Church in the Wildwood

There's a church on the hill by the wildwood
No lovelier place near the dale
No spot is so dear to my childhood
As the little white church on the hill

Refrain:

O come, come, come, come
Come, to the church by the wildwood
Come to the church on the hill
No place is so dear to my childhood
As the little white church on the hill

There, close by the church in the sunshine
There's a view I love so well
A scene, so serene, I get mellow
Disturb not the peace on the hill [Refrain]

There they sleep by the church near the valley
Lie those that we loved so well
They sleep, peaceful sleep, near the willow
Disturb not their rest on the hill [Refrain]

Oh, come to the church in the wildwood, To the trees where the wild flowers bloom; Where the parting hymn will be chanted, We will weep by the side of their tomb.

[Refrain]

From the church on the hill by the wildwood,
When day fades away into night,
I would fain from this spot of my childhood
Wing my way to the mansions of light. [Refrain]

How sweet on a clear Sabbath morning
To list to the clear ringing bell
It's tones so sweetly are calling
Oh, come to the church on the hill [Refrain]

The Sunday-School Christmas Pageant

Submitted by Judy Best

Oh angel, you there, the big angel with the red hair, yes, you are dear, how old are you? Ten? And this is your last year being an angel? Well, that's the way it is with angels. The don't last long. The amazing thing is that you are here at all, all of you. Heaven has been populated with a completely new set of angels in the last five years, a completely new set of angels!

Thank you darling. Merry Christmas to you too. Your wings are fine. Don't go flapping against one another now. And don't lean against the wall, you'll crush your wings. Please stop talking. Who needs a pin? Here I have a pin. What's your name honey? Can't you talk? Everybody please, stop yelling! Line up now angels. Are you chewing gum? Get rid of the gum please. No... don't swallow it! Oh well... No chewing and no talking.

It's about time to go into the sanctuary. Sally, your wings are crooked. No not your honey. Yours are fine. Say... your kind of little aren't you? Oh, you're five and one half? Well...now line up, who's the lead angle oh, you, the tall one, of course! Now, we're about ready. Everyone, please be quiet. Whose wings fell off! Well, don't pull on your wings, don't pull on any one's wings. Do you all hear me? Leave your wings alone, leave everybody's wings alone! Please try to remember you are all angels, yes, angels. All right, line up according to height, tall one in the back, little angels in the rear. Hurry, hurry there are only a few minutes left now. Please hush, the audience will hear you, imagine...gabbling, noisy angels! Ready now? No talking please, I'm going to open the door, shush, not a word. What...? No, no, it's too late now, you'll just have to wait.

The trumpets are sounding, that's your cue. I'll open the door. All right, go, go. No pushing, keep three feet apart, Sush! I'll whisper but you don't need to whisper anything. Just go, be angels now just be angels. That's right that's splendid! You all look lovely, lovely... No, I'm not crying. You're the last one honey, hurry up little angel, follow the others. Splendid, splendid! Of course, I'm not crying, why should there be tears in my eyes? Sniff, sniff!

Author unknown.