

The Garratt Publishing Annual Advent Calendar



Christmas Carols

It is unclear where Christmas Carols originated, who wrote them, how they evolved – even the exact origin of the word Carol remains a puzzle. However, we do know that carolling is an oral tradition that has been passed down from generation to generation and it is why several versions of the same Carol may be found today. The earliest English Carols that we know of were written by John Audelay, an English priest, who, at his deathbed in 1426, compiled a collection of his writings that included his own Christmas Carols.

St Francis of Assisi is considered by some to be the 'Father of Christmas Carols', having introduced Carols into formal worship of the church during a Christmas midnight mass in Italy in the 13th century. The energetic, joyful Carols were in sharp contrast to the sombre Christmas music of the day. These were often sung in Latin, but as the popularity of the Carols spread across Europe, a strong tradition of popular Christmas songs in regional native languages developed.

Musically, Carols were often based on medieval chord patterns which gave them their uniquely characteristic musical sound. Some Carols like *Personent Hodie* and *Good King Wenceslas*, can be traced directly back to the Middle Ages, and are among the oldest musical compositions still regularly sung.





Good King Wenceslas

🎵 The Irish Rovers, <https://youtu.be/N5E8CXQwtrg>

This Carol is based on Saint Wenceslaus I, Duke of Bohemia or Svatý Václav in Czech (907–935). Wenceslas is a Latinised version of 'Venceslav'. It tells the story the Bohemian King braving the harsh winter weather to give alms to a poor peasant on the Feast of St Stephen (December 26). During the journey, his page, who was struggling against the cold weather, wanted to give up. But, he was able to continue by following the King's footprints, step for step, through the deep snow.

In 1853, English hymnwriter John Mason Neale wrote the 'Wenceslas' lyric, in collaboration with his music editor Thomas Helmore, and the Carol first appeared in *Carols for Christmas-Tide*, published by Novello & Co the same year. Neale's lyric was set to the melody of 13th-century spring Carol *Tempus adest florum* (*Eastertime has come*) first published in the 1582 Finnish song collection *Piae Cantiones*.

Advent is time for walking slowly when others are rushing, for travelling lightly when consumers are burdened with merchandise, for eating less when others are eating more, for focus inwards when merrymakers drone in noisy carousing. Preoccupied with gift lists, Christmas cards and party planning, we allow Advent, this quiet season, to become the most frenetic time of the year. Without Advent, it is difficult to find the Christmas Christ. When dazzled by tinsel, we cannot see the star, let alone follow it. When speeding through the countdown before Christmas Day, we bypass the stable, and when our ears fill with jingles about Frosty and Rudolph, we miss the sweet strains of the angel's song.



NOVEMBER
29

Silent Night, Holy Night

🎵 Vienna Boys Choir, <https://youtu.be/vKvKMgR8H7k>

Silent Night, Holy Night (Stille Nacht, Heilige Nacht) was written in 1818 by a young Austrian priest Fr Joseph Mohr. The melody was composed by Franz Xaver Gruber, a schoolmaster and organist. It was first performed on Christmas Eve 1818 at St Nicholas parish church in Oberndorf bei Salzburg, Austria. Gruber played the music on a guitar as the church organ had broken down. The melody and harmonization of *Silent Night* is based on the Italian musical style called the 'siciliana' that mimics the sound of water and rolling waves: two large rhythmic beats, split into three parts each.

Silent Night, Holy Night has been translated into at least 300 languages, designated by UNESCO as a treasured item of 'Intangible Cultural Heritage', arranged in dozens of different musical styles from heavy metal to gospel, and has become a perennial part of the Christmas soundscape.



Silent Night Chapel in Oberndorf, Austria
Stands on the site where the song was first performed.

“The Lord is with you.” (Luke 1:28)

Let this phrase remind you of God's presence. God is with us through every experience - the joyful moments, the sad ones, the difficult ones, and every moment in between. Let it be a comfort when you feel alone, an encouragement when you feel discouraged, and a blessing in times of joy. Jesus is always with you.

JESUS 365 – A DAILY INVITATION TO RENEW YOUR SPIRIT
The Word Among Us



NOVEMBER
30

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

🎵 Dennis Walter https://youtu.be/YQ4gZ_KmP0Q

Based on *Luke 2:14*, the original lyrics of *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* were written in 1739 by Charles Wesley, one of the founders of Methodism, for a publication called *Hymns and Sacred Poems*.

The melody was slow and sombre and apparently, it was not popular. In 1840, Felix Mendelssohn composed a cantata *Festgesang*, also known as the *Gutenberg Cantata* to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Johannes Gutenberg's invention of the printing press. In 1855 English musician William H Cummings adapted Mendelssohn's music to fit the lyrics of *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*. This is the tune that is sung today – a rather unlikely source for a Christmas Carol.

O God, who chooses to use our feet for your purposes, send us where you will. May our comings and goings in the lives of others bring goodness into their lives. And may those who come our way announcing your presence find a welcome home with us. Bless those who teach, those who preach, and those whose works reveal your goodness.

WAITING IN JOYFUL HOPE 2021-2022
Catherine Upchurch


garratt
PUBLISHING

DECEMBER

1

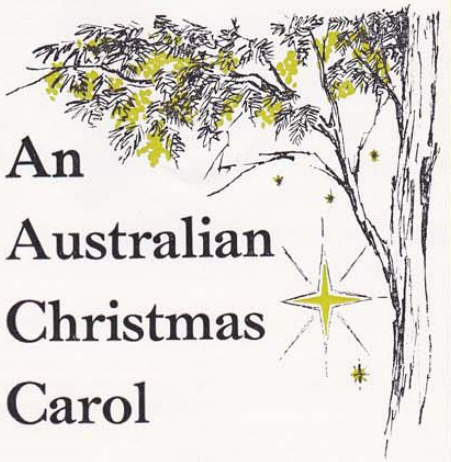
An Australian Christmas Carol

This obscure Christmas Carol has been attributed to Rev Mother Francis Tobin, IBVM, Australian Loreto Sister. It is not known when it was written but it appeared in the December 17, 1953 edition of *The Catholic Weekly* with just the attribution of IBVM.

However, when it was published in the December 1968 edition of *Progress* – the staff magazine of the State Savings Bank of Victoria – Mother Francis Tobin was recorded as the author.

Rev Mother Francis Tobin was born Elizabeth “Lizzie” Tobin in 1860 in Auburn Villa, Ararat, Victoria. In October 1875, at the of age 15, she became the seventh student to be enrolled in Mary’s Mount, Ballarat – the first Loreto school in Australia. At 19 she became the first Loreto student in Australia to become a postulant in the Loreto order, taking her vows in 1881, and professed in 1888. She passed away at Loreto, Kirribilli on August 12, 1956.

An Australian Christmas Carol



O little Babe of Bethlehem!
The Southern Cross shines down,
As once a Star shone glorious
Above an eastern town.
The hearts of Bethlehem are cold,
The streets are hushed with snow,
The doors are barred, there is no room,
Dear Lord, where wilt Thou go?
O come, sweet Jesus, come to us!
Australia's sun is warm,
And here are loving hearts enough
To shield Thee from the storm.
Come! we will give Thee all we have,
Each bird and flower and tree,
The breeze that stirs the silver gums,
The music of the sea.
And sweet wild clematis starry-eyed,
With delicate ferns we'll bring;
Our wattle trees shall shower their
gold
In tribute to our King.
We'll watch, when evening sounds
begin,
And dreaming flowers nod,
Thy Mother fold Thee in her arms,
Thou little Lamb of God,
Bell-birds shall ring their silver peal
From gullies green and deep,
And mingle with the magpies' note
To call Thee from Thy sleep.
O little Babe of Bethlehem
Australia loves Thee well,
Come to our hearts this Christmas-
tide,
And there forever dwell.
Mother Francis, I.B.V.M.



