

1. God had Gabriel directed
 to a village, unexpected,
 down to Mary on the earth
 to announce a virgin birth.
 "Hail, you vessel highly favored!
 From your Lord you never wavered."
 Awed was she by this event,
 wondering what 'no ending' meant.

1:33

2. "Do not fear my vivid greeting,
 God with you desires a meeting.
 Listen! You will bear a son
 who'll be Jesus when you're done,
 David's victories inherit,
 highest veneration merit,
 over Israel to rule,
 for the kingdom as a tool.

3. "See, your Visitor is Holy
 who with cloud can shade the lowly.
 So the child will be devout,
 Son of God without a doubt.
 God, to venture this, is able,
 even if you're in a stable."
 'I, O Lord, would volunteer,
 draw your spirit ever near.'

1:48

2:7

Luke 1 Chris Nelson @ 2019
 Genevan 86 8877.8877 In V

The Annunciation

1. Faith in the Lord am I declaring,
 God who's filling my soul with light,
 who's featured my role in preparing
 joys all the future will be sharing,
 great things done by a fabled might.
 This greatness to all am I showing,
 with seraphim's incessant cry.
 All generations will be knowing
 mercy that keeps forever flowing
 around the throne of God Most High.

1:38

Is. 6:3

1:48

Rv. 22:1

Si. 47:5

2. Look at the fulness of creation,
 strength that comforts the fearful heart,
 with potentates pulled from their station
 down to the level of starvation,
 paupers raised to a place apart,
 with help that lets all be observant,
 with faithfulness to underscore
 ties binding Israel whose fervent
 wish was to always find the servant
 in Abraham, forevermore.

I S 2:8

Luke 1 Chris Nelson @ 2019
 Genevan 4 98998.98998 In F

The Magnificat

1. God, you can let me go,
your servant, as I glow,
in peace, as you've been saying.
My eyes have gladly seen
a vision so serene,
a gesture you're displaying.

2:28

2. Land of the Galilee!
In you will peoples see
the way to their salvation,
a light the gentiles hope
will give them greater scope,
the glory of your nation.

Mt. 4:15

Ep. 1:12

Nunc Dimittis Chris Nelson @ 2014
Genevan Nunc Dimittis 667.667 In G

Canticle of Simeon

1. The feast was for the showing
 of Jesus come of age,
 quite the accomplished sage,
with parents hardly knowing.
They angled homeward, racing,
 their journey soon curtailed,
 looked for the boy but failed,
advances then retracing.
2. The boy they chanced on later
 with doctors of the law,
 holding the crowd in awe,
with stature growing greater.
They sat with one another,
 the eager with the wise,
 ample, alert replies
bewildering the mother.
3. 'My chi-ld, see how worried
 your dad and I have been.
 Why have you done us in,
so anxious that we hurried?'
"My course you thought of changing?
 You caught me unawares,
 housed with the great affairs
my Father is arranging."

2:52

1. The spirit of the Lord is here,
pleased that I'm chosen and anointed
to bring the good news that's appointed,
a promise to the poor, so near,
a vision blind eyes love to savor,
proclaiming this year as a favor.
2. The scroll was on the reading stand.
In came the preacher, duly seated,
and pearls of great price were repeated.
'The kingdom really is at hand.'
This Scripture gives words we were gleaning
importance, to show us its meaning.
3. This man is surely Joseph's son?
'Quote me the question that you're feeling,
that doctors of note should be healing
and show you what they've quickly done.
No prophet who's sent to a nation
is quite the same thing on location.
4. 'This prophet, in the famine year,
up to a widow, out of pity,
was urged to depart from the city.
Though lepers would to us appear,
this prophet gave useful assistance
to Naaman who lived at a distance.'
5. Then all were angry, everyone.
Eyes in the crowd began to glower,
too soon they'd be snared in the power.
They'd rise and to the exit run,
to make of that rogue such an ending,
but couldn't with destiny pending.

Luke 4 Chris Nelson @ 2022
Genevan 88 899.899 Serial (pique)

1. So Jesus taught them by the lake,
 the people all ears, ever pressing,
 two vessels close by quite a blessing,
 the fishermen, out on a break.
 In one, the Lord, a pilot seeking,
 asked Simon to perform this chore.
 "A little from the nearby shore
 put out, and then I'll finish speaking."

