A painting of a nativity scene. The sky is filled with a dense, starry pattern of white, gold, and blue brushstrokes. Below the sky, a landscape of warm, golden-brown and reddish tones is visible. In the foreground, several shepherds are depicted in dark, shadowed forms, some with their arms raised. The overall style is expressive and textured, with visible brushwork throughout.

THE ORIGINAL SONGS
OF CHRISTMAS

*Angels'
Song*

Ad•vent | 'æd vɛnt |

noun (singular)

- a coming into place, view, or being.
- the arrival of a notable person, thing, or event.

ORIGIN First recorded in 1125–75; Middle English, from Latin adventus “arrival, approach,” equivalent to ad- “**toward**” + ven- (stem of venīre “to **come**”) + -tus (suffix of verbal action);

Colossians 3:16

¹⁶ Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you **teach and admonish** one another with all wisdom through **psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit**, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

Advent Songs: quiet, wearied longing

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,

and ransom captive Israel

that mourns in lonely exile here

until the Son of God appear.

Advent Songs: quiet, wearied longing

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

The world in solemn stillness lay....

Above its sad and lowly plains....

Advent Songs: quiet, wearied longing

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

And with fear and trembling stand;

Ponder nothing earthly-minded,

For with blessing in his hand

Christ, the Lord, to earth descended,

Our full homage to command.

Worldly Alternatives to Advent Waiting

All I want for Christmas is you

I don't want a lot for Christmas

There is just one thing I need

I don't care about the presents underneath the

Christmas tree

I just want you for my own

Worldly Alternatives to Advent Waiting

Home for the Holidays

Oh, there's no place like home for the holidays

From Pennsylvania folks are travellin'

Down to Dixie's sunny shore

From Atlantic to Pacific

Gee, the traffic is terrific

Worldly Alternatives to Advent Waiting

Santa Baby

Santa baby, a 54 convertible too, light blue

I'll wait up for you dear

Santa baby, so hurry down the chimney tonight

The ultimate value of the songs we sing must be determined by their outcome: do they draw our attention towards deeper adoration of the Babe in the manger or towards other things?

The Original Christmas Songs

Mary's Song (the Magnificat):

God's exaltation of the lowly and humiliation of the mighty

Zechariah's Song (the Benedictus):

God's salvation via the Messiah, announced by John the Baptist

Angels' Song (Gloria in Excelsis Deo):

Glory to God; peace to the recipients of His grace

Simeon's Song (Nunc Dimittis):

God's salvation as the glory of Israel and a light to the Gentiles.

Angels' Song: Glory, Peace, and Favor

God's Glory: the magnificence, worth, loveliness, and grandeur of His many perfections, which He displays in His creative and redemptive acts.

Angels' Song: Glory, Peace, and Favor

God's Peace: a condition of freedom from disturbance, whether outwardly, as of a nation from war or enemies, or inwardly, within the soul.

Angels' Song: Glory, Peace, and Favor

God's Favor: divine kindness, compassion, and generosity on the part of God Himself toward needy and undeserving human recipients.

The Angels' Message

Angelos is the Greek word normally translated into English as “angel.”

“One who brings a message.”

The Angels' Message

“Do not be afraid”

The Angels' Message

“Do not be afraid”

“I bring you good news”

The Angels' Message

“Do not be afraid”

“I bring you good news”

“A Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah”

The Angels' Message

“Do not be afraid”

“I bring you good news”

“A Savior has been born to you; He is the Messiah”

“This will be a sign to you”

The Angels' Message

**GLORY TO GOD,
PEACE TO YOU!**

The Shepherds' Response

“Let's go to Bethlehem and see”

The Shepherds' Response

“Let's go to Bethlehem and see”

“and they were terrified”

The Shepherds' Response

“Let's go to Bethlehem and see”

“and they were terrified”

“they spread the word”