Rev Mother
Francis Tobin,
IBVM

“Let not the foreigner say, ... ‘The Lord will surely exclude me from his people’. The foreigners who joined themselves to the Lord, ministering to him, loving the name of the Lord, and becoming his servants... will be acceptable on my altar... For my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.” (Isaiah 56: 3, 6-7)

Lord grant me the grace to see you in all peoples.

THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD
Phyllis Zagano



O Come, All Ye Faithful

🎵 Epic Flash Mob Carol #LIGHTtheWORLD | The Five Strings
<https://youtu.be/XI2c9yptr4U>

O Come, All Ye Faithful, originally *Adeste Fideles* in Latin, has been translated into many languages and attributed to many authors, including John Wade. It was also known as the Portuguese Hymn as it was a popular hymn sung at the Portuguese Embassy in London. From 1588 – 1829 it was illegal to practice the Catholic Faith in England, however it was safe to worship at the chapels attached to the London Embassies of Catholic countries. John Wade, who worked as a scribe for numerous London Embassies and published many books, was a regular attendee at the Portuguese Embassy. Wade was also known for having an underground press for the Catholic community. His manuscripts were purported to contain secret messages for the faithful to overthrow the Tudors and reinstate the Stuart Monarchy, with the aim being to abolish the laws directed at Catholicism. It was in one of these manuscripts in 1751 that Wade penned *O Come, All Ye Faithful* – the first known version of the Carol in English. However, it is the English translation of the Carol by English Catholic priest Frederick Oakeley written in 1841, that is most widespread in English-speaking countries today

Loving God we step into the world this day as we do every day. Sometimes it is easy to leave the comfort of home, sometimes it isn't, but mostly we rush out on autopilot because we are running late. Beyond this door there are many things we can't control, situations we can't predict and events whose pace frustrates us. Give us the peace of heart and strength of purpose that allows us to step out and find our home with you wherever your grace leads us today. Help us this day to be the answer to somebody else's prayer. Amen

The Twelve Days of Christmas

🎵 Sydney Children's Choir Mini Singers
<https://youtu.be/9km-jPQhK5A>

The origin of this Carol is unknown, however, it is a popular Carol among many faiths. The earliest known version first appeared in a 1780 children's book called *Mirth Without Mischief* with no music and was intended as a chant or rhyme. A first edition of this book sold for \$23,750 at a Sotheby's auction in 2014!

It wasn't until 1909, that Novello & Co Ltd – known for publishing choral literature since 1811 – published the lyrics with the now-standard melody. English composer Frederic Austin fitted the words to a traditional melody. He added his own two-bar motif for 'Five Gold Rings' and many of the decisions Austin made with regard to the lyrics subsequently became widespread, such as:

- » The initial **O**n at the beginning of each verse,
- » The use of "calling birds", rather than "colly birds", on the fourth day, and
- » The ordering of the ninth to twelfth verses.



Jesus so many people need healing today. Give them your comfort, healing, and peace. Be with those who work to heal and guide them with your wisdom. Amen

CHRISTMAS CAROLS,

ANCIENT AND MODERN;

INCLUDING

THE MOST POPULAR IN THE WEST OF ENGLAND,
AND THE AIRS TO WHICH THEY ARE SUNG.

ALSO SPECIMENS OF

French Provincial Carols.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION AND NOTES.

BY

WILLIAM SANDYS, F.S.A.

LONDON:

RICHARD BECKLEY, 42, PICCADILLY.
1833.

DECEMBER

4

The First Nowell

🎵 Tenorissimo, *Carols In The City, Brisbane (2012)*
https://youtu.be/_dfY-oMin30

It is thought *The First Nowell*, or *The First Noël*, was originally a Cornish gallery Carol. Called a 'gallery' Carol because during the 18th century many small country churches in England lacked an organ, so amateur choirs formed to lead singing from the gallery or balcony. It is suggested that Noël comes from the Latin verb *nasci*, meaning 'to be born'. In the book of Ecclesiastes, the birth of Jesus is called *natalis*. A variation of this word, *nael*, made its way into Old French as a reference to the Christmas season and later into Middle English as *nowel*. It then became the idiomatic term for Christmas.

As with most Carols the lyrics often differ, but its current form was first published in 1823 in William Sandys' collection of Carols from the West Country, *Carols Ancient and Modern*. Interestingly, in *The Cornish Song Book* by Ralph Dunstan published in 1929, the lyrics were "O well, O well, the Angels did say... O well, O well, O well, O well, Born is the King of Israel".

Thank you, O God, for the gift of faith, for showing me where my mind, my heart, and my soul can find lasting and profound peace, hope, and love.

AWAKEN TO NEW LIGHT - DAILY REFLECTIONS, PRACTICES AND PRAYERS

S James Meyer



DECEMBER

5

Joy to the World

🎵 Celtic Women, <https://youtu.be/VDmlddF7DfQ>

Joy to the World was originally called *The Messiah's Coming and Kingdom*. It was written in 1719 by English minister and hymnwriter Isaac Watts for his most famous book – , a hymnal – *The Psalms of David, Imitated in the Language of the New Testament*. *Joy to the World* was inspired by Psalm 98, and he wrote it to glorify Christ's return at the end of the age, rather than celebrate his birth. Today, only the second half of Watts' lyrics are used.

Along with earning the title of 'Godfather of English Hymnody' for writing around 750 hymns, he was also seen as an innovator for his time, diverging from the traditional church practice of strictly adapting Scripture to song, by adding his own lyrical reflections.

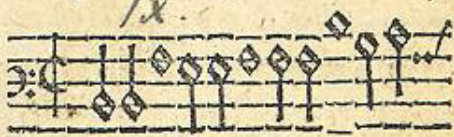


The Psalms of David, Imitated in the Language of the New Testament
Upper cover. Tooled in gold. Cover material: Goatskin

God of promising pathways, nudge me to deeper my connectedness with the people in my life – for they are among the cherished gifts you have given me.

WAITING IN WONDEROUS EXPECTATION
Janet Schaeffler OP



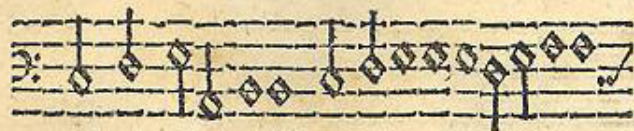


Personent hodie voces pueru-

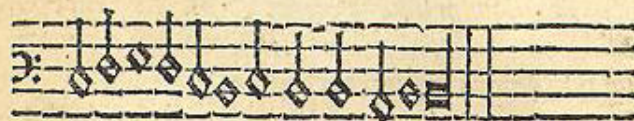
B 4 la lau.



la laudantes incunde qui nobis est natus,



summo Deo datus, & de vir u



u gineo ventre procreatus.

In mundo nascitur, pannis inuoluitur,
 Praesepi ponitur stabulo brutorum,
 Rector supernorum, perdidit spolia princeps in-
 fernorum. † munera offerunt

Magi tres venerunt paruulum inquirunt,
 Stellulam sequendo, ipsum adorando,
 Aurum, thus & myrrham ei offerendo.

