

## *Ancient Hymns*

We may be surprised to learn that a number of hymns from the first few centuries of Christianity are still in existence. Many of them are still a part of the worship of the Orthodox and Catholic churches.

### **O Gladsome (Gladdening) Light**

O Light gladsome of the holy glory of the  
Immortal Father,  
the Heavenly, the Holy, the Blessed, O Jesus  
Christ,  
having come upon the setting of the sun, having  
seen the light of the evening,  
we praise the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit:  
God.  
Worthy it is at all times to praise Thee in joyful  
voices,  
O Son of God, Giver of Life, for which the world  
glorifies Thee.

### **Hymn to the Holy Trinity**

.. Let it be silent  
Let the Luminous stars not shine,  
Let the winds (?) and all the noisy rivers die down;  
And as we hymn the Father, the Son and the Holy  
Spirit,  
Let all the powers add "Amen Amen"  
Empire, praise always, and glory to God,  
The sole giver of good things, Amen Amen

### **Shepherd of Eager (Tender) Youth**

Shepherd of tender youth,  
guiding in love and truth  
through devious ways;  
Christ our triumphant King,  
we come thy Name to sing  
and here our children bring  
to join thy praise.

Thou art our holy Lord,  
the all-subduing Word,  
healer of strife.  
Thou didst thyself abase  
that from sin's deep disgrace  
thou mightest save our race

and give us life.

Thou art the great High Priest;  
thou hast prepared the feast  
of heavenly love;  
none calls on thee in vain,  
thee who didst not disdain  
help in thy mortal pain,  
help from above.

Ever be thou our guide,  
our Shepherd and our pride,  
our staff and song;  
Jesus, thou Christ of God,  
by thy perennial word  
lead us where thou hast trod,  
make our faith strong.

So now, and till we die,  
sound we thy praises high  
and joyful sing;  
let all the holy throng  
who to thy church belong,  
unite and swell the song  
to Christ our King.

### **Gloria in Excelsis Deo**

Glory to you who has shown us the light.  
Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace,  
goodwill to all people.  
We praise you, we bless you, we worship you, we  
glorify you, we give thanks to you for your  
great glory.  
Lord, King, heavenly God, Father, almighty; Lord,  
the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and Holy  
Spirit.  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father who  
take away the sin of the world, have mercy on  
us, you who take away the sins of the world.  
Receive our prayer, you who sit at the right hand  
of the Father, and have mercy on us.

For you only are holy, only you are Lord  
Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.  
Each day we bless you, and we praise your name  
forever and to the ages of ages.

### **Gloria Patri**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the  
Holy Spirit,  
Both now and always, and unto the ages of ages.  
Amen.