

# Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending



1. Lo! He comes with clouds des - cend - ing, once for  
2. Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him robed in  
3. Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his  
4. Yea, A - men, let all a - dore thee, high on



fav - ored sin - ners slain; thou - sand thou - sand  
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at  
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less  
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sav - ior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
naught and sold him, pierced and nailed him to the  
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -  
power and glo - ry, claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,  
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,  
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,  
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia God ap - pears on earth to reign.  
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Ev - er - last - ing God, come down!

Words: 1758 | Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Helmsley* | melody attr. Thomas Olivers (1725-1799) or Thomas Arne (1710-1778)  
harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Hailed by hymnologist Erik Routley as "early Methodist hymnody at its best...shamelessly jubilant," *Helmsley* shares some musical DNA with *Sagina*, the tune for *And Can it Be*. Some hymnal editors attribute the tune to Thomas Arne, seeing parallels in a tune from one of Arne's operas. But Wesley attributed the tune to Thomas Olivers, who supposedly "heard [it] whistled in the street." Wesley's text is a reworking of an earlier hymn by John Cennick (1752); Wesley transformed the hymn from something forgettable to one of the most universally-loved Advent hymns.