Omnes clericuli, pariter pueri
 Cantent ut angeli, aduenisti mundo,
 Laudes tibi fundo. Ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.

Personent Hodie

🎵 Seattle Girls Choir: https://youtu.be/_h5gQIBHyfM

Personent Hodie was originally published in the 1582 Finnish song book *Piae Cantiones*, a volume of 74 Medieval songs with Latin text. This songbook had its origins in the libraries of cathedral song schools, whose repertory had strong links with medieval Prague. A melody found in a 1360 manuscript from the nearby Bavarian city of Moosburg, Germany is highly similar, and it is from this manuscript that the song is usually dated. Jane M Joseph (1894–1929), under the pseudonym of James M Joseph provided the English translation that became the standard paraphrase of the original Latin text which accompanied the 1582 melody – the translated title being *On This Day Earth Shall Ring*. Although a popular song, the Carol became more prominent in England after it was arranged for unison voices and orchestra by Gustav Holst 1916, where, in its organ reduction, is often used as a processional hymn in church and cathedral services.

It is also thought this Carol may be parody of an earlier medieval song beginning 'intonent hodie voces ecclesie' in honour of St Nicholas, the patron saint of Russia.

Do you or your church need to find more sources of renewal? What might need to change for you to become more closely attuned to hearing and doing God's will 'on earth as in heaven'?

DECEMBER

7

O Little Town of Bethlehem

♪ Marina Prior, Tommy Emmanuel
<https://youtu.be/aK23dj8DiAw>

Boston minister Phillips Brooks (1835-1893) spent the Christmas of 1866 in Bethlehem. In 1868, while working on his sermon for the Christmas season, and inspired by his pilgrimage, he decided to write a poem instead. *O Little Town of Bethlehem* was conceived. Brooks then asked his church organist, and Sunday school superintendent Lewis Redner to compose a tune for his Carol. Redner, who was an estate agent during the week, made no claim to be a composer, but agreed to try. He reportedly finished the tune the night before it was to be sung in church. It was called *St Louis*, and Redner's music is still the most popular setting of *O Little Town of Bethlehem* in America.

In England however, *O Little Town of Bethlehem* is sung to a tune called *Forest Green* which was adapted by composer Ralph Vaughan Williams from an English folk ballad called "*The Ploughboy's Dream*".

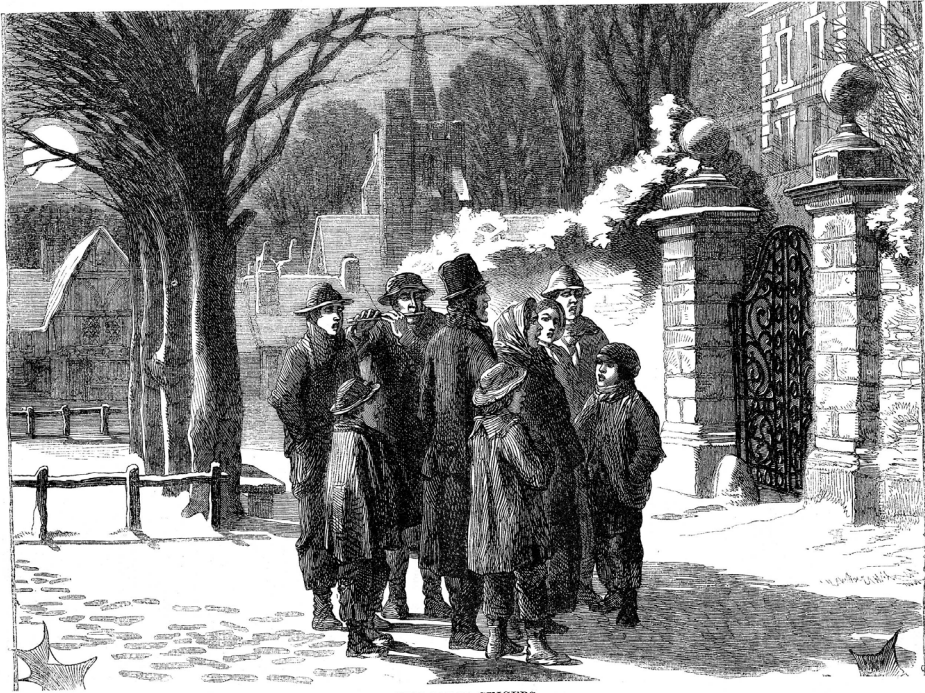


Phillips Brooks by Augustus Saint-Gaudens (1848-1907)
Trinity Church, Boston, Massachusetts, USA

O God, shepherd of a rather unruly flock, teach us to listen for your voice. Help us to allow your love to penetrate our consciousness. Seek us out when we stray, gather us in your arms, and return us to the flock you tend.

WAITING IN JOYFUL HOPE 2021-2022
Catherine Upchurch





THE CAROL SINGERS.

We Wish You a Merry Christmas

🎵 Celtic Women, <https://youtu.be/dSJ4EWeHyE4>

The origin of this folk carol unclear. It is believed it was sung in the West Country of England by carollers – or mummers – as they were called in the 19th century. Mummers, usually the poor, went door-to-door singing Carols expecting a sweet figgy pudding or beer in return. Many versions exist, including this one, quoted as a traditional carollers' refrain in an 1836 newspaper piece:

*We wish you a merry Christmas
And a happy new year,
A pocket full of money
And a cellar full of beer.*

British composer Arthur Warrell is credited for popularising the Carol when he arranged the tune for Bristol University Madrigal Singers in 1935. It was subsequently published by Oxford University Press the same year with the title *A Merry Christmas: West Country Traditional Song*. Warrell's arrangement is widely regarded as the first instance of the score being penned. In 1939, the year he passed away, he was also granted the copyright to the Carol.

“Thus says the Lord God: Lo, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me; and suddenly there will come to the temple of the Lord whom you seek, and the messenger of the covenant whom you desire. Yes, he is coming says the Lord of hosts.” *Malachi 3:1*

DECEMBER

9

Deck the Halls

🎵 The Sydney Children's Choir

<https://youtu.be/DUVMmKNuPs>

Deck the Hall started its life as a Welsh New Year carol called *Nos Galan* that dates to the 16th century. The first time *Deck the Halls* was published with English lyrics was in 1862, in *Welsh Melodies, Vol. 2*, featuring Welsh lyrics by John Jones, and English lyrics written by Thomas Oliphant. Oliphant, who became a lyricist for the court of Queen Victoria, made his mark by writing new lyrics to old melodies. He interpreted foreign songs into English – not necessarily as a direct translation – but by creating lyrics that would fit the mood of the song. *Deck the Halls* is an excellent example of this where Oliphant's English lyrics became a new poem altogether. The only text that the two texts have in common are many *Fa La Las!*

Although Oliphant's English version isn't exactly an 'ancient Yuletide Carol', it does reference plenty of British yuletide traditions.

