

## Songs for Potluck Xmas'24 Singalong and Meadow Creek Performance

	Song Title & Meadow Creek Songbook (page #)	Page number	Key
1	Jingle Bells (1)	2	D
2	Winter Wonderland (2)	3	A
3	White Christmas (5)	4	A
4	Joy to the World (6)	5	A
5	Silent Night (8)	6	G
6	Deck the Halls (13)	7	C
7	Mary's Boy Child (not in MC songbook)	8	G
8	Christmas in Killarney (16)	9	A
9	A Children's Winter (20)	10	D
10	Snow is Dancing (21)	11	D
11	Christmas in the Harbour (23)	12	D
12	Good King Wenceslas (25)	13	D/E
13	The Mummers' Song, The (26)	14	D
14	The Wren (28)	15	D
15	Feliz Navidad (29)	16	G/A
	<b>Songs for Potluck singalong:</b>		
16	In the Bleak Midwinter (12)	17	C/D
17	Sleigh Ride	18	D
18	The Huron Carol (14)	19	Dm
19	Ding Dong Merrily on High	20	F
20	What Child is This?	21	Bm
21	Glad Tidings	22	C
22	Song for a Winter's Night	23	G
23	The Wexford Carol	24	D
24	O Come, O Come Emanuel	25	Bm
25	Coventry Carol (11)	26	Em
26	Silver Bells	27	G
27	O Holy Night	28	G
28	To Drive the Cold Winter Away	29	Gm
29	Jingle Bell Rock	30	A
30	Here We Come a Wassailing	31	C
31	Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming (15)	32	C
32	River	33	D
33	Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella	34	D

# **Jingle Bells**

(key of D)

Dashing through the snow, in a one horse open sleigh  
O'er the fields we go, laughing all the way  
Bells on bobtail ring , making spirits bright  
What fun it is to ride and sing , a sleighing song tonight.

## **Chorus:**

*Jingle bells, jingle bells,  
Jingle all the way;  
Oh! what fun it is to ride  
In a one-horse open sleigh.*

A day or two ago, I thought I'd take a ride  
And soon Miss Fanny Bright, was seated by my side,  
The horse was lean and lank, misfortune seemed his lot  
He got into a drifted bank, and then we got upsot.

## **Chorus**

Now the ground is white, go it while you're young,  
Take the girls along, and sing this sleighing song;  
Just get a bobtailed bay, two forty as his speed  
Hitch him to an open sleigh, and crack! you'll take the lead.

## **Chorus**

(James Pierpont)

# Winter Wonderland

(key of A)

Sleigh bells ring, are you list'nin?  
In the lane, snow is glist'nin,  
A beautiful sight, we're happy tonight.  
Walking in a winter wonderland.

Gone away is the bluebird,  
Here to stay is a new bird;  
He sings a love song, as we go along,  
Walking in a winter wonderland.

In the meadow we can build a snowman,  
Then pretend that he is Parson Brown;  
He'll say "Are you married?" We'll say "No man!  
But you can do the job when you're in town".

Later on, we'll conspire,  
As we dream by the fire  
To face unafraid, the plans that we've made,  
Walking in a winter wonderland.

In the meadow we can build a snowman,  
And pretend that he's a circus clown;  
We'll have lots of fun with mister snowman,  
Until the other kiddies knock him down.

When it snows, ain't it thrillin',  
Though your nose gets a chillin',  
We'll frolic and play, the Inuit way,  
Walking in a winter wonderland.

(Felix Bernard and Richard B. Smith)

# White Christmas

(key of A)

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas  
Just like the ones I used to know  
Where the treetops glisten,  
And children listen  
To hear sleigh bells in the snow

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas  
With every Christmas card I write  
May your days be merry and bright  
And may all your Christmases be white

*Instrumental, with humming (first verse)*

I'm dreaming of a white Christmas  
With every Christmas card I write  
May your days be merry and bright  
And may all your Christmases be white

(Irving Berlin)

# Joy to the World

(key of A)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room, And  
Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven and nature sing,  
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns!  
Let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains Re-  
peat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And  
makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness, And  
wonders of His love,  
And wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders, of His love.

