Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643-1704)
In nativitatem Domini canticum H. 416 (ca. 1690)

**Prelude**
How long will you turn your face from us, O Lord, and ignore our distress?

**Chorus of the Just**
Remember the promise you made, come from heaven and save us.
Be consoled, daughter of Sion, who are consumed with mourning.
Behold, your gentle king will come to you, beseeching you not to plead,
and the pupil of your eyes will be still;
on that day the mountains will distill sweetness and the hills will flow with milk and honey.
Be comforted, be consoled, daughter of Sion, and uphold God, your salvation.
Open up the heavens, our Redeemer, and come down.
The time is near when the Lord should come, he will come and not deceive us,
the redemption of the Lord is nigh.
He will come in the way he will come and must be sent in the way he will come, he will come and will not delay.
Rain down, you heavens, from above, and the clouds will rain the just one.
The earth shall be opened and a Saviour will grow forth.

**Night**

**The shepherds’ awakening**

**Shepherds’ chorus**
The heavens were opened, a great light arose, a great light, a terrible light.

**The angel**
Fear not, shepherds. Behold: I announce to you great joy which will be for all the people, for a saviour is born for you today, the anointed one, the Lord, in the city of David; and this shall be a sign for you: you shall find a baby wrapped in swaddling bands and laid in a manger, so get up, go, go, hurry and adore the Lord. But you too, angels, sing with me to the Lord, a new song, for he is doing marvels on the earth.

**Chorus of angels**
Glory to God in the highest And on earth peace to men of good will.
Isabella Leonarda (1620-1704)
Magnificat, Op. 19 Nr. 10 (n.d.)
My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.

For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold, from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.
And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations.

He hath shewed strength with his arm.
He hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat
and hath exalted the humble and meek.

He hath filled the hungry with good things.
And the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel
as he promised to our forefathers Abraham, and his seed forever.
Amen.

Translation by Linda Mack

Heinrich Schütz (1585-1672)
Jubilate Deo omnis terra, SWV 332
from Kleine Geistliche Konzerte II (1639)
O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence
with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
we are his children and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise;
be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting,
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Psalm 100, King James Bible