

## SILENT NIGHT Worksheet

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### Verse 1

Silent night, holy night,  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and Child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

### Verse 2

Silent night, holy night,  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!

### Verse 3

Silent night, holy night,  
Son of God, love's pure light;  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

### Verse 4

Silent night, holy night  
Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!

**Vocabulary** In one or two words, define the following terms from the poem

Verse 1: holy, yon, virgin

Verse 2: quake, hosts, Alleluia

Verse 3: Radiant, beams, redeeming, grace

Verse 4: Wondrous, lend

**Word Pictures** Word pictures is another way of saying *imagery*. *Imagery* or *figurative language* helps us form a picture of what the author is trying to present. Discuss what these word pictures mean and, perhaps, draw your idea of the *imagery* or *figurative language* the author uses!

Verse 2: Glories stream

Verse 3: Radiant beams

**Mechanics** Verbally discuss

Who is the speaker?

What does the poem reveal about the speaker's character?

Is the speaker addressing someone in particular or is it to anyone?

Does the poem have a setting?

Is the poem about a particular event? Is the event past or present? If it is about a past event, does the remembrance of the event have a particular meaning to the speaker?

Is the theme of the poem stated directly or indirectly?

What point of view or perspective is the speaker?

How did you respond to the poem when you read it the first time?

## **Comprehension Questions**

### *Verse 1*

Does the author tell you the setting of the first verse?

What time of day is it in the first verse?

What two individuals are involved in the first verse?

What do you think of when reading the first verse?

### *Verse 2*

Why were the shepherds quaking?

How would you describe what the shepherds saw?

### *Verse 3*

What does “Radiant beams from Thy holy face” mean?

Explain and discuss: “With the dawn of redeeming grace.”

### *Verse 4*

What did the “wondrous star” do?

Discuss the importance of this verse.

## **What Does the Bible Say?**

Find Scripture proofs for each of the assertions or statements made for each of the four verses.

How does the Bible define love? For Scripture verses help, check out this internet web page at <http://www.lovetolearnplace.com/SpecialDays/Valentines/Bible.html>

For more Scripture verses on Prophecies Fulfilled in Christ, review the internet web page at <http://www.lovetolearnplace.com/SpecialDays/Christmas/Promise.html>

## **The Author/Poet**

Based on what you have studied about this poem so far, would you guess that the author was a Christian or a humanist? How did you arrive at your decision?

The author’s name for this poem or lyric is Josef Mohr (1792-1848). He was born on 11 December 1792, in Salzburg, Austria, and died in December, 1848, Wagrein, Austria.

## **Geography**

Locate Salzburg, Austria on a globe, map and atlas.

*Challenge* Can you find Wagrein, Austria, on a map or in an atlas?

Compare/contrast the weather with these areas and your own for one week.

Make an Austrian meal.

## Activities

- 1) Read Luke, chapters 1 and 2.
- 2) Make your own book! Without making an image of Christ, draw pictures representing each verse. (Note: that will be four different illustrations). With construction paper and other items readily available at home, make a title page with the name of the song and the author's name which will be your book's cover. You may want to illustrate your cover and include the poem for your book.
- 3) Make your own play! Re-enact with your siblings or friends the event discussed in this poem. Keep it lively, simple, and short. You may want to end your play with singing a rousing chorus of this poem or reading Scripture verses. Videotape your creation.
- 4) Radio Drama! With a handheld tape recorder, create your own radio show dramatizing the historical event this poem reported.
- 5) Be a Reporter! With either your family camcorder or with a handled tape recorder, "interview" various individuals connected with this poem (the angels, shepherds, a scientist about the "wondrous star", etc.). In order to have the fast paced style of a reporter, watch and/or listen to the news with your parents' permission. Remember to keep your interviews lively, quick, and to the point.  
  
Remain objective! Being objective means just reporting the facts and not giving your opinion of the situation.
- 6) What is one of the things you most enjoy? Is it literature? math? science? sports? cooking? Take that area of interest and relate that to this poem. If you enjoy dance, for example, develop a dance routine that physically expresses the sentiments of this poem. If you enjoy shop, create something out of wood that helps to clarify this poem. Do you enjoy creating stories? Write a story based on any time period you desire that expresses the sentiments of this poem. Do you enjoy creating things in the kitchen? Make an ancient meal from this time or develop your own meal that symbolizes the many different points this poem makes.
- 7) Scavenger Hunt. Go to the library to learn what you can about Josef Mohr and share it with your family. If possible, discover the story behind this poem.