Christmas Carols

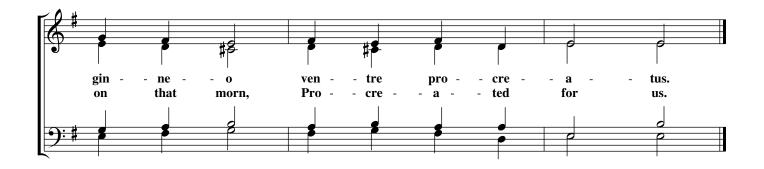
Arise and Hail the Joyful Day



- 1. Arise and hail the joyful day Of your Redeemer's birth; Lift up you voices to the sky; A Saviour born on earth.
- 2. Behold and hear what news we bring To lost mankind this day; Sweet hallelujah let us sing, And join the heav'nly lay.
- 3. He comes, poor sinners to redeem, Who so affronted God; To heal their souls from death and sin, And save them with his blood.
- 4. Then let us join in choirs above To celebrate His name, In singing of His wonderous love, And spreading forth his fame.

The Boys Carol Personent Hodie





- 1. Personent hodie, Voces puerulae, Laudantes jocunde, Qui nobis est natus, Summo Deo datus, Et de vir, vir, vir, Et de vir, vir, vir, Et de virginneo Ventre procreatus.
- 2. In mundo nascitur,
 Pannis involvitur,
 Praesepi ponitur
 Stabulo brutorum
 Rector supernorum,
 Perdidit, dit, dit,
 Perdidit, dit, dit,
 Perdidit spolia
 Princeps infernorum.
- 3. Magi tres venerunt,
 Parvulum inquirunt,
 Parvulum inquirunt,
 Stellulam sequendo,
 Ipsum adorando,
 Aurum, thus, thus, thus,
 Aurum, thus, thus, thus,
 Aurum, thus, et myrrham
 Ei offerendo.
- 4. Omnes clereculi,
 Pariter pueri,
 Cantent ut angeli:
 Advenisti mundo,
 Laudes tibi fundo.
 Ideo, o, o,
 Ideo, o, o,
 Ideo gloria
 In excesis Deo.

- 1. Let the boys' cheerful noise, Sing today none but joys, Praise aloud, clear and proud, Praise to him in chorus, Giv'n from heaven for us, Virgin-born, born, born, Virgin-born on that morn, Procreated for us.
- 2. He who rules heaven and earth Lies in stall at his birth, Humble beasts at his feast See the Light eternal Vanquish realms infernal: Satan's done, done, done, Satan's done, done, done, Satan's done, God has won, Victor he, supernal.
- 3. Magi come from afar
 See their sun, tiny one,
 Follow far, little star,
 At the crib adoring,
 Man to God restoring,
 Gold and myrrh, myrrh, myrrh,
 Gold and myrrh, myrrh, myrrh,
 Gold and myrrh offered there,
 Incense for adoring.
- 4. Clerk and boy, join in joy,
 Sing as heaven sings for joy,
 God this day here doth stay,
 Pour we forth the story
 Of his might and glory:
 So to God, God, God,
 So to God, God, God,
 So to God glory be,
 In the highest, glory.

Chariots

John Kirkpatrick, 1995



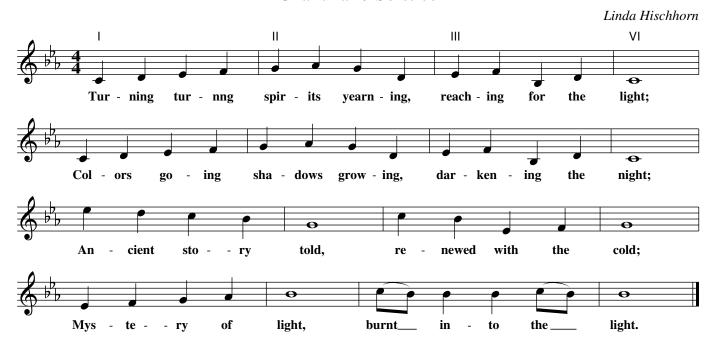
1. O Shepherd O shepherd come leave off your piping Come listen come learn come hear what I say For now is the time that has long been forespoken For now is the time there'll be new tunes to play For soon there comes one who brings a new music Of sweetness and clarity none can compare So open your heart for heavenly harmony Here on this hill will be filling the air