(Isaac Watts and Lowell Mason)

Joy to the world, all the boys and girls  
Joy to the fishes in the deep blue sea  
Joy to you and me.

(Hoyt Axton)

# **Silent Night**

(key of G)

Silent night, holy night  
All is calm, all is bright  
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child  
Holy Infant so tender and mild  
Sleep in heavenly peace  
Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight  
Glories stream from heaven afar  
Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!  
Christ, the Saviour is born  
Christ, the Saviour is born

Silent night, holy night  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face  
With the dawn of redeeming grace  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth .

(Joseph Mohr and Franz Gruber)

# Deck the Halls

(Key of C)

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.  
Tis the season to be jolly,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Don we now our gay apparel,  
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.  
Troll the ancient Yule tide carol,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

See the blazing Yule before us,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.  
Strike the harp and join the chorus.  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Follow me in merry measure,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.  
While I tell of Yule tide treasure,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Fast away the old year passes,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.  
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Sing we joyous, all together,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.  
Heedless of the wind and weather,  
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

(Traditional)

# Mary's Boy Child

(key of G)

Long time ago in Bethlehem,  
So the Holy Bible say,  
Mary's boy child, Jesus Christ,  
Was born on Christmas day.

## **Chorus:**

*Hark, now hear the angels sing,  
A newborn King today,  
And man will live forevermore,  
Because of Christmas day.*

While shepherds watched their flocks by night,  
They saw a bright new shining star,  
They heard a choir from heaven sing,  
The music came from afar.

## **Chorus**

Now, Joseph and his wife, Mary,  
Came to Bethlehem that night,  
They found no place to bear her child,  
Not a single room was in sight.

By and by, they found a little nook,  
In a stable all forlorn,  
And in a manger cold and dark,  
Mary's little Boy was born!

## **Chorus**

### **Second Chorus:**

*Trumpets sound and angels sing,  
Listen to what they say,  
That man will live forevermore,  
Because of Christmas day.*

(Jester Hairston)



# Christmas in Killarney

(key of A)

The holly green, the ivy green  
The prettiest picture you've ever seen  
Is Christmas in Killarney  
With all of the folks at home  
It's nice, you know, to kiss your beau  
While cuddling under the mistletoe  
And Santa Claus you know, of course  
Is one of the boys from home.

## **Chorus:**

The door is always open  
The neighbours pay a call  
And Father John before he's gone  
Will bless the house and all

How grand it feels to click your heels  
And join in the fun of the jigs and reels  
I'm handing you no blarney  
The likes you've never known  
Is Christmas in Killarney  
With all of the folks at home.

*Instrumental* (one verse)

## **Repeat Chorus and second verse**

(John Redmond, James Cavanaugh and Frank Weldon)

## A Children's Winter

(key of D)

The winter snow is a child's delight,  
As it brightens up the winter night;  
And coats the earth in a cheery white,  
As it softly drifts upon it.

The smiling faces watch the ground,  
As the snow is falling all around;  
And through the glass there comes no sound,  
As the snowflakes melt upon it.

### *Chorus:*

*Snow man, snow house, hey, play with me,  
Shake the snow down from the tree;  
Games once played by you and me,  
Snow, softly falling.*

*(Instrumental – one verse)*

The morning comes and the children play,  
Their laughter rings out through the day;  
They hope the snow is here to stay,  
And it won't be gone tomorrow.

Sliding, running, down the hill,  
The time for fun is now, but still;  
As they climb up on life's long hill,  
They're sure to meet some sorrow.

### *Chorus (twice) and tag:*

*Snow, softly falling.*

(Dermot O'Reilly)

# Snow is Dancing

(key of D)

Snow is dancing in the frosty air,  
Floating down and flowing everywhere;  
Like a million feathers all around,  
Gently falling to the ground.