2. "Prepare to catch a lot of fish!"
 'All night we worked hard at our calling,
 caught nothing to show for our hauling.
 We'll try it once more if you wish.'
 Out there, alternatives were shrinking,
 but signaling to friends, who rowed,
 they gathered help to share the load,
 till both their boats were close to sinking.

Jn. 21:11

3. Then Peter slumped at Jesus' feet.
 The volume they captured was stunning
 and Peter, from Grace, started running.
 'O Lord, from my sin, please retreat.'
 "The numbers made you fe-el hollow.
 From now on out your fish will be
 the ones you hook to set them free.
 Indeed, it's me that you will follow."

Jn. 21:11

1. Love for the enemy, abhorring,
 good for the evil they're outpouring,
 help for the bosses you would bless,
 prayer for the blind who pay you less . . .
 Lest you're the victim of resistance,
 eye for an eye, at their insistence,
 in goodness for their bad excel,
 show them the 'other cheek' as well.

Mt. 5:38-39

2. If you can only love by feeling,
 where is the credit in the dealing?
 Deal with the others, overdue,
 as you desi-re they with you.
 This would you see in lowly sinners,
 those in their loving mere beginners.
 And if you lend to ones who give
 what higher way is that to live?

3. Aim your respect at opposition,
 don't be imposing some condition.
 Loss of your tunic's not a threat,
 as in forgiving of a debt.
 God is completely sure of kindness,
 knows not ungratefulness or blindness.
 With mercy treat a friend who owes,
 just like a type your Father shows.

6:29

11:4

6:31

4. Grant them the courtesy of pardon,
 straight from a heart that doesn't harden.
 Let those in heaven manage harm,
 trust in your Father's mighty arm.
 Give from the coffers of your treasure,
 so to behold, in fullest measure,
 the gifts that come to fill your lap,
 pressed down and shaken every scrap.

Mt. 19:8

Rm. 12:19

Ps. 98:1

1. 'Now, Simon, you see who is showing,
by drying with her flowing hair
my feet on which to weep she'd dare,
with kisses and oil, her on-going
debt that she's owing? 7:44
7:41
2. 'Enacting the story I'm telling -
her indicated sins of late 7:47
were cancelled by forgiveness, great -
of love from the heart that was welling
inside your dwelling.'
3. What Jesus could teach by example
was grander than their foolish goal
to catch a man in her control. 7:39
'You're saved by a faith more than ample,
good as a sample.'
4. With all of those Twelve busy hiding 8:1
the harvest of eternal life Jn. 4:35-36
whose riches so renowned were rife, 10:2
some women of note were providing
help, and abiding.
5. like Mary who'd known the demonic,
like toilers even Herod knew
and several other workers who
could render devotion laconic,
truly platonic.

1. As Jesus' last days were impending,
 set was the steadfast face,
to follow that path, some offending,
 on to the Holy Place.
Thus would they make their preparations
 to woo the outer zone,
but there were no accommodations,
 'They'll have to find their own.'
2. 'Let's startle these folks with a wonder,
 call down a fiery blaze!'
These Sons who made noise like the Thunder
 should have perceived their craze.
Jesus their folly reprimanded,
 "You know not what you do.
Look, I'm arriving empty-handed,
 to ask and not to sue."
3. At that they went on, never slowing,
 met one upon the road
who'd follow them, not even knowing
 sites where their group abode.
"Birds in the trees are ever nesting,
 the foxes have begun.
Would you prefer to try suggesting
 a place for Man the Son?"
4. Disciples were called, yet another.
 "Lord, let me have consent
to bury my dad (or my mother),
 irked at the way I went.
"Leave them who cannot be attentive
 to deal with their dead.
Show to the ones without incentive
 the way of life instead."
5. 'I'll follow you, sir, through affliction!
 First though, before I roam,
I'd offer my short valediction
 all those I left at home.'
"But, when the hand of eye-beholders
 is laid upon the plough,
back-looking over forward shoulders
 the kingdom won't allow."

