

# Heart of the World/ O Come, All Ye Faithful

Michael Dennis Browne

John Foley, S. J.

**INTRO** *Sturdy* (♩ = 90)

**VERSE 1, 2**  
Melody

Soprano Alto

Tenor Bass

Keyboard

*f marcato* *rit.* *f, mp*

G Am G/B D G G Am G/B

1. here at the heart of the world: \_\_\_\_\_  
2. down at the heart of the world: \_\_\_\_\_

D G G/B Cadd9 Am G/D D Am7

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Performance directives are optional: adapt to your parish's resources.

1. mys - t'ry so deep, \_\_\_\_\_ mir - a - cle sleep - ing,  
 TB unis. 2. heav - en with - in, \_\_\_\_\_ king - dom be - gin - ning,

D G D G D A D G G/B

1. here at the heart \_\_\_\_\_ of the world. It was  
 All unis. 2. here at the heart \_\_\_\_\_ of the world. SA unis. It was

Cadd9 Am7 D G Em Am/C D G D G D

1. cold, this wait - ing, \_\_\_\_\_ it was wind - ing and wind - y roads, but the  
 2. cold, this wait - ing, \_\_\_\_\_ **TB unis.** it was wind - ing and wind - y roads, **All unis.** but the

G D7/A G/B D7/A Em/G D/F# A

1. light that we longed for now \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ here.  
 2. light that we longed for now \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ here.

D G/B Am G/B Cadd9 D G C/G G D G

VERSES 3-5

Children: *mp* 3. Ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_  
 SA + Children: *f* 4. Come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O

Women: *mp* 3. Now we are blest at the heart of the  
 Men: *f* 4. Now we can hope at the heart of the  
 Children: (alone) *p* 5. Now we are yours at the heart of the

G Am G/B D G G/B Cadd9 Am

*mp, f, p*

3. \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. come ye, O come \_\_\_\_\_ ye to Beth - le - hem. Come and be -

3. world; \_\_\_\_\_ fresh as new snow, breath-ing so slow - ly,  
 4. world; \_\_\_\_\_ dream-er so real, soul of all heal - ing,  
 5. world; \_\_\_\_\_ Sav - ior so meek, child we were seek - ing,

G/D D Am7 D G D G D A D G G/B

3. \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. hold him, born the king of an - gels: Ve - ni - te, a - do -

3-5. here at the heart of the world. \_\_\_\_\_ It was

Cadd9 Am7 D G Em Am/C D G D G D

Descant (Children)

5. Cold, this wait - ing. Wind - ing roads; the

3. ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah ah \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. re - mus, ve - ni - te, a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te, a - do -

3-5. cold, this wait - ing, \_\_\_\_\_ it was wind - ing and wind - y roads, but the

G D7/A G/B D7/A Em/G D/F# A

5. light, O the light is here.

3. ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_  
 4. re - mus \_\_\_\_\_ Do - mi - num.

3-5. light that we longed for now \_\_\_\_\_ is here.

D G/B Am G/B Cadd9 D G C/G G D G

Vss. 3,5: *cresc.*  
 Vs. 4: *dim.*

## VERSE 6

6. Come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O

6. Now we are yours at the heart of the world; \_\_\_\_\_

G Am G/B D G G/B Cadd9 Am G/D D Am7

6. come — ye to Beth — le — hem; Come and be — hold him,

6. Sav — ior so meek, — child we were seek — ing, here at the

D G D G D A D G G/B Cadd9 Am7

6. born the king of an — gels: Ve — ni — te, a — do — re — mus, ve —

6. heart — of the world. It was cold, this wait — ing, —

D G Em Am/C D G D G D G

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains the first two lines of the vocal melody and the piano accompaniment. The second system contains the next two lines of the vocal melody and the piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The lyrics are written below the vocal lines.

6. ni - te, a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te, a - do - re - mus —

6. — it was wind - ing and wind - y roads, but the love we have longed for

D7/A G/B D7/A Em/G D/F# A D G/B Am

6. Do - mi - num.

6. now is here.