If you listen closely, you can hear it whisper,  
As it settles far and wide,  
Over fields its drifting, as the wind is lifting,  
Making magic wintertime.

Sleighs are gliding on a field of white,  
Sounds of children singing in the night;  
Sliding o'er the newly fallen snow,  
Up and down the hills they go.

If you listen closely, you can hear their laughter,  
As it echoes far and wide,  
Over fields its drifting, as their spirit's lifting,  
Making magic wintertime.

*Instrumental (two verses)*

Snow is dancing in the frosty air,  
Floating down and flowing everywhere;  
Like a million feathers all around,  
Gently falling to the ground.

If you listen closely, you can hear it whisper,  
As it settles far and wide,  
Over fields its drifting, as the wind is lifting,  
Making magic wintertime,  
Making magic wintertime.

(Eric West)

# Christmas in the Harbour

(key of D)

## **Chorus:**

*Toorah, loorrah, loorah lay,  
Christ the King was born today,  
Hark! the herald angels say,  
It's Christmas in the Harbour!*

Church bells ring out loud and clear,  
People come from far and near,  
Old men drink their Christmas cheer,  
It's Christmas in the Harbour!

Young girls' faces all aglow,  
Smile beneath the mistletoe,  
Yule log embers brightly glow,  
It's Christmas in the Harbour!

## **Chorus**

Children sleep without a sound,  
All nestled in their eiderdowns,  
Snow is falling slowly down,  
It's Christmas in the Harbour!

Trees are laden down with snow,  
As on to Midnight Mass they go,  
Hand in hand across the snow,  
It's Christmas in the Harbour!

## **Chorus**

*(instrumental break)*

Young and old all dance and sing,  
Enjoying all the janneying,  
Peace on earth, good will to men,  
It's Christmas in the Harbour!

## **Chorus (twice)**

(Gary O'Driscoll)

# Good King Wenceslas

(keys of D and E)

Good King Wenceslas lookéd 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, gath'ring winter fuel.

"Hither, page, and stand by me, if thou know'st 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."

*(modulate to E)*

"Bring me flesh and bring me wine, bring me pine logs hither  
Thou and I will see him dine, when we bear him thither."  
Page and monarch forth they went, forth they went together  
Through the rude wind's wild lament, and the bitter weather.

"Sire, the night is darker now, and the wind blows stronger  
Fails my heart, I know not 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."

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.

(Traditional)

# The Mummers Song

(key of D)

[spoken] *It don't seem like Christmas if the mummers aren't here, Granny would say as she'd knit in her chair; Things have gone modern, I 'spose that's the cause, Christmas is not like it was. [knock, knock, knock] "Any mummers 'lowed in?"*

Hark what's the noise, out by the porch door,  
Granny 'tis mummers there's twenty or more;  
Her old withered face brightens up with a grin,  
"Any mummers nice mummers 'lowed in?"

"Come in lovely mummers don't bother the snow  
We can wipe up the water sure after you go;  
Sit if you can or on some mummer's knee  
Let's see if we know who you be."

There's big ones and tall ones and small ones and thin,  
Boys dressed as women and girls dressed as men;  
Humps on their backs and mitts on their feet,  
My blessed we'll die with the heat.

There's only one there I think that I know  
That tall feller standing o'er long side the stove;  
He's shakin' his fist for to make me not tell,  
Must be Willy from out on the hill.

Now that one's a stranger if there ever was one,  
With his underwear stuffed and his trap door undone;  
Is he wearing his mother's big forty two bra?  
I knows but I'm not gonna say.

Don't 'spose you fine mummers will turn down a  
drop, No home brew, nor alchie whatever you got;  
Now the one with his rubber boots on the wrong feet,  
He's had enough for to do him a week.

'Spose you can dance, yes they all nods their heads,  
They've been tappin' their feet ever since they came in;  
Now that the drinks have been all passed around  
The mummers are plankin' her down.

**[instrumental]**

Hold on to the lamp and be careful the stove,  
Don't swing Granny hard for you know that she's old;  
No need for to care how you buckles the floor,  
'Cause mummers have danced here before.

