

# CALL TO WORSHIP

Harpeth Baptist Church

## A Free Gift

*Eternal life is free through Christ*

Text: Romans 5:15-18

Responsive Reading: Romans 5:1-11

*Youth Christmas Program Sunday evening!*

### 8:30 service

189 O Come, All Ye Faithful

194 It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

226 O Little Town of bethlehem

211 There's a Song in the Air

### 11:00 service

225 Angels We Have Heard on High

206 Angels from the Realms of Glory

He Who Is Mighty

237 Emmanuel

SONGS

[This week's special music - He Who Is Mighty \(Click here to listen\)](#)

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

Luke 2:13-14

### Angels From the Realms of Glory

In 1778, there lived in Scotland a small lad, James Montgomery, whose father and mother were called as missionaries to the West Indies. They deemed it best to leave young James in a Moravian community in County Antrim, Ireland. He later was sent to a school in England, which proved to be an unhappy experience. To add to his dejection, his parents died when he was only 12 years of age.

James was left with nothing. A short time later, because of bad marks in school, he was taken out of classes and given a job in a grocery establishment. This also was short lived, and he soon became little more than a vagabond.

During his early teen years, he began to write poetry. When things got really tough, in order to survive, he would sell his poems on the streets of London. His wondering took him to Sheffield where he gained employment in the office of a newspaper, the Sheffield Register. The opportunity to help run the business of the newspaper and to write for its pages soon proved to be tremendously useful. When he was only 23 years of age, the owner of the newspaper, after having been jailed

several times, was driven out of town for his open stand in favor of Ireland's freedom from Great Britain. Young Montgomery took over the newspaper and changed the name to Sheffield Iris. He, too, took a strong stand against civil problems of the day and on more than one occasion found himself in jail because of things he wrote. It was not easy being Irish under English rule.

The Sheffield Iris began to prosper, and Montgomery became a wealthy man. At last, he had a place to publish his poems. He was also a great help to the community in that he became a supporter of the British Bible Society. Through the following years, he rose to be one of the most respected and honored men in that town. His newspaper was widely read by the citizens of Sheffield.

On Christmas eve 1816, after reading in Luke chapter two of the heralding of the angels, he began to write. At days end he had written a poem that appeared in his newspaper the following day.

Angels from the realms of glory,  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth.  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Source: St Augustine Record online