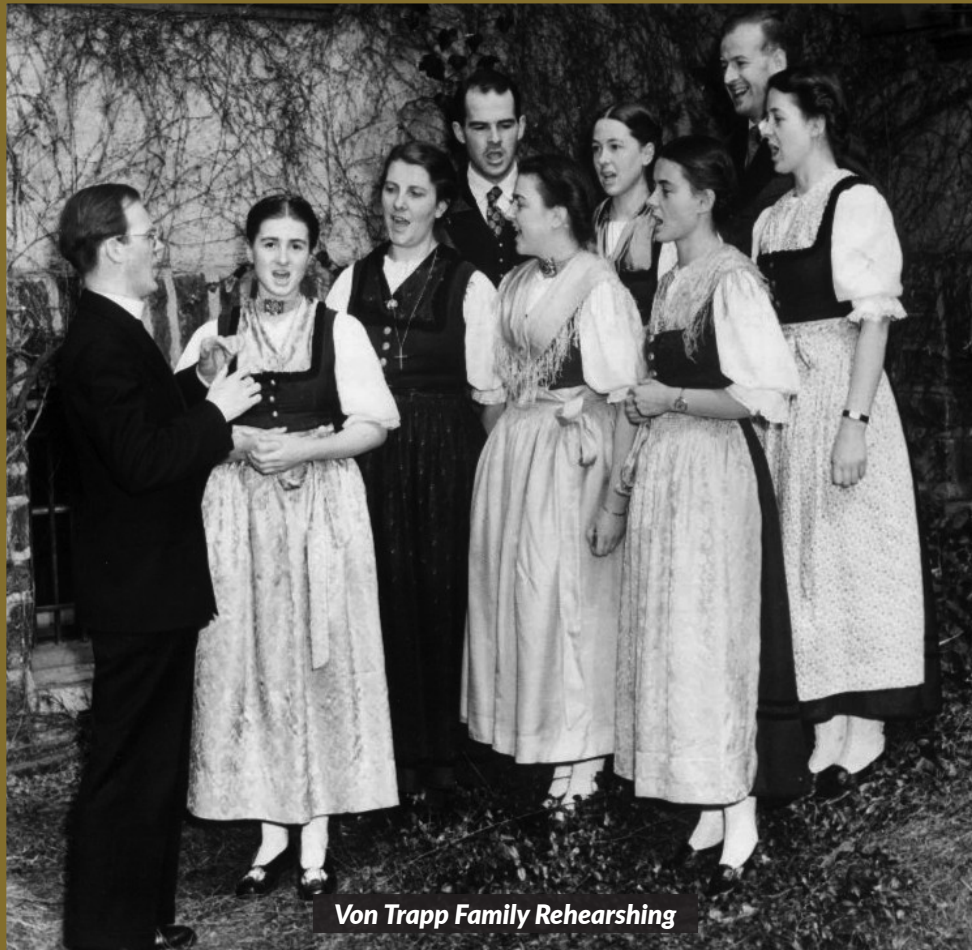


Family Portrait of Thomas Oliphant
Artist: Unkown

“Tenderness is the path of choice for the strongest, most courageous men and women.” (Pope Francis) *Tenderness can be life changing. Bestowing tenderness allows a person to feel seen; they feel their worth. When we actually ‘feel’ worthy we feel as though we belong. Begin each morning with an ‘I will’ statement. “Today I will remember to think ‘tenderness towards all’ when I meet...”*

WAITING IN WONDEROUS EXPECTATION
Janet Schaeffler OP





Von Trapp Family Rehearsing

Little Drummer Boy

🎵 Boney M, <https://youtu.be/plGj8VRTqJE>

The Little Drummer Boy, originally known as *Carol of the Drum*, was written in 1941 by American classical music composer and teacher Katherine Kennicott Davis. The song appealed to the now-famous Trapp Family singers, who brought the song into wider prominence when they recorded it on their first album for Decca Records in 1951. In 1957, the song was recorded with an altered arrangement by Jack Halloran, and it is this arrangement that is commonly sung today.

However, it wasn't until 1958 that it gained its huge popularity. When American music arranger, conductor, and composer Harry Simeone was looking for material for his Christmas album, he was introduced to *Carol of the Drum*. Simeone changed the title to *The Little Drummer Boy* and recorded it under that title for his album *Sing We Now of Christmas*. The single *The Little Drummer Boy* scored on the United States music charts from 1958 to 1962!

In what ways is religion being used as a cloak for injustice in the world today? What can be done about it?

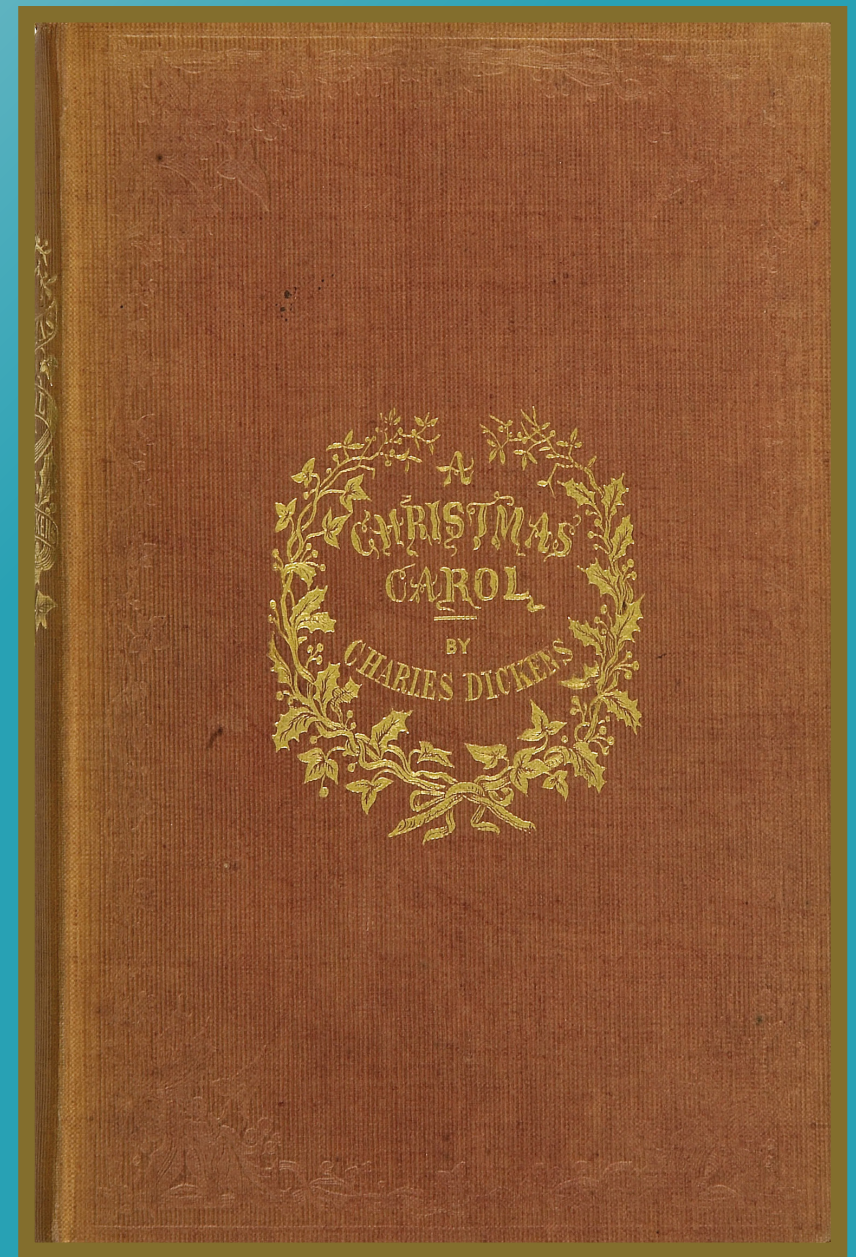
DECEMBER
11

God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen

🎵 The Petersens, <https://youtu.be/8t-JhhYhZyk>

God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen is said to be one of the oldest surviving Carols dating to at least the 16th century, but it wasn't published until 1833 when William Sandys included it in his *Christmas Carols, Ancient and Modern*. It is not at all clear whether any oral tradition of singing the Carol survived until Sandys' publication, but it certainly became immediately popular. Ten years later, Charles Dickens referred to it in *A Christmas Carol*:

"...at the first sound of 'God bless you, merry gentlemen! May nothing you dismay!', Scrooge seized the ruler with such energy of action that the singer fled in terror, leaving the keyhole to the fog and even more congenial frost."