CHORUS

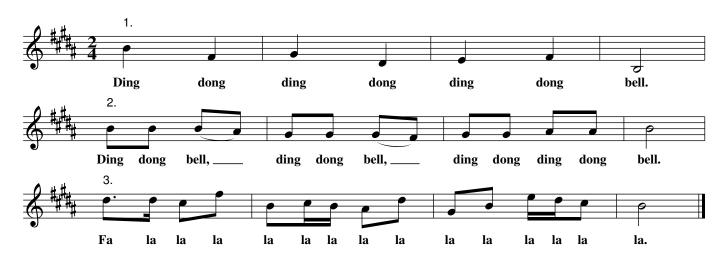
With chariots of cherubim chanting
And seraphim singing hosanna
And a choir of archangels a-caroling come
Hallelujah Hallelu
All the angels a-trumpeting glory
In praise of the Prince of Peace

- 2. See on yon stable the starlight is shimmering
 And glimmering and glistening and glowing with glee
 In Bethlehem blest this baby of bliss will be
 Born here before you as bold as can be
 And you'll be the first to hear the new symphony
 Songs full of gladness and glory and light
 So learn your tunes well and play your pipes proudly
 For the Prince of Paradise plays here tonight
- 3. Bring your sheep bleating to this happy meeting
 To hear how the lamb with the lion shall lie
 It's mooing and braying you'll hear the song saying
 The humble and lowly will be the most high
 Let the horn of the herdsman be heard up in heaven
 For the gates are flung open for all who come near
 And the simplest of souls shall sing to infinity
 Lift up and listen and you shall hear
- 4. The warmonger's charger will thunder for freedom
 The gun-maker's furnace will dwindle and die
 And muskets and sabers and swords shall be sundered
 Surrendered to the sound that is sweeping the sky
 And the shoes of the mighty shall dance to new measures
 And the jackboots of generals shall jangle no more
 As sister and brother and father and mother
 Agree with each other the end to all war
- 5. As a candle can conquer the demons of darkness
 As a flame can keep frost from the deepest of cold
 So a song can give hope in the depths of all danger
 And a line of pure melody soar in your soul
 So sing your songs well and sing your songs sweetly
 And swear that your singing it never shall cease
 So the clatter of battle and drums of disaster
 Be drowned in the sound of the pipes of peace