1. The seventy-two, in a grand debut,
 went out in pairs to where the Lord would go.
 'The harvest is rich, but good hands are few,
 ask for disciples willing with the hoe.'
 Those who are smart yet harmless as a dove
 I'm sending like lambs where a wolf might shove.
 Provide no sandals, no demanding load,
 give no salute to others on the road.

Mt. 10:16

2. Whatever the lease, may suspicion cease.
 'Peace to this house!' will be the sign you make.
 For one who will share devotion to peace,
 yours be 'salaam' of which they'll all partake.
 Drink from their well and eat what they can give,
 since workers need pay and a way to live.
 Remain with sponsors who received you first,
 not go from door to door as if accursed.

3. In towns that they own, where consent is shown,
 take their donation with a heart sincere,
 their sicknesses cure, the good news make known,
 'Down comes the kingdom, God is very near.'
 But if they balk or even disagree,
 go out of that place like a refugee,
 and shake what's clinging to your dusty feet
 off on their sidewalk, avenue or street.

Mt. 10:14

Luke 10a Chris Nelson @ 2019

Genevan 85 5 5 10 10 10.10 10 10 10 In D & S

1. I watched how Satan, at my feet,
could fall from heaven all replete
with lightning and crash of the thunder.
I've given you the strength to tread
the serpent as I strike its head,
who's tearing my he-el asunder.

Gn. 3:15

2. Indeed, you've found that they can yield!
But first show joy that you are sealed
in heaven, your names with the living.
The Holy Spirit bids me bless
the Father, who is Lord, no less,
of eager disciples, forgiving.

Ps. 69:28

3. My Father's pleased that I'm the same
and no one knows my private name,
how well we line up, our connection.
You're seeing now with open eyes
what prophets hoped to realize
but never could know to perfection.

Luke 10b Chris Nelson @ 2019

Genevan 113 889.889 Serial (sfp) [sforzando-piano]

1. I'm coming to earth bringing fi-re.
I'm wishing for the days
its embers were ablaze
and not the peace that you desi-re,
divided, her son and his mother,
from one another.

Lk. 2:35

2. When billows emerge in the distance,
you say it, all abuzz,
will rain and so it does.
Have seers decoded their existence?
Interpret these times with persuasion!
Warn on occasion!

Luke 12 Chris Nelson @ 2014
Genevan 125 966.995 In E, D

1. A man of some means gave a feast,
a number of folks were invited.
These incidents grew and increased:
'From dining with you we're released',
such bigness of heart unrequited.
2. "Go quickly to those that they shun,
to cripples who'll start having races
all ready to come on the run."
'This job, at your wish, has been done
and still there are some empty places.'
3. "To meadow and hedge take my word!
Let welcoming mats be extended,
excuses so rude and absurd!
Not any of those I preferred
shall eat the good food I intended."

Luke 14 Chris Nelson @ 2019
Genevan 15 89889 Serial (ire)

1. 'My father, release me my share
 of all that would make me your heir.'
 Their father halved out the possessions
 to each without frowns or confessions.
 And so the younger grabbed a hat
 and left for a faraway realm
 where pleasuring could overwhelm
 the money where the homeless sat.

2. While living was charged to expense,
 a famine took place, so intense!
 Though working in sight of pollutions,
 the lowest of low institutions,
 the animals were quite immune,
 content with whatever they'd bring,
 the boy they offered not a thing,
 no residue, no shade at noon.

Ps. 121:5

3. When all that remained was a cob . . .
 'Our servants have more than a job,
 and I, a loved son, and the younger,
 am dying of junk and of hunger!
 My father meets me filled with joy . . .
 I've sinned against heaven and you,
 no longer call me son, I'm through,
 a juvenile, a servant boy.'

4. The father had softened the harms,
 embracing with wide-open arms,
 "Get ready, with new animation,
 to kindle this fit celebration!
 With finger ringed and frame agowned,
 our banquet hall, company fed,
 this prodigal who once was dead
 is full of life, is upward bound!"

5. The elder drew near to the court
 where tenants would dance and cavort,
 from fi-elds far off now returning,
 this trickle of news slowly learning:
 'Your brother eats the fatted calf.
 What's missing has finally been found.'
 In anger, when the father frowned,
 the elder gave a caustic laugh:

6. 'For all of the chores that I did
 you offered my friends not a kid.
 For one who was obviously craving
 you're killing this calf we were saving.'
 "That happiness was right we knew.
 My son, you are always so near.
 Your kin was gone and now is here.
 From life itself we take our cue."