Loving Creator, grant me the wisdom to grow in gratitude for the journey you've given me. Help me see how you have been revealed to me, and how you reveal yourself through me with each step I walk.

AWAKEN TO NEW LIGHT
S James Meyer



GA. A S M A L E
GARLAND,

OF PIOUS AND
GODLY SONGS,

Composed by a devout Man,
For the Solace of his Friends and
neighbours in their afflictions.

*The sweet and the sower
The nettle and the flower
The Thorne and the Rose
This Garland Compose.*



Printed in GANT, 1684.
28. May. 1687.

DECEMBER
12

The Darkest Midnight

🎵 Kilmore Carolers, <https://youtu.be/qV52t75mxWQ>

The Darkest Midnight is a traditional Irish song which is the first of thirteen carols that are known as *The Kilmore Carols*.

The Kilmore Carols – which are found only in Kilmore, County Wexford, Ireland – date back more than 300 years. The tradition was introduced to the parish by Very Rev Peter Devereux, who was Parish Priest circa 1751. Some of the Carols were written by Very Rev William Devereux, PP, Piercestown, the remainder were taken from a book published in 1864 by Bishop Luke Waddinge of Ferns, called *A Smale Garland of Pious and Godly Songs*.

The thirteen Carols are sung during the Christmas period, the first – *The Darkest Midnight* – is sung during first Mass on Christmas Day, and one for each of the twelve days of Christmas. The singers consist of six local men and have traditionally include a member of the Devereux family – a tradition that is being continued to the present day.

O Lord our God, your son's coming in Bethlehem was a cause of great joy on earth and in heaven. You placed the saviour in our midst to renew your love in us and for us. As we await his second coming, free us from distress and fill us with blessed hope.

WAITING IN JOYFUL HOPE 2021-2022

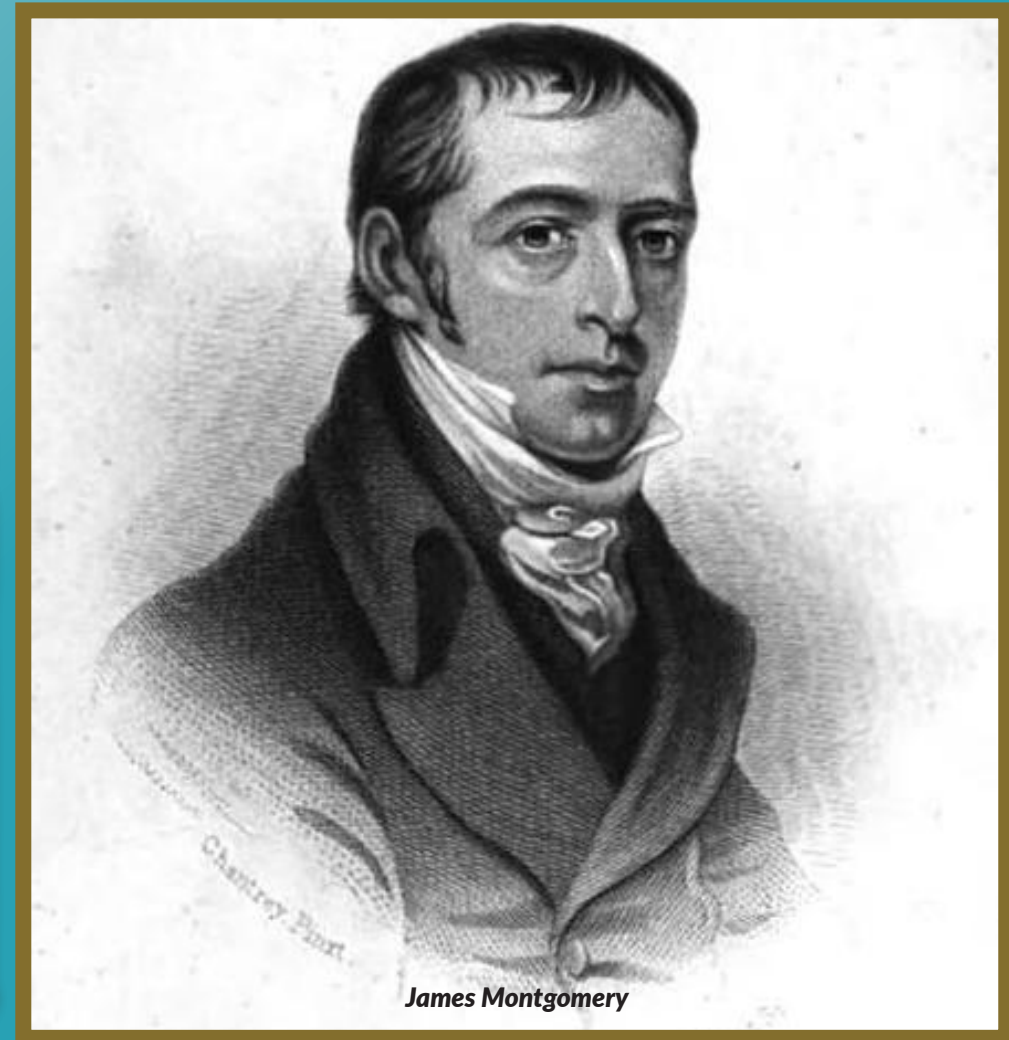
Catherine Upchurch

DECEMBER
13

Angels from the Realms of Glory

🎵 The Piano Guys, Peter Hollens and David Archuleta,
<https://youtu.be/ELjgFKACcdQ>

Angels from the Realms of Glory is a Christmas Carol written by Scottish poet and newspaper editor James Montgomery. It was first printed in the *Sheffield Iris* newspaper on Christmas Eve 1816, but it only began to be sung in churches in 1825 after it was reprinted in Montgomery's *The Christian Psalmist* and in the Religious Tract Society's *The Christmas Box or New Year's Gift*. Montgomery had an interesting career. He became editor of the *Sheffield Register* when the previous editor, due to his politics, had to flee the country for fear of persecution. Montgomery changed the name to the *Sheffield Iris*, and as editor, his newspaper denounced the social evils of his day – especially the slave trade. Montgomery himself was even jailed for his radical views. Once for publishing a poem that celebrated the fall of the Bastille, and another time for denouncing the actions of the Sheffield police during a riot. He used his time in prison to write poetry.



God, you know everything about us and still you love us. You love us on our best days and our worst days. Show us ways to love others as you do every single day. Lord show us your mercy and your love.

TOGETHER WE WAIT
Connie Clark





What Child is This?

