As with Gladness Men of Old

1. As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold,
   as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beam-ing bright;
   so, most gracious Lord, may we ever more your splendor see.

2. As with joyful steps they sped to that lowly infant bed,
   there to bend the knee before Christ, whom heaven and earth adore;
   so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy.

3. As they of-fered gifts most rare at that cradle plain and bare,
   and when mortal things are past, bring our ransomed lives at last
   all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you, our heavenly King.

4. Holy Jesus, every day keep us in the narrow way,
   you its light, its joy, its crown, you its sun which goes not down;
   where they need no star to guide, where no clouds your glory hide.

5. In that glorious city bright none shall need created light;
   so may we with willing feet ever seek your mercy seat.
   there forever may we sing alleluias to our King!

Text: William C. Dix, 1860, alt.
Tune: Conrad Kocher, 1838; adapt. William H. Monk, 1861

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