

***A Christmas Scripture-Song Compilation
by Lin Sexton
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California***

“STILLE NACHT” singer interpolated with reader; music is rhythmically free. The singer and reader should seldom overlap. The reading is gentle, not enacted, and not emotional. The tension between the music and reading provides the emotion in this case.

SINGER: Silent night!

READER: But the crowds cried out, “Crucify Him! Crucify Him!”

SINGER: Holy night!

READER: Then they spat in his face and struck him with their fists. Others slapped him and said, “Prophecy to us, Christ. Who hit you?”

SINGER: All is calm, . . .

READER: When Pilate saw . . . that an uproar was starting, he took water and washed his hands. . . . “I am innocent of this man’s blood.”

SINGER: all is bright . . .

READER: And darkness came over the whole land until the ninth hour, for the sun stopped shining.

SINGER: ’round yon virgin Mother and Child!

READER: Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, Mary.

SINGER: Holy infant, . . .

READER: “I am thirsty,” he cried. And they gave him a sponge of vinegar.

SINGER: so tender and mild, . . .

READER: And he cried out with a loud voice, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

SINGER: sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

READER: “It is finished.” With that, he bowed his head and gave up his Spirit. *(Pause)* And we beheld his glory, the glory of the one and only Son.”