🎵 Andrea Bocelli, <https://youtu.be/EbvwwwTqeRo>

What Child Is This? was born out of a near-death experience. In 1865, William Chatterton Dix, a manager at an insurance company, became afflicted by a severe illness that resulted in him being bedridden, and suffering from severe depression. While recovering from his near-death experience Dix read the Bible comprehensively, which brought about a spiritual renewal. This inspired him to write several hymns, including *What Child is This?*

Although written in 1865 it was not published until 1871 where it was included in the 'prestigious and influential' collection of carols called *Christmas Carols Old and New*. It set to the tune of the now well-known traditional folksong, *Greensleeves*.

"Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, ... he comes to save you." (Isaiah 35:4)

Lord grant me the grace to know you come to heal.

DECEMBER
15

O Tannenbaum

♪♪ **André Rieu & His Johann Strauss Orchestra**
<https://youtu.be/Hn7Ldd3lj10>

O Tannenbaum (O Christmas Tree) is based on a German folk song that was unrelated to Christmas!

A tannenbaum is a fir tree, not Christmas tree, and the song honoured the fir's evergreen quality as a symbol of constancy and faithfulness. The original song was written in 1820 by August Zarnack as a tragic love song. He took the evergreen, 'faithful' fir tree as contrasting with a faithless lover. It was later set to the German folk tune we now associate with the Carol.

But how did it come to be associated with Christmas? In the early 19th century in Germany, the custom of evergreen trees as indoor Christmas decorations was gaining popularity. In 1824, a schoolmaster and organist named Ernst Anschütz borrowed the first verse of Zarback's arboreal love song and added two festive verses of his own, which transplanted the song firmly into the Christmas Carols' stable.



God in everything, open my eyes to see you everywhere, to magnify your presence in all places and situations of my day.

WAITING IN WONDEROUS EXPECTATION
Janet Schaeffler OP



Głos duszy.
Modlitwa.
(CANTIQUE DE NOËL.)

Text Polski A. Leśkiewicz.
Muzyka Adolfa Adama.

Andante maestoso.

Głos.

Piano.

Do cie - - bie głos - wzno - si - my Mał - ko
Wszak syn - Twój rzekł - że za Twoją przy -
Mi - nit. - Chré - tien, - cest l'heu - re - so - len -

Bo - - ga Niech wzruszy cie kor - na mo - dlit - wa ta, Spraw ja - ska
czy - - na Wy - stu - cha prośb, wi - uy da - ru - je nam, Ach zli - tuj
nel - - le où l'homme Dieu de - scendit jusqu'à nous, pour ef - fa -

twa - niech nas o - mi - ja trwo - - ga A syn Twój Bóg niech nam po - cie - che da. Ach
sie, - niech dzie - ci twe nie zgi - - na Bo lo - sem ich ca - tym Bóg rza - dzi sam. O!
car - la tache o - ri - gi - nel - - le et de son père ar - rê - ter le courroux. Le

wto - bie tyl - ko jest uadzie - ja ca - ja Ty wesprzeć zech - cień biedne dzie - ci, twe
zbiż kres cie - pień, spoj - rzyjna kuzdro - je I od - dal tro - ski, u - kój za - le, te,
monde en - tier très - sail - le des - pérer - ce à cel - le nuit qui lui don - ne un sauveur

O Holy Night

🎵 Céline Dion, <https://youtu.be/Y1oLk54R5Xg>

Also known as *Cantique de Noël*, this well-known Christmas Carol is based on a French-language poem by wine merchant and poet Placide Cappeau called *Minuit, Chrétiens* (*Midnight, Christians*). The Carol reflects on the birth of Jesus as humanity's redemption. It was set to music in 1847 by composer Adolphe Adam, and translated into English in 1855 by John Sullivan Dwight. The wide vocal range of the song makes it one of the more difficult Christmas songs to execute properly.

On December 24, 1906, Canadian inventor Reginald Fessenden broadcasted the first AM radio program in which he played *O Holy Night* on the violin. Therefore, this Carol appears to be the first piece of music to be broadcast on radio!

Dear God, you fill the earth with gifts and blessings. You have blessed our family with so many things. Help us find ways to show the gratitude we feel. Amen.

TOGETHER WE WAIT
Connie Clark



DECEMBER
17

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

🎵 **Maverick City Music (feat. Naomi Raine and Nate Moore)**
<https://youtu.be/MtOi0IP0DCo>

O Come, O Come Emmanuel sounds like a Benedictine Gregorian chant, and essentially, it is. Seven days before Christmas Eve monasteries would sing the 'O Antiphons' in anticipation of Christmas Eve. The lyrics of the Carol date back to the twelfth century or earlier, and the melody at least as far back as the fifteenth century. Although the song is sung in many languages, the same ancient melody is used everywhere. The tune was first put to the lyrics when it was translated into English. The 1861 translation by John Mason Neale from *Hymns Ancient and Modern* is the most prominent in the English-speaking world. Each of original seven verses began with a Messianic title from the Scriptures that prophesied and foreshadowed Jesus' coming:

O Sapientia (Wisdom), O Adonai (God), O Radix Jesse (Stem or root of Jesse), O Clavis David (Key of David), O Oriens (Dayspring), O Rex genitium (King of the Gentiles), O Emmanuel (God with us)



How, during his ministry, did Jesus anticipate the “new age” promised by God in law and the prophets? What should that mean for the church’s ministry in the present?

ADVENT FOR EVERYONE – A JOURNEY THROUGH LUKE

Tom Wright





Madonna with Child and Angels
Giovanni Battista Salvi da Sassoferrato (1609-1685)

Angels We Have Heard on High

🎵 PM Kevin Ray Blandford Memorial Pipe Band
Organist: Bill Peek
<https://youtu.be/D9xJEiD8HTo>

The lyrics of *Angels We Have Heard on High* were inspired by, but not an exact translation of, the traditional French carol known as *Les Anges dans nos Campagnes* (*The Angels in our Countryside*) that originated as early as the eighteenth century. *Angels We Have Heard on High* recounts the birth of Jesus as narrated in the Gospel of Luke, and is sung to the tune of the hymn tune *Gloria*. It is an invitation from Christians to others to come celebrate Jesus' birth with them. This carol became popular in France and Quebec in the mid-19th century, and it reached English speakers 1860 when it was translated by James Chadwick in *Holy Family Hymns*.

O Lord of Israel, deliver your people from harm. Give us the desire to seek you, and the resolve to follow where you lead us. Like Joseph, in times of uncertainty or anguish, may we hear your voice.

DECEMBER
19

We Three Kings

🎵 Dolly Parton, <https://youtu.be/VrsWF3JIScw>

We Three Kings has had many names. Its original title was *Three Kings of Orient*, but it is also known as *We Three Kings of Orient Are* and *The Quest of the Magi*.

Written by John Henry Hopkins Jr in 1857, it was the first Christmas Carol – originating from the United States – to achieve widespread popularity, and the first to be featured in *Christmas Carols Old and New*, a ‘prestigious’ and ‘influential’ collection of carols that was published in the United Kingdom. *The Oxford Book of Carols* published in 1928, praised the song as ‘one of the most successful of modern composed carols.’

Hopkins wrote both the lyrics and music, which was unusual for the time as contemporary carol composers usually wrote either the lyrics or music, not both. Another interesting fact about Hopkins is that, in 1885 while serving as the rector of the Christ Episcopal Church in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, he delivered the eulogy at the funeral of President Ulysses S Grant!