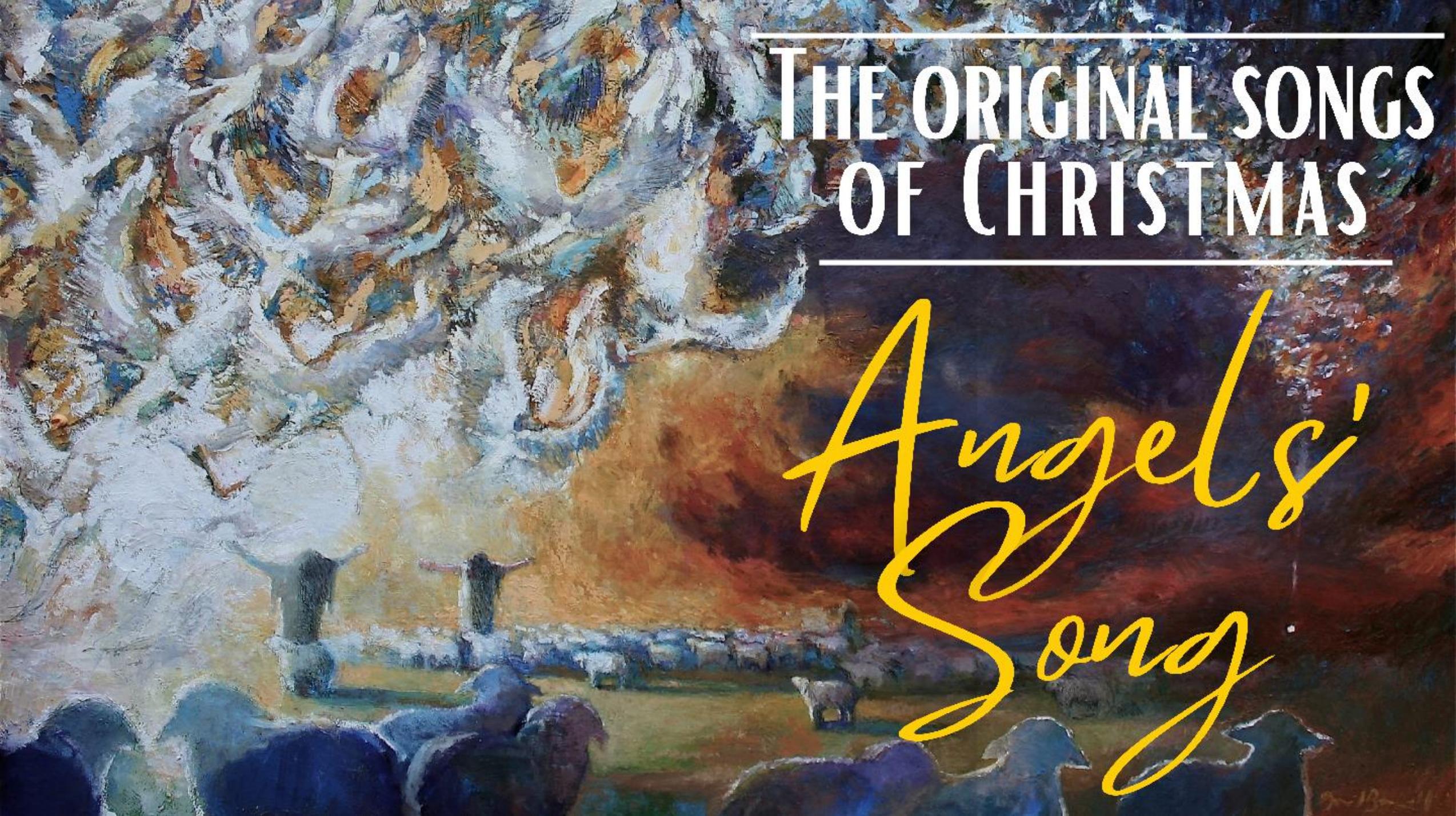
“They returned, glorifying and praising God”

Our Response

Do we **actively respond** to the message?

Do we **share the Good News** with others?

Do we recognize (**glorify**) and thank (**praise**)
God for His grace?

A painting of a nativity scene. The sky is filled with a dense, swirling pattern of white, gold, and blue, representing a starry night. Below the sky, a landscape of rolling hills is depicted in warm, golden-brown and reddish tones. In the foreground, several shepherds are shown in silhouette, some with their arms raised in a gesture of praise or awe. The overall style is expressive and textured, with visible brushstrokes and a rich, atmospheric quality.

THE ORIGINAL SONGS
OF CHRISTMAS

*Angels'
Song*