

Now Praise We Christ, the Holy One

CHRISTMAS

(also known as Jesus We Now Must Laud and Sing or From East to West)

Words: *Coelius Sedulius, circa 450. Translated to German by Martin Luther, 1524.*

Translated from German to English by Richard Massie, 1854, alt.

Music: *'Christum Wir Sollen Loben Schon' ancient Latin found in Erfurt Enchiridion, 1524.*

Setting: Michael Praetorius, 1609.

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♩ = 130

1. Now praise we Christ, the Ho - ly One, The spot - less vir - gin Ma - ry's Son,
2. He, who Him - self all things did make, A ser - vant's form vouch - safed to take,
3. The grace of God, th'Al - might - y Lord, On the chaste mo - ther was out - poured,
4. The ho - ly maid be - came th'a - bode And tem - ple of the liv - ing God;
5. The no - ble mo - ther bare a Son, For so did Ga - briel's pro - mise run,

Far as the bless - éd sun doth shine E'en to the world's re - mote con - fine
That He as man - kind might win, And save His crea - tures from their sin.
a vir - gin pure and un - de - filed In won - drous wise con - ceived a child.
And she, who knew not man, was blest With God's own Word made man - i - fest.
Whom John con - fessed and leapt with joy, Ere yet the mo - ther knew her boy.

6. In a rude manger, stretched on hay, In poverty content He lay;
With milk was fed the Lord of all, Who feeds the ravens when they call.
7. Th' angelic choir rejoice, and raise Their voice to God in songs of praise;
To humble shepherds is proclaimed The Shepherd who the world hath framed.
8. Honor to Thee, O Christ, be paid, Pure offspring of a holy maid,
With Father and with Holy Ghost, Till time in time's abyss be lost.