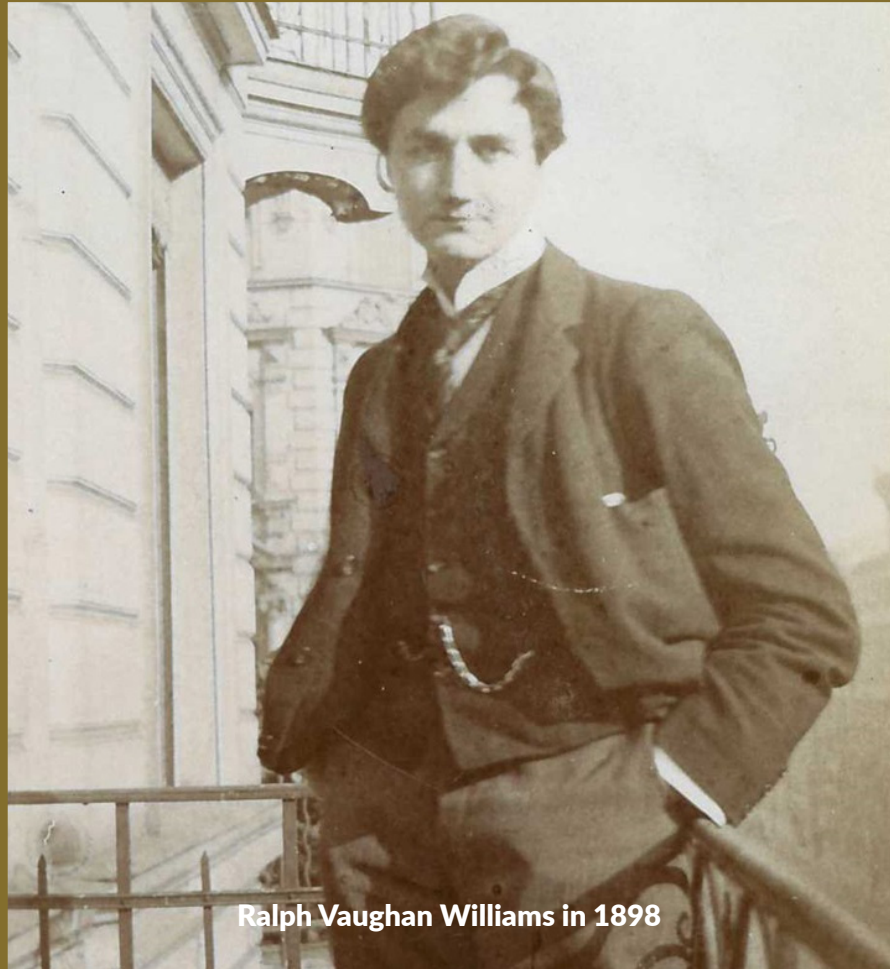


Adoration of the Magi
Bartolomé Esteban Murillo (1617–1682)

“We pray for all those who have helped us over the course of the year and for the times of sharing our expertise and receiving guidance and support from others. We ask for God’s blessing on all in our community over the coming holidays. May the Christ Child, in his shining innocence and love, bless us as we rest and relax in readiness for another year of good work and God’s work. Amen “

PRAYERS AND REFLECTIONS FOR TEACHERS 2022

Ann Rennie



Ralph Vaughan Williams in 1898

On Christmas Night

🎵 Hymn Channel, <https://youtu.be/0-TZ76wONPs>

On Christmas Night, known as the 'Sussex Carol', is often referred to by its first line *On Christmas Night All Christians Sing*. Its words were first published by 17th-century Irish Bishop, Luke Wadding, in a work called *Small Garland of Pious and Godly Songs* (1684). It is unclear whether Wadding wrote the song or it was a recording of an earlier composition. There have been a variety of versions of this Carol. The lyrics and tune which are now widely sung, were discovered and written down by Cecil Sharp and Ralph Vaughan Williams after hearing it being sung by a Harriet Verrall of Monk's Gate, Sussex – hence earning the title of 'Sussex Carol'.

On Christmas Night is one of many hymns that Harriet sang for Williams that he later published. Together with her husband Peter, they became known as the Monk's Gate singers, mainly due to Williams' habit of naming hymn tunes after the villages where he collected them.

"The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely, or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quiet, alone with the heavens, nature, and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature." *Anne Frank*

DECEMBER
21

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks

🎵 Kings College Choir, <https://youtu.be/TvegJ3wRLFE>

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks, also known as *Song of the Angels at the Nativity of our Blessed Saviour*, describes the Annunciation to the Shepherds. It was written by Irish hymnist, lyricist, and England's Poet Laureate Nahum Tate.

Exactly when Tate wrote this is unknown, however, the words appeared in Tate and Nicholas Brady's 1700 *Supplement* to their only famous work, *New Version of the Psalms of David of 1696* – a metrical version of the Psalms. It said to be one of the first 'official' Christmas carols in English literature, and is the only one of the sixteen works from the 1700 supplement still sung today. Interestingly, it was the only Christmas hymn authorised to be sung by the Anglican Church, even though it was based on the Gospel of Luke – prior to 1700 only the Psalms of David were permitted to be sung.

Nahum Tate is also remembered for writing *The History of King Lear*, an adaptation Shakespeare's tragedy *King Lear*. However, unlike Shakespeare's tragedy, Tate's play has a happy ending!

SONG of the Angels, at the Nativity of our Blessed Saviour.

Luke II. from ver. 8. to ver. 15.

To St. James's Tune, (Page 2.) or any other Tune of 2 and 6 Syllables.

WHILE Shepherds watch'd their Flocks all seated on the Ground, (by Night The Angel of the Lord came down, and 'Glory shone around	“ Fear not, said he, (for mighty Dread “ had seiz'd their troubled Mind) “ Glad Tidings of great Joy I bring “ to you, and all Mankind: “ To
--	---

“ To you, in David's Town, this Day “ is born, of David's Line, “ The Saviour, who is Christ the Lord; “ and this shall be the Sign:	Thus spake the Seraph, and forthwith appear'd a shining Throng Of Angels praising God, and thus address their joyful Song:
“ The heav'nly Babe you there shall find “ to humane View display'd, “ All meanly wrapt in swathing Bands, “ and in a Manger laid.	“ All Glory be to God on high, “ and to the Earth be Peace; “ Good Will; henceforth, from Heav'n to “ begin and never cease. (Men,

“Christmas is not as much about opening our presence as opening our hearts.” Janice Maeditere

LET IT SLOW – AN ADVENT CALENDAR WITH A DIFFERENCE

Stephen Cottrell

Carol of the Bells

🎵 Libera, https://youtu.be/SQadcm_dwEMoMin30

Carol of the Bells is based on the Ukrainian folk chant *Shchedryk*, with music written by Ukrainian composer Mykola Leontovych in 1914. The English lyrics were written by Peter J Wilhousky in 1936.

The original chant was first performed by students at Kyiv University in December 1916, but it wasn't introduced to Western audiences until 1919 when the Ukrainian National Chorus toured Europe and the Americas. The group premiered in the United States on October 5, 1922 to a sold-out audience at Carnegie Hall.

In 1936, for NBC radio network's symphony orchestra, Wilhousky rearranged the melody for orchestra (it was originally intended to be sung *a cappella*) and wrote new lyrics. His lyrics centered around the theme of bells because the melody reminded him of hand bells – the first verse begins 'Hark! How the bells.'