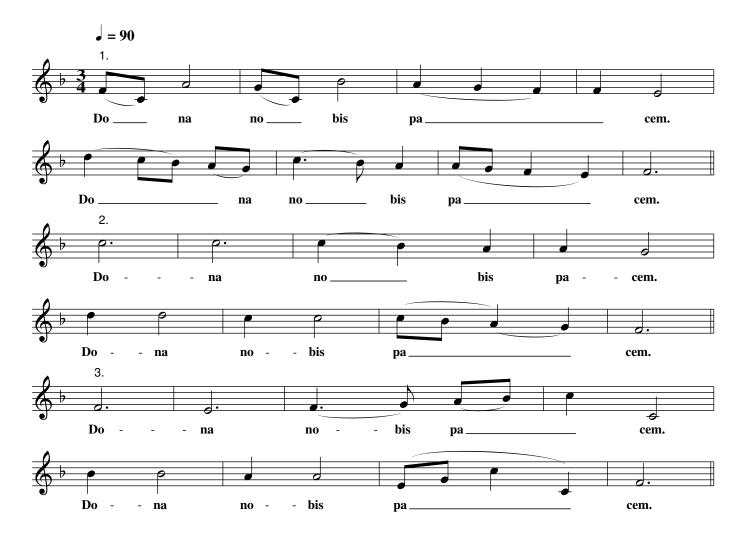
Chanukah / Solstice



Ding Dong Bell



Dona Nobis Pacem

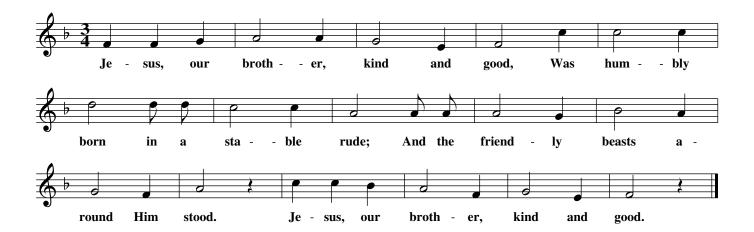


Down In Yon Forest



- 1. Down in yon forest a–growing so tall
 There prosper in winter as so shall we all
 The brilliant green ivy and holly so bright
 So let us be merry this long winter's night
- 2. Down in yon forest there grows a sharp thorn As bitter as any word spoken in scorn But scorn have we none nor the will for to fight So let us be merry this long winter's night
- 3. Down in yon forest there stands a stout oak
 For creatures a shelter, for gods a green cloak
 For us goodly firewood to make our hearth bright
 So let us be merry this long winter's night
- 4. Down in yon forest as thick as you please
 We'll dance in the orchard of fine apple trees
 Whose health we will drink 'til the grey morning light
 So let us be merry this long winter's night
- 5. Down in yon forest the ash we shall dress And bind into bundles to burn and to bless To carry good tidings and gladden our sight So let us be merry this long winter's night
- 6. Down in yon forest there grow great and small Enough silver birches as torches for all To light our way homeward when time it is right So let us be merry this long winter's night

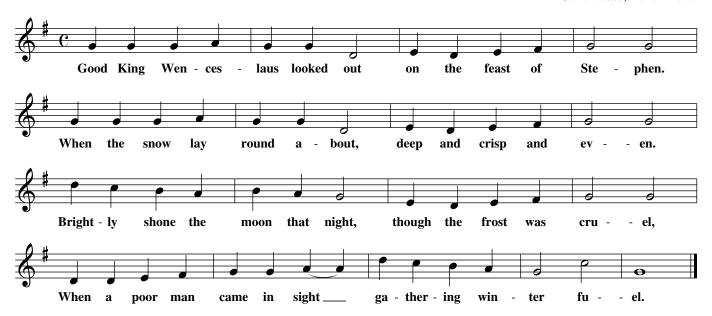
The Friendly Beasts



- Jesus, our brother, kind and good, Was humbly born in a stable rude; And the friendly beasts around Him stood. Jesus, our brother, kind and good.
- 2. "I," said the Donkey, shaggy and brown,
 "I carried His mother up hill and down;
 I carried His mother to Bethlehem town."
 "I," said the Donkey, shaggy and brown.
- 3. "I," said the Cow, all white and red,
 "I gave Him my manger for His bed;
 I gave Him my hay to pillow His head."
 "I," said the Cow, all white and red.
- 4. "I," said the Sheep, with the curly horn,
 "I gave Him my wool for His blanket warm;
 He wore my coat on Christmas morn."
 "I," said the Sheep, with the curly horn.
- 5. "I," said the Dove, from the rafters high,
 "I cooed Him to sleep that He should not cry;
 We cooed Him to sleep, my mate and I."
 "I," said the Dove, from the rafters high.
- 6. Thus every beast by some glad spell, In the stable dark was glad to tell Of the gift he gave Emmanuel, The gift he gave Emmanuel.

Good King Wenceslaus

J.M. Neale, 1818-1866



- Good King Wenceslaus looked out on the feast of Stephen.
 When the snow lay round about, deep and crisp and even.
 Brightly shone the moon that night, though the frost was cruel,
 When a poor man came in sight, gathering winter fuel.
- 2. Hither page and stand by me, if thou knowst it telling, Yonder peasant, who is he, where and what his dwelling? Sire, he lives a good league hence, underneath the mountain, Right against the forest fence, by Saint Agnes' fountain.
- 3. Bring me flesh and bring me wine, bring me pinelogs hither Thou and I will see him dine, when we bear them thither Page and monarch forth they went, forth they went together; Through the rude winds wild lament and the bitter weather.
- 4. Sire, the night is darker now, and the wind blows stronger Fails my heart, I know now how; I can go no longer.

 Mark my footsteps, my good page, tread thou in them boldly; Thou shalt find the winter's rage freeze thy blood less coldly.
- 5. In his master's steps he trod, where the snow lay dinted; Heat was in the very sod which the saint had printed. Therefore, Christian men be sure, wealth or rank possessing, Ye who now will bless the poor, shall yourselves find blessing.