My God, how hot is it, we better go  
I 'low we'll all get the devil's own cold;  
Good night and good Christmas, mummers me dears  
Please God we will see you next year.

Good night and good Christmas, mummers me  
dears Please God we will see you next year.

(Bud Davidge)

# The Wren

(key of D)

The wren, the wren, the king of all birds,  
St. Stephen's day was caught in the firs;  
Although he was little his honour was great,  
Rise up young ladies and give us a treat.

## **Chorus:**

*Up with the kettle and down with the pan,  
A penny or two to bury the wren;  
With a pocket full 'o money and a cellar full o' beer,  
We wish you Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

When I went to Conception Bay,  
I met the wren upon the way;  
I jumped in the air and I grabbed his tail,  
And carried him in to Avondale.

## **Chorus**

Little bird, little bird where is your nest?  
It's in the tree that I love best;  
It's in the tree the holly tree,  
Where all the birds do follow me.

## **Chorus**

We followed the wren three miles or more,  
Three miles or more, three miles or more,  
We followed the wren three miles or more,  
At six o'clock in the morning.

## **Chorus**

(Traditional)

# **Feliz Navidad**

(keys of G & A)

Feliz Navidad  
Feliz Navidad  
Feliz Navidad  
Prospero ano y Felicidad.

Feliz Navidad  
Feliz Navidad  
Feliz Navidad  
Prospero ano y Felicidad.

We want to wish you a Merry Christmas  
We want to wish you a Merry Christmas  
We want to wish you a Merry Christmas  
From the bottom of our hearts!

We want to wish you a Merry Christmas  
We want to wish you a Merry Christmas  
We want to wish you a Merry Christmas  
From the bottom of our hearts!

*(Sing 3 times, modulating to the key of A the third time)*

(Jose Feliciano)



## **In the Bleak Mid-Winter**

(keys of C and D)

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 mid-winter long ago.

Heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain,  
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign;  
In the bleak mid-winter a stable place sufficed  
God, the Lord Almighty, Jesus Christ.

*(Modulate to key of D)*

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim throngéd the air,  
But only His mother in her maiden bliss  
Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

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.

(Words: C.G. Rossetti; Music: G. Holst )

# Sleigh Ride

(key of D; guitar capo 2, play in C)

Just hear those sleigh bells jingle-ing, ring ting tingle-ing too,  
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you.  
Outside the snow is falling and friends are calling "You Hoo"  
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you.

Giddy-yap giddy-yap giddy-yap let's go, let's look at the show  
We're riding in a wonderland of snow;  
Giddy-yap giddy-yap giddy-yap it's grand, just holding your hand,  
We're gliding along with the song of a wintry fairy land.

Our cheeks are nice and rosy and comfy cozy are we,  
We're snuggled up together like two birds of a feather would be  
Let's take the road before us and sing a chorus or two  
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you.

There's a birthday party at the home of Farmer Gray  
It'll be the perfect ending of a perfect day  
We'll be singing the songs we love to sing without a single stop  
At the fireplace while we watch the chestnuts pop.  
Pop! Pop! Pop!

There's a happy feeling nothing in the world can buy,  
When they pass around the coffee and the pumpkin pie  
It'll nearly be like a picture print by Currier and Ives  
These wonderful things are the things we remember all through our  
lives.

*(Repeat first three verses and add tag:)*

Lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with  
Lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you.

(Music by Leroy Anderson; lyrics by Mitchell Parish)

# **The Huron Carol**

## **('Twas in the Moon of Wintertime)**

(key of Dm)

'Twas in the moon of wintertime when all the birds had fled  
That mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angel choirs instead;  
Before their light the stars grew dim and wondering hunters heard the  
hymn, Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

Within a lodge of broken bark the tender babe was found;  
A ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round;  
But as the hunter braves drew nigh the angel song rang loud and high  
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

The earliest moon of wintertime is not so round and fair  
As was the ring of glory on the helpless infant there;  
The chiefs from far before him knelt with gifts of fox and beaver pelt.  
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

O children of the forest free, O sons of Manitou  
The holy Child of earth and heaven is born today for you;  
Come kneel before the radiant boy who brings you beauty, peace and joy.  
Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

(written in 1643 by Jean de Brebeuf; English lyrics  
written in 1926 by Jesse Edgar Middleton)

# Ding Dong Merrily on High

(key of F - guitar capo 5, play in C)

Ding dong! merrily on high,

The bells are gaily ringing.