Wilhousky copyrighted the new lyrics and published the song, despite the song having been published almost two decades earlier in the Ukrainian National Republic! The Carol's initial popularity was due to Wilhousky's ability to reach a wide audience as his role as arranger for the NBC Symphony Orchestra, but it is now strongly associated with Christmas because of its references to bells, carolling, and the line 'Merry, merry, merry, merry Christmas!'



Composer
Mykola Leontovyc

Ukrainian National Chorus
September 26, 1922

Was there a family member who helped you through the pandemic? Have you thanked them? Is there a family member who still needs you? Or a friend? How will you reach out?

DECEMBER
23

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

🎵 Celtic Woman, <https://youtu.be/LYDa4Kht6Eo>

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear may be the only commonly sung Christmas carol that does not mention the birth of Christ! The focus is rather on the song of the angels, 'Peace on the earth, good will to men', taken from Luke 2:14.

Written in 1849 by Edmund Sears, pastor of the Unitarian Church in Wayland, Massachusetts, it has long been assumed to be Sears' response to the just-ended Mexican-American War. This also gives the Carol another remarkable aspect – being set during Sears' own time, and the contemporary issue of war and peace – rather than Bethlehem. It is thought to be one of the earliest social gospel hymns written in the USA.



The Angel Appearing to the Shepherds
Rembrandt (1606–1669)

“All were amazed.” (Luke 1:63)

Jesus, fill me with eager expectation as I await your coming on Christmas day. I believe that you can still amaze me!

JESUS 365 – A DAILY INVITATION TO RENEW YOUR SPIRIT

The Word Among Us



March 2, 1882

Childrens' Corner.

LUTHER'S CRADLE SONG

[The following hymn, composed by Martin Luther for his children, is still sung by many of the German mothers to their little ones.]

Away in a manger,
No crib for his bed,
The little Lord Jesus
Lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky
Looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus,
Asleep in the hay.

The cattle are lowing,
The poor baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus,
No crying He makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus,
Look down from the sky,
And stay by my crib
Watching my lullaby.

DECEMBER
24

Away in a Manger

🎵 Dami Im <https://youtu.be/qN1dFwbLIJM>

The earliest publication of the first and second verses of *Away in a Manger* appeared on March 2, 1882 in the *Childrens' Corner* section of the journal *The Christian Cynosure* under the heading *Luther's Cradle Song*. In 1892, the third stanza made its first known appearance in *Gabriel's Vineyard Songs: for Sunday-schools, Praise Meetings, Home Circle, and All Occasions of Church Service* by Chas H Gabriel. However, the first known setting that specifically published the music with the lyrics (the first two verses) appeared in 1885 in an Evangelical Lutheran Sunday School collection, *Little Children's Book for Schools and Families*, and was set to a tune called *St Kilda* credited to J E Clark.

Today, the most common melody that *Away in a Manger* is set to is *Cradle Song* composed by William J Kirkpatrick. It was first published in 1895 as part of the collection *Around the World with Christmas* – as a 'Christmas Exercise' for schools featuring material representing various countries. *Away in a Manger* was included under the title *Luther's Cradle Hymn*, as a representative of "The German Fatherland".

For many years the lyrics were attributed to Martin Luther, however, research has since discovered this was not the case. It is unknown who actually wrote the lyrics.

"In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us." (Luke 1:78)

Peace on earth goodwill toward all. Amen.

ADVENT FOR EVERYONE – A JOURNEY THROUGH LUKE

Tom Wright


garratt
PUBLISHING

DECEMBER
25

Go Tell it on the Mountain

🎵 Sing Out Gospel Choir, https://youtu.be/39N_mqPT4hA

Go Tell it on the Mountain is an African American Spiritual that dates back to at least 1865.

African Americans have a rich musical history through their use of passing down stories in the guise of a song. These songs, called *Spirituals*, were often sung by slaves while working in the fields of the American south, and during celebrations.

Go Tell it on the Mountain was first published in 1907 by Frederick Jerome Work Jr (also known as Frederick Jerome Work II) in his collection of slave songs and *Spirituals* called *New Jubilee Songs and Folk Songs of the American Negro*.

As with most Carols, lyrics can vary, with some versions of *Go Tell it on the Mountain* being associated with the American Civil Rights movement. However, it is considered a Christmas Carol as its original lyrics celebrate the Nativity of Jesus.



The Painting of Nativity in Church Chiesa di San Lorenzo
Pietro Dufour (1689)

O Jesus, radiant dawn of our world, herald of beauty, open our eyes to see you. O Jesus, word made flesh, voice of God, open our minds to contemplate you. O Jesus, redeemer of all, hand of salvation, open our hearts to love you.

WAITING IN JOYFUL HOPE 2021-2022
Catherine Upchurch



IMAGE AND TEXT ATTRIBUTIONS

GARRATT ADVENT CALENDAR 2022

COVER

JDawnInk, Chanakarn Phinakan, iStock

NOVEMBER 28

Gryffindor, CC BY-SA 3.0

NOVEMBER 29

Gakuro, CC BY-SA 3.0

NOVEMBER 30

Bronzino, Public domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 1

Text and image of Francis Tobin: Mother M
Gonzaga Barry I.B.V.M. Her Life and Letters Vol.
1, M. M. Francis Tobin I.B.V.M.
<https://folksong.org.nz/>
Image: AustralianCarol_StateBank_
ProgressDecember1968

DECEMBER 2

Text: Ascensionpress.com
<https://walkerhomeschoolblog.wordpress.com/>

DECEMBER 3

Xavier Romero-Frias, CC BY-SA 3.0

DECEMBER 4

Text: <https://www.allclassical.org/the-stories-of-twelve-famous-carols/>
<https://www.altalang.com/beyond-words/etymology-of-noel/>
Image: <https://blog.library.in.gov/victorian-era-christmas-books-at-the-indiana-state-library/>

DECEMBER 5

Text: <https://redemptionhill.com/>
Image: Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 6

Text: <https://todayscatholic.org>
Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 7

Text: <https://www.sermonaudio.com/>
Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 8

Text: <https://www.galaxymusicnotes.com/>
Image: Johnny Jim, iStock

DECEMBER 9

Text: <https://www.liveabout.com/>
Image: Sharealike, Creative Commons

DECEMBER 10

Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 11

Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 12

Text: <https://aineminogue.com/the-kilmore-carols>
<https://www.irishtimes.com/culture/the-kilmore-carollers-1.228070> Tue, Dec 22, 1998, 00:00
Image: <https://www.hymnsandcarolsofchristmas.com/>

DECEMBER 13

<https://media.ascensionpress.com/>
<https://www.danielim.com/>
Image: ellie mom, CC BY 2.0

DECEMBER 14

Image: Andrewrabbott CC BY-SA 4.0

DECEMBER 15

<https://www.allclassical.org/the-stories-of-twelve-famous-carols/>
Image: clu, iStock

DECEMBER 16

Text: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org>
Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 17

Text: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org>
Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 18

Text: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org>
Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 19

Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 20

Text: <https://sussextraditions.org/>
<http://www.visitoruk.com/>
Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 21

Text: <https://interestingliterature.com/>
Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 22

Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 23

Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 24

Image: Public Domain, Wikimedia Commons

DECEMBER 25

Text: <https://www.wcicfm.org/>
<https://dianaleaghmatthews.com/>
Image: sedmak, iStock

TEXT ATTRIBUTION AND LICENSES

Text attributions as stated plus Wikipedia, CC BY-NC-SA 3.0.
Creative Commons: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses>
Wikimedia: <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Licensing>