Gloucestershire Wassail



- 1. Wassail, wassail, all over the town!
 Our toast it is white and our ale it is brown,
 Our bowl it is made of the white maple tree,
 With the wassailing bowl, we'll drink to thee.
 Drink to thee, drink to thee,
 With a wassailing bowl we'll drink to thee.
- 2. And here is to Cherry and to his right cheek, Pray God send our master a good good piece of beef, A good piece of beef that may we all see, With a wassailing bowl, we'll drink to thee. Drink to thee, drink to thee, With a wassailing bowl we'll drink to thee.
- 3. And here is to Dobbin and to his right eye,
 Pray God send our master a good Christmas pie,
 A good Christmas pie that may we all see,
 With a wassailing bowl, we'll drink to thee.
 Drink to thee, drink to thee,
 With a wassailing bowl we'll drink to thee.
- 4. And here is to Broad May and to her broad horn, May God send our master a good crop of corn, A good crop of corn that may we all see, With a wassailing bowl, we'll drink to thee. Drink to thee, drink to thee, With a wassailing bowl we'll drink to thee.
- 5. And here is to Fillpail and to her left ear,
 Pray God send our master a happy New Year,
 A happy New Year as e'er he did see,
 A jolly wassail it's then you shall see.
 Then you shall see, then you shall see,
 A jolly wassail it's then you shall see.
- 6. And here is to Colly and to her long tail, Pray God send our master he never may fail, A bowl of strong beer; I pray you draw near, With a wassailing bowl, we'll drink to thee. Drink to thee, drink to thee, With a wassailing bowl we'll drink to thee.
- 7. Come butler, come fill us a bowl of the best,
 They I pray that your soul in heaven may rest,
 But if you do bring us a bowl of the small,
 May the devil take butler, bowl and all.
 Bowl and all, bowl and all,
 May the devil take butler, bowl and all.
- 8. Then here's to the maid in the lily—white smock,
 Who tripped to the door and slipped back the lock,
 Who tripped to the door and pulled back the pin,
 For to let these jolly wassailers in.
 Wassailers in, wassailers in,
 For to let these jolly wassailers in.

Gower Wassail



A-wassail, a-wassail, throughout all this town.
 Our cup it is white and our ale it is brown.
 Our wassail is made of the good ale and true,
 Some nutmeg and ginger, it's the best we can brew.

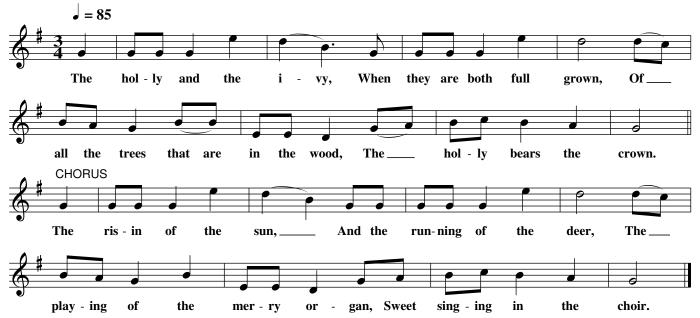
CHORUS

Fol the dol, fol the dol-de-dol, Fol the dol-de-do, fol the dol-de-dee, Fol the der-o, fol the da-dee, Sing tu-re-lye-do!

- 2. Our wassail is made of the elderberry bough, And so, my good neighbor, we'll drink unto thou. Besides all on earth, you'll have apples in store, Pray let us come in for it's cold by the door.
- 3. We hope that your apple trees prosper and bear So that we may have cider when we call next year. And where you've one barrel, we hope you'll have ten So that we may have cider when we call again.
- 4. There's a master and a mistress sitting down by the fire, While we poor wassail boys stand here in the mire. Come you pretty maid with your silver headed pin, Pray, open the door and let us come in.
- 5. It's we poor wassail boys so weary and cold, Please drop some small silver into our bowl. And if we survive for another new year Perhaps we may call and see who does live here.
- 6. We know by the moon that we are not too soon,
 And we know by the sky that we are not too high,
 We know by the stars that we are not too far,
 And we know by the ground that we are within sound.

The Holly and the Ivy

collected by Cecil Sharp from Mrs. Clayton at Chipping Campden



The holly and the ivy,
 When they are both full grown.
 Of all the trees are in the wood
 The holly bears the crown.

CHORUS

Oh, the rising of the sun, And the running of the deer, The playing of the merry organ, Sweet singing in the choir.