Ding dong! happily reply,

The angels all are singing.

*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.*

*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.*

Ring out! merry, merry bells,

The angels all are singing;

Ding dong! swing the steeple bells,

Sound joyous news we're bringing.

*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.*

*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.*

Hark now! happily we sing,

The angels wish us merry;

Ding dong! dancing as we bring,

Good news from Virgin Mary.

*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.*

*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis.*

*(16th century French dance tune;*

*Lyrics adapted from J. R. Woodward, 1859-1934)*

# What Child is This?

(key of D minor)

What Child is this who, laid to rest  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom Angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

## **Chorus:**

*This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and Angels sing;  
Haste, haste, to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

Why lies He in such mean estate,  
Where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.

## **Chorus**

So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh,  
Come peasant, king to own Him;  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

## **Last Chorus:**

*Raise, raise a song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby.  
Joy, joy for Christ is born,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary.*

(Traditional)

# Glad Tidings

(key of C)

Glad tidings good people, we are here to inform,  
This morning in Bethlehem lies a baby just born,  
We are told it is Jesus, from on high has come down,  
To be born of a virgin, called Mary's own son.

As you lie in your chamber, as you slumber and sleep,  
Just think for a moment of your Saviour so meek,  
With the oxen feeding by Him, He lies sleeping so sweet,  
With Mary His mother sitting close by His feet.

You mothers that know the true love of your child,  
Come sympathize with Mary, this mother so mild;  
For her lot being so lowly, many mothers don't know,  
What Mary endured that night in the stall.

As shepherds were out on the hills far away,  
Came a company of angels from heaven that day,  
Telling them to be ready, bidding them to prepare,  
"Glad tidings, good news, we have brought to all here".

(Lyrics by Harrison J. Bryant; traditional melody)

# Song For a Winter's Night

(key of G)

The lamp is burning low upon my table top,  
The snow is softly falling;  
The air is still in the silence of my room  
I hear your voice softly calling.  
If I could only have you near,  
To breathe a sigh or two;  
I would be happy just to hold the hands I love ,  
On this winter's night with you.

The smoke is rising in the shadows overhead,  
My glass is almost empty;  
I read again between the lines upon each page,  
The words of love you sent me.  
If I could know within my heart,  
that you were lonely too;  
I would be happy just to hold the hands I love,  
On this winter's night with you.

The fire is dying now, my lamp is growing dim,  
The shades of night are lifting;  
The morning light steals across my windowpane,  
Where webs of snow are drifting.  
If I could only have you near,  
To breathe a sigh or two,  
I would be happy just to hold the hands I love,  
And to be once again with you,  
To be once again with you.

Oo.....

Oo, oo, oo,.....

Oo, oo, oo, oo.

(Gordon Lightfoot)

# The Wexford Carol

(key of D)

Good people all, this Christmas time,  
Consider well and bear in mind  
What our good God for us has done!  
In sending his beloved son  
With Mary holy we should pray,  
To God with love this Christmas Day  
In Bethlehem upon that morn,  
There was a blessed Messiah born.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep  
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep  
To whom God's angel did appear  
Which put the shepherds in great fear  
Arise and go, the angels said  
To Bethlehem, be not afraid  
For there you'll find, this happy morn  
A princely babe, sweet Jesus, born.

With thankful heart and joyful mind  
The shepherds went the babe to find  
And as God's angel had foretold  
They did our Saviour Christ behold  
Within a manger he was laid  
And by his side a virgin maid  
Attending on the Lord of Life  
Who came on earth to end all strife.

