecum principium in die virtutis tuæ in splendoribus sanctorum.

With thee is the principality in the day of thy strength: in the brightness of the saints.

8. Quartet Isaiah 49 : 13

Laudate cæli et exulta terra quia consolatus est Dominus populum suum et pauperum suorum miserebitur

Give praise, O ye heavens, and rejoice, O earth: because the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy on his poor ones.

9. Quintette with Chorus Lamentations 2 : 19

Consurge *filia Sion* lauda in nocte in principio vigiliarum

Arise, *daughter of Sion*, give praise in the night, in the beginning of the watches.

Isaiah 62 : 1

Egrediatur ut splendor justus ejus et salvator ejus ut lampas accendatur

May her just one come forth as brightness, and her Saviour be lighted as a lamp.

10. Chorus Psalm 96 (95) : 8-9, 11, 13

Tollite hostias, et adorate Dominum in atrio sancto ejus. Lætentur cæli, et exultet terra a facie Domini, quoniam venit. Alleluia.

Bring up sacrifices, and adore ye the Lord in his holy court. Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad before the face of the Lord, because he cometh. Alleluia.