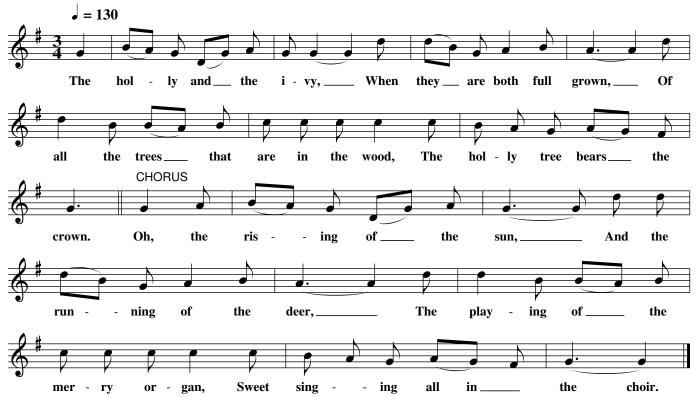
ALT: Oh, the rising of the sun, And the running of the deer, The days are short, the nights are long, The turning of the year.

2. The holly bears a blossom,
As white as the lily flower,
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
To be our sweet Saviour.

- 2. Alternate
 The holly bears a blossom,
 As white as any milk,
 And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
 All wrappéd in the silk.
- 3. The holly bears a berry,
 As red as any blood,
 And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
 To do poor sinners good.
- 4. The holly bears a prickle, As sharp as any thorn, And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ, On Christmas Day in the morn.
- 5. The holly bears a bark,
 As bitter as any gall,
 And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,
 For to redeem us all.
- 6. The holly and the ivy,
 When they are both full grown.
 Of all the trees are in the wood
 The holly bears the crown.

The Holly and the Ivy

collected by Maud Karpeles and Pat Shaw



The holly and the ivy,
 When they are both full grown.
 Of all the trees are in the wood
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CHORUS

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 When they are both full grown.
 Of all the trees are in the wood
 The holly bears the crown.

The Homeless Wassail



gin

and

a

Wassail, wassail all over the town, Our cup is white and our ale is brown; But huddled on this iron grate We poor and hungry curse our fate.

a

Chorus:

No Wassail bowl for such as these, No turkey scraps, no ale, no cheese; This Christmas Eve our heart's desire Is a bottle of gin and a trash-can fire.

Good Christian mind as home you go, With dreams of holly and mistletoe, That the holly bears a dreadful thorn For those who wake to a frozen dawn

Oh, where is he that holy child Once born of Mary, meek and mild? And wither peace, good will to men Now and forevermore, amen?

trash

can

All ye who dine with face aglow In regenenciatrio Pray, pause awhile at pleasure's door And sup some sorrow with the poor.

Wassail, wassail all over the town Our cup is white and our ale is brown; This cold and hunger pain and care, Sweet Jesus Christ, it's hard to bear!

In Praise of Christmas To Drive the Cold Winter Away

Words: Tom Durfey (1653–1723)



- 1. All hail to the days that merit more praise
 Than all the rest of the year,
 And welcome the nights that double delights
 As well for the poor as the peer!
 Good fortune attend each merry man's friend
 That doth but the best that he may,
 Forgetting old wrongs with carols and songs
 To drive the cold winter away.
- Tis ill for a mind to anger inclined
 To think of small injuries now,
 If wrath be to seek, do not lend her your cheek,
 Nor let her inhabit thy brow.
 Cross out of thy books malevolent looks,
 Both beauty and youth's decay,
 And wholly consort with mirth and with sport
 To drive the cold winter away.
- 3. This time of the year is spent in good cheer, And neighbours together do meet, To sit by the fire, with friendly desire, Each other in love for to greet. Old grudges forgot are put in the pot, All sorrows aside they lay; The old and the young doth carol this song, To drive the cold winter away.
- 4. When Christmas's tide comes in like a bride, With holly and ivy clad, Twelve days in the year, much mirth and good cheer In every household is had. The country guise is then to devise Some gambols of Christmas play, Whereat the young men do the best that they can To drive the cold winter away.

In the Bleak Mid-Winter

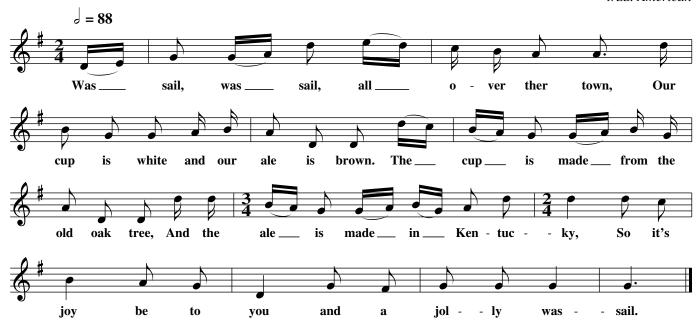
Words by Christina Rossetti Music by Gustav Holst