(Traditional)



# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

(key of B minor)

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear

## **Refrain:**

*Rejoice! Rejoice!  
Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Day-Spring, come and  
cheer Our spirits by Thine advent here  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

## **Refrain**

O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
Who orderest all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show,  
And teach us in her ways to go.

## **Refrain**

O come, desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of all mankind;  
Bid thou our sad divisions cease,  
And be thyself our King of Peace.

(Traditional)

# Coventry Carol

## (Lully Lullay)

(key of E minor)

Lullay, Thou little tiny Child,  
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

Lullay, Thou little tiny Child,  
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

O sisters, too, how may we do,  
For to preserve this day;  
This poor Youngling for whom we do sing,  
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

Herod the King, in his raging,  
Chargéd he hath this day;  
His men of might, in his own sight,  
All children young, to slay.

Then woe is me, poor Child, for Thee,  
And ever mourn and say;  
For Thy parting, nor say nor sing,  
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

Lullay, Thou little tiny Child,  
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.  
Lullay, Thou little tiny Child,  
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

(Traditional)

# Silver Bells

(key of G)

City sidewalks, busy sidewalks  
Dressed in holiday style  
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas  
Children laughing, people passing  
Meeting smile after smile  
And on every street corner you'll hear

## **Chorus:**

Silver bells, silver bells  
It's Christmas time in the city  
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring  
Soon it will be Christmas day

Strings of street lights, even stop lights  
Blink a bright red and green  
As the shoppers rush home with their treasures  
Hear the snow crunch, see the kids bunch  
This is Santa's big scene  
And above all this bustle you'll hear:

## **Chorus**

(Ray Evans and Jay Livingston)

# O Holy Night

(key of G; guitar capo 7, play in C)

O holy night! The stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,  
Till He appeared and the Spirit felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.  
Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, the night when Christ was born;  
O night, O holy night, O night divine! O night,  
O holy night, O night divine!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,  
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.  
O'er the world a star is sweetly gleaming,  
Now come the wisemen from out of the Orient land.  
The King of kings lay thus lowly manger;  
In all our trials born to be our friends.  
He knows our need, our weakness is no stranger,  
Behold your King! Before him lowly bend!  
Behold your King! Before him lowly bend!

Truly He taught us to love one another,  
His law is love and His gospel is peace.  
Chains he shall break, for the slave is our brother.  
And in his name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
With all our hearts we praise His holy name.  
Christ is the Lord! Then ever, ever praise we,  
His power and glory ever more proclaim!  
His power and glory ever more proclaim!

(John Sullivan Dwight and Adolphe Charles Adam)

## To Drive the Cold Winter Away

(key of G minor – guitar capo 3, play in E minor)

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  
Sweet blessings attend each merry man's friend  
Each does but the best that he may  
Forgetting old wrongs with poems and songs  
To drive the cold winter away.

When Christmas tide comes in like a bride  
And 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  
All manner of holiday play  
Both women and men do best that they can  
To drive the cold winter away.

This time of the year is spent in good cheer  
With neighbours who gather to meet  
Just sit by the fire with friendly desire  
With others in love to greet  
All grudges forgot are put in the pot  
All sorrows aside they lay  
The old and the young do carol this song  
To drive the cold winter away

To drive the cold winter away.

(Traditional)

# Jingle Bell Rock

(key of C)

Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock  
Jingle bells swing and jingle bells ring  
Snowing and blowing up bushels of fun  
Now the jingle hop has begun.  
Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock  
Jingle bells chime in jingle bell time  
Dancing and prancing in Jingle Bell Square  
In the frosty air.

What a bright time,  
it's the right time  
To rock the night away  
Jingle bell time is a swell time  
To go gliding in a one-horse sleigh

Giddy-up jingle horse, pick up your feet  
Jingle around the clock  
Mix and a-mingle in the jingling feet  
That's the jingle bell rock.

Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock  
Jingle bells swing and jingle bells ring  
Snowing and blowing up bushels of fun  
Now the jingle hop has begun.  
Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock  
Jingle bells chime in jingle bell time  
Dancing and prancing in Jingle Bell Square  
In the frosty air.