1. Now gather round and hear a fable.
 Here was a nobleman at table,
 and Lazarus, who tried for meat,
 reached for a crumb, completely able,
 unwanted things a dog would eat.

6:17

Mt. 15:27

2. Beside the gate this pauper tarried.
 Then at the gates of death, on-carried
 to Abraham, all outcries ceased.
 Then was the rich man, duly buried,
 in Hades' open mouth released.

Ps. 69:15

3. Tormented, hot becoming hotter,
 looking at heaven which could totter,
 'My father, let you mercy rule,
 send here my Lazarus with water
 and give my tongue a respite cool.'

4. "My son, in life you came out bossing,
 back would you go, some morsels tossing,
 but you'll have sores instead of cures.
 Fixed is a gulf which stops a crossing
 of servant types from ours to yours."

5. 'Then force our door that usually closes,
 wake them with preaching that exposes
 the chance that they might come here too.'
 "Let them embrace the law of Moses,
 and life that every heart is due."

Dt. 32:46-47

6. 'Repent they will, if they are aided,
 helped by a miracle they raided.'
 "If they won't hear what prophets said,
 nor will your brothers be persuaded
 should someone rise who once was dead."

1. While traveling to Jerusalem
 our Lord preferred the border.
The journey was a stratagem
 for service, made-to-order.
And there where dealers buy and sell
 ten lepers met the Master
moved by the sight who bid them tell
 the priests of their disaster.
2. Now as they went, their plight to show,
 the leprosy was treated.
And one, who felt the healing glow,
 returned, with pain depleted.
This winner, a Samaritan,
 would fall, alive and living,
prone, as the humble publican,
 at Jesus' feet, thanks giving.
3. "Were ten of them, in fact, restored?
 Do nine remain in danger?
It seems that no one praised the Lord
 except this foreign stranger.
No holy men in Israel
 would fathom such conviction.
Faith brought you here and made you well,
 receive my benediction."

Luke 17 Chris Nelson @ 2022
Genevan 91 8787.8787 Serial (mpf) [mezzo piano, forte]

1. Jesus was passing through a town,
a schemer and a fraud was there,
rich from collecting every share,
a scoundrel when receipts were down,
who wondered if a prophet knew,
though clearly too short for a view.
2. Running with eagerness ahead,
the sycamore, a way to see
Jesus appearing by the tree
who looked beyond the crowd and said,
"Come down, Zacchaeus, yes, today
at yours, where you live, must I stay."
3. Down in a trice the man began
by welcoming, while all complained,
'Here is a good that's been profaned,
a sinner's house is one we'd ban!'
who'd pay them back from all that's found,
because of the worth of a pound.
4. 'Look, with the poor I'm going to sign
a bill for what I once contrived.'
"This man's salvation has arrived,
with Abraham, who'd now recline.
The Son of Man has come to seek
such ones as were lost, proud or meek."

19:13

16:22

1. 'This man we considered so great
 in matters that the courts would rate, 24:7
 moved us, a prophet of the nation.
 This Jesus, with fate misallied,
 was sentenced to death, crucified,
 by means of their false accusation.
 We'd hoped that this king was to be
 the Christ to set our people free. 23:2
2. 'Reports by the women who'd gone
 with spices at the crack of dawn,
 all set to decorate the prison, 24:1
 said angels to them did appear
 to tell them their Lord, never fear,
 was really alive, truly risen. Mt. 28:5
 Then Peter ran up to the tomb, 24:6
 saw nothing but the empty room.' 24:12
3. "So slow in becoming well versed,
 to recognize the message first:
 rise should the Christ, and so to glory!" 24:16
 So Jesus could keep in reserve 24:35
 the themes that would happen to serve
 salvation's most radiant story.
 When those on that road neared the end,
 to stay with them they pressed their friend,
4. who took , at the table, some bread
 and broke it, with the blessing said,
 known to their eyes, before them fading,
 who kindled their hearts to be keyed
 to worship, as one who could knead
 that kernel of life, still evading. Jn. 12:24
 At once they went back, to present
 their grasp of what the loaves had meant. Mk. 6:52