G/B Cadd9 D Gsus4 G C/G G D/G Gsus4 G



REFRAIN

All *fff*

Christ is the way, Christ is the light,

Christ is the word of life. Come, Lord

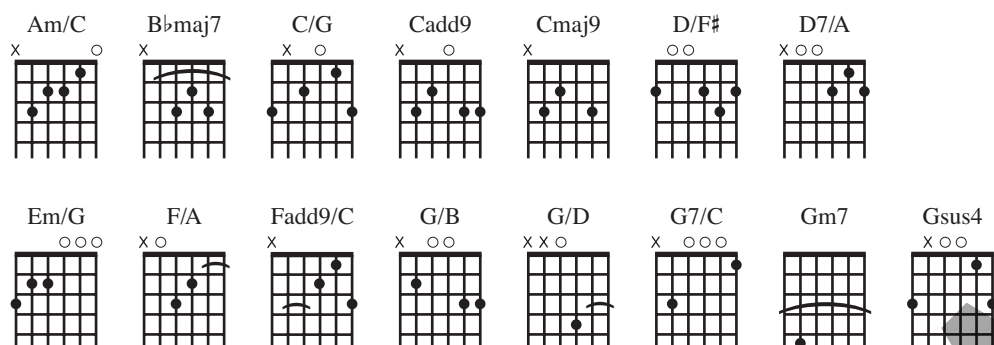
Je - sus, shine!

*mf* *sfz* *rit.* *sfz* *8va*

Chords: C, Fadd9/C, Cmaj9, C, Am, Dm, Em, F, Em, Dm7, G, G7/C, C, F/A, C/G, Am7, Bbmaj7, Bbmaj7/A, Gm7, F

Heart of the World/O Come, All Ye Faithful

## Guitar Charts



## Performance Notes

*Heart of the World* is perfect for the beginning of Midnight Mass, especially for a parish that has been using *Wreath Song* throughout Advent. The hymn itself is a fine addition to the Christmas repertory, and it introduces, as a part of itself, the traditional opening of Midnight Mass, *O Come All Ye Faithful*. Then, its finale is a refrain that the congregation has grown to love during Advent, *Come, Lord Jesus, Shine*. This climax ties together Advent with Christmas, which it has been leading up to for four weeks.

Suggested performance: let the choir (and congregation) begin the hymn in unison, adding the harmony on verse 2. In verse 3, begin *O Come, All Ye Faithful*, with women on “ah.” At verse 4, bring in women and men singing the words to both hymns together. For a contrast, use high voices on verse 5, without *O Come, All Ye Faithful*. Finally, on verse 6, give a full reading of *O Come, All Ye Faithful*, with *Heart of the World* in four parts as an accompaniment.

After the refrain of *Come, Lord Jesus, Shine*, you may choose to sing *O Come, All Ye Faithful* in its entirety, or else to simply begin Mass.

Other arrangements are perfectly possible, according to the imagination and judgement of the director.

—John Foley, S.J.

# Assembly Edition

**HEART OF THE WORLD/O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL**  
John B. Foley, S.J.

1. Now we are here at the heart of the world;  
mystery so deep, kingdom beginning,  
here at the heart of the world.  
It was cold this waiting,  
it was winding and windy roads,  
but the light that we longed for now is here.

2. Now we bow down at the heart of the world;  
heaven within, kingdom beginning,  
here at the heart of the world.  
It was cold this waiting,...

3. Now we are blest at the heart of the world;  
fresh as new snow, breathing so slowly,  
here at the heart of the world.  
It was cold this waiting,...

4. Now we can hope at the heart of the world;  
dreamer so real, soul of all healing,  
here at the heart of the world.  
It was cold this waiting,...

5. Now we are yours at the heart of the world;  
Savior so meek, child we were seeking,  
here at the heart of the world.  
It was cold this waiting,....

Verse 6: All

Come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;

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**HEART OF THE WORLD/O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL (Continued)**

Come and be - hold him, born the king of an - gels:  
Ve - ni - te, a - do - re - mus, ve - ni - te, a - do - re - mus,  
ve - ni - te, a - do - re - mus Do - mi - num.  
Refrain  
Christ is the way, Christ is the light, Christ is the word of  
life;  
Come, Lord Je - sus, shine!

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