- 1. In the bleak mid—winter, Frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron, Water like a stone; Snow had fallen, snow on snow, Snow on snow, In the bleak midwinter, Long ago.
- Our God in heav'n cannot hold him Nor earth sustain; Heav'n and earth shall flee away When he comes to reign: In the bleak mid-winter A stable place sufficed The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.
- 3. Enough for him, whom cherubim Worship night and day, A breastful of milk, And a mangerful of hay; Enough for him, whom angels Fall down before, The ox and ass and camel Which adore.
- 4. Angels and archangels, May have gathered there, Cherubim and seraphim Thronged the air: But only his mother In her maiden bliss Worshipped the Beloved With a kiss.
- 5. What can I give him, Poor as I am?
 If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
 If I were a wise man I would do my part;
 Yet what I can I give him, Give my heart.

Kentucky Wassail

trad. American



- 1. Wassail, wassail, all over ther town, Our cup is white and our ale is brown. The cup is made from the old oak tree, And the aleis madeinKentucky, So it's joy be to you and a jolly wassail.
- 2. Oh, good man and good wife, are you within? Pray lift the latch and let us come in.

 We see you a-sitting at the boot o' the fire,

 Not a-thinkin' of us in the mud and the mire.

 So it's joy be to you and a jolly wassail.
- 3. There was an old maid and she lived in a house, And she had for a pet a tiny wee mouse. Oh, the house had a stove and the house was warm, And a little bit of liquor won't do no harm. So it's joy be to you and a jolly wassail.
- 4. Oh, a man in York drank his sack from a pail, But all we ask is a wee wassail.Oh, husband and wife, alack, we part, God bless this house from the bottom of our heart. So it's joy be to you and a jolly wassail.

Orientis Partibus

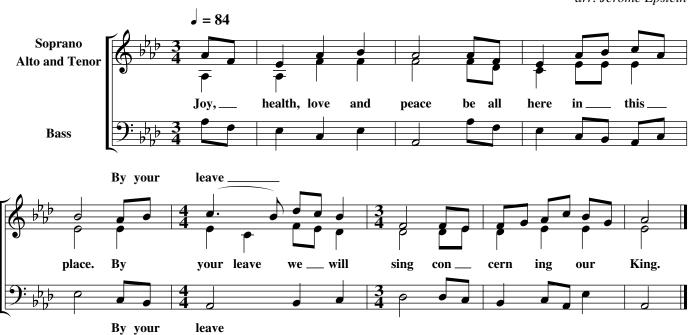
anon. medieval carol English words, Susan Cooper



- Orientis partibus, Adventavit asinus, Pulcher et fortisimus, Sarcinis aptisimus. Hez, Sir Asnes, Hez!
- 2. From the East the donkey came, Stout and strong as twenty men; Ears like wings and eyes like flame, Striding into Bethlehem. Hez, Sir Asnes, Hez!
- 3. Faster than the deer he leapt, With his burden on his back; Though all other creatures slept, Still the ass kept on his track. Hez, Sir Asnes, Hez!
- 4. Still he draws his heavy load, Fed on barley and rough hay; Pulling on along the road Donkey pull our sins away! Hez, Sir Asnes, Hez!
- 5. Wrap him now in cloth of gold; All rejoice who see him pass; Mirth inhabit young and old On this feast day of the ass. Hez, Sir Asnes, Hez!

Please to See the King

Traditional Welsh arr. Jerome Epstein



- 1. Joy, health, love and peace be all here in this place. By your leave we will sing concerning our King.
- 2. Our King is well dressed, in silks of the best, In ribbons so rare, no king can compare.
- 3. We have travelled many miles, over hedges and stiles, In search of our King, unto you we bring.
- 4. We have powder and shot, to conquer the lot. We have cannon and ball, to conquer them all.
- 5. Old Christmas is past, Twelfth Night is the Last. And we bid you adieu, great joy to the new.

Rolling Downward The Angel Song

Robert Lowry 1. Roll - - ing 2. Wond'r - ing ward, herds the Comes ___ down through___ night, Hear____ the ry, ed, the shep see _____ glo 3. Christ -God's ____ - the Sav noint Comes ___ ior, rious burst of heav'n 'Tis full of song shin - ing ones fall ___ in and ___ re word the de clare; At the man - ger debt. Man earth our fear - ful to pay. of sor - rows, the sweet - ness, And . sing ers are gel throng. an_ While ___ the quiv'r__ wor ship, the mu sic fills ing air. ject ed, Lamb___ of God, that takes our sin_ way



1. Rolling downward, through the midnight, Comes a glorious burst of heav'nly song; 'Tis a chorus full of sweetness, And the singers are an angel throng. Glory! glory in the highest!