What a bright time, it's the right time  
To rock the night away  
Jingle bell time is a swell time  
To go gliding in a one-horse sleigh  
Giddy-up jingle horse, pick up your feet  
Jingle around the clock  
Mix and a-mingle in the jingling feet  
That's the jingle bell,  
That's the jingle bell, that's the jingle bell rock.

(Joe Beale and Jim Booth)

# Here We Come a-Wassailing

(key of C)

Here we come a-wassailing  
Among the leaves so green,  
Here we come a-wand'ring  
So fair to be seen.

## **Chorus:**

*Love and joy come to you,  
And to you your wassail, too,  
And God bless you, and send you a Happy New Year,  
And God send you a Happy New Year.*

We are not daily beggars  
That beg from door to door,  
But we are neighbours' children  
Whom you have seen before

## **Chorus**

Good master and good mistress,  
As you sit beside the fire,  
Pray think of us poor children  
Who wander in the mire.

## **Chorus**

Bring us out a table  
And spread it with a cloth;  
Bring us out a mouldy cheese,  
And of your Christmas loaf.

## **Chorus**

God bless the master of this house,  
Likewise the mistress too;  
And all the little children  
That round the table go.

## **Chorus**

(Traditional)

## **Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming**

(key of C)

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as men of old have sung.  
It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter,  
When half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind;  
With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright, she bore to men a Saviour,  
When half spent was the night.

The shepherds heard the story proclaimed by angels bright,  
How Christ, the Lord of glory was born on earth this night.  
To Bethlehem they sped and in the manger found Him,  
As angel heralds said.

(Michael Praetorius)



# River

(key of C)

It's coming on Christmas  
They're cutting down trees  
They're putting up reindeer  
And singing songs of joy and peace  
Oh I wish I had a river I could skate away on

But it don't snow here  
It stays pretty green  
I'm going to make a lot of money  
Then I'm going to quit this crazy scene  
Oh I wish I had a river I could skate away on

I wish I had a river so long  
I would teach my feet to fly  
I wish I had a river I could skate away on  
I made my baby cry

He tried hard to help me  
You know, he put me at ease  
And he loved me so naughty  
Made me weak in the knees  
Oh, I wish I had a river I could skate away on

I'm so hard to handle  
I'm selfish and I'm sad  
Now I've gone and lost the best baby  
That I ever had  
I wish I had a river I could skate away on

Oh, I wish I had a river so long  
I would teach my feet to fly  
I wish I had a river  
I could skate away on  
I made my baby say goodbye

It's coming on Christmas  
They're cutting down trees  
They're putting up reindeer  
And singing songs of joy and peace  
I wish I had a river I could skate away on.

(Joni Mitchell)

## **Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella**

(key of D)

Bring a torch, Jeanette, Isabella  
Bring a torch, come swiftly and run.  
Christ is born, tell the folk of the village,  
Jesus is sleeping in His cradle,  
Ah, ah, beautiful is the Mother,  
Ah, ah, beautiful is her Son.

Hasten now, good folk of the village,  
Hasten now, the Christ Child to see.  
You will find Him asleep in a manger,  
Quietly come and whisper softly,  
Hush, hush, peacefully now He slumbers,  
Hush, hush, peacefully now He sleeps.

Un flambeau, Jeannette, Isabelle,  
Un flambeau, courons au berceau!  
C'est Jésus, bonnes gens du hameau,  
Le Christ est né, Marie appelle,  
Ah! ah! ah! que la mère est belle,  
Ah! ah! ah! que l'Enfant est beau!

Doucement, dans l'étable close,  
Doucement, venez un moment!  
Approchez! que Jésus est charmant!  
Comme Il est blanc, comme  
Il est rose! Do! do! do! que l'Enfant repose!  
Do! do! do! qu'Il rit en dormant!

(Anonymous Renaissance carol translated from French to English by E. Cuthbert Nunn)