Chorus:

On the earth goodwill and peace to men! Down the ages send the echo; Let the glad earth shout again!

- 2. Wond'ring shepherds see the glory, Hear the word the shining ones declare; At the manger fall in worship, While the music fills the quiv'ring air.
- 3. Christ the Savior, God's Anointed, Comes to earth our fearful debt to pay. Man of sorrows, and rejected, Lamb of God, that takes our sin away.

Sherburne C. M. While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

Music by Daniel Read, 1793

Text by Nahum Tate & Nicholas Brady, Supplement to the New Version of the Psalms, Ireland, 1700





Somerset Wassail

traditional English



- 1. Wassail and wassail all over the town.

 The cup it is white and the ale it is brown;

 The cup it is made of the good ashen tree,

 And so is the malt of the best barley.

 For its your wassail and its our wassail,

 And its joy be to you, and a jolly wassail.
- 2. O master and missus, are you all within?
 Pray open the door and let us come in.
 O master and missus a-sitting by the fire,
 Pray think on us poor travelers, a traveling in the mire.
 For its your wassail and its our wassail,
 And its joy be to you, and a jolly wassail.
- 3. O where is the maid with the silver-headed pin, To open the door and let us come in? O master and missus, it is our desire: A good loaf and cheese, and a toast by the fire. For its your wassail and its our wassail, And its joy be to you, and a jolly wassail.
- 4. There was an old man, and he had an old cow, And how for to keep her he didn't know how; He built up a barn for to keep his cow warm. And a drop or two of cider will do us no harm. No harm, boys, harm; no harm, boys, harm; And a drop or two of cider will do us no harm.
- 5. The girt dog of Langport he burnt his long tail,
 And this is the night we go singing wassail.
 O master and missus now we must be gone;
 God bless all in this house until we do come again.
 For its your wassail and its our wassail,
 And its joy be to you, and a jolly wassail.

The Wren Song

traditional Irish



1. The wren, the wren, the king of all birds, Saint Stephen's Day was caught in the furze, Although he was little, his honor was great, Jump up, me lads, and give us a treat!

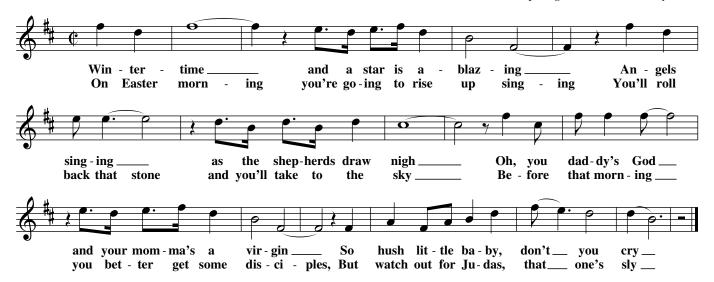
CHORUS

Hurrah, me boys, hurrah! Hurrah, me boys, hurrah! Knock at the knocker and ring at the bell, What will you give us for singing so well? Singing so well, singing so well, Give us a copper for singing so well.

- 2. We followed the wren three miles or more, Three miles or more, three miles or more, Through hedges and ditches and heaps of snow, At six o'clock in the morning.
- 3. Rolley, Rolley, where's your nest? It's in the bush that I love best, It's in the bush, the holly tree, Where all the boys do follow me.
- 4. As I went out to hunt and all,I met a wren upon the wall,Up with me wattle and gave him a fall,And brought him here to show you all.
- 5. I have a little box under me arm,
 A tuppence or penny'll do it no harm,
 For we are the boys tht came your way,
 To bring in the wren on Saint Stephen's Day!

Wintertime

Music by George Gershwin Words with apologies to Du Bose Heyward



- Wintertime and a star is a-blazing,
 Angels singing as the shepherds draw nigh.
 Oh, you daddy's God and your momma's a virgin,
 So hush little baby, don't you cry.
- 2. On Easter morning you're going to rise up singing. You'll roll back that stone and you'll take to the sky. Before that morning you better get some disciples, But watch out for Judas, that one's sly.