

L'Arche Xmas Party'24 Songbook

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Jingle Bells

(key of D)

Intro (last line of chorus): G D A7 D

D G
Dashing through the snow, in a one-horse open sleigh
A7 D
O'er the fields we go, laughing all the way
D G
Bells on bobtail ring, making spirits bright
A7 D
What fun it is to ride and sing, a sleighing song tonight.

Chorus:

D
Jingle bells, jingle bells, Jingle all the way;
G D E7 A
Oh! what fun it is to ride, in a one-horse open sleigh.
D
Jingle bells, jingle bells, Jingle all the way;
G D A7 D
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)

Deck the Halls

(key of C)

Intro (last line): F C G7 C

C Am C
Deck the halls with boughs of holly,

G7 C G7 C
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

C Am C
Tis the season to be jolly,

G7 C G7 C
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

G7 C G
Don we now our gay apparel,

C Am G D7 G
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.

C Am C
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol,

F C G7 C
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)

Silent Night

(key of G)

Intro (last line of verse): G D7 G

G
Silent night, holy night
D G
All is calm, all is bright
C G
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child
C G
Holy Infant so tender and mild
D D7 Em
Sleep in heavenly peace
G D7 G
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)

Mary's Boy Child

(key of G)

Intro (last line of chorus): G C Am G D7 G /

G C Am D G
Long time ago in Bethlehem, so the Holy Bible say,
G C Am G D7 G
Mary's boy child, Jesus Christ, was born on Christmas Day.

CHORUS:

G C D G Em A D
Hark now hear the angels sing, "New King's born today",
G C Am G D7 G /
And man will live forever more because of Christmas Day.

G C Am
While shepherds watch their flocks by night,
D7 G
They saw a bright new shining star.
C Am
And heard a choir from heaven sing,
G D7 G
The music came from afar.

CHORUS

G C Am D G
Now Joseph and his wife, Mary, came to Bethlehem that night.
G C Am
They found no place to bear the child,
G D7 G
Not a single room was in sight.

G C Am D G
By and by they found a little nook, in a stable all forlorn.
G C Am G D7 G
And in a manger cold and dark, Mary's little Boy Child was born.

CHORUS

SECOND CHORUS:

G C D7 G Em A D
Trumpets sound and angels sing, listen to what they say,
G C Am G D7 G
That man will live forever more because of Christmas Day.

(Jester Hairston)

A Children's Winter

(key of D)

Intro (last two lines of verse): D A D A7 D

D A
The winter snow is a child's delight,
D G A
As it brightens up the winter night;
D A
And coats the earth in a cheery white,
D A7 D
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:

D D7
Snow man, snow house, hey, play with me,
G Em A A7
Shake the snow down from the tree;
D A
Games once played by you and me,
D A7 D
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)

Intro (last two lines of verse): DM7 Em A7 D

Dmaj7 Em
Snow is dancing in the frosty air,
A7 D
Floating down and flowing everywhere;
Dmaj7 Em
Like a million feathers all around,
A7 D
Gently falling to the ground.
Gmaj7 F#m7
If you listen closely, you can hear it whisper,
Em7 D
As it settles far and wide,
Gmaj7 F#m7
Over fields its drifting, as the wind is lifting,
Em7 A7 D
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

Sing first two verses and tag

Tag:

A9 D
Making magic wintertime.

(Eric West)

Must be Santa

(key of D)

D A
Who's got a beard that's long and white?

D
Santa's got a beard that's long and white

D A
Who comes around on a special night?

D
Santa comes around on a special night

D
Special night, beard that's white

Em A D Bm
Must be Santa, must be Santa

Em A D
Must be Santa, Santa Claus

Who wears boots and a suit of red?
Santa wears boots and a suit of red
Who wears a long cap on his head?
Santa wears a long cap on his head
Cap on head, suit that's red
Special night, beard that's white
Must be Santa, must be Santa
Must be Santa, Santa Claus

Who's got a big red cherry nose?
Santa's got a big red cherry nose
Who laughs this way, ho, ho, ho?
Santa laughs this way, ho, ho, ho
Ho, ho, ho, cherry nose
Cap on head, suit that's red
Special night, beard that's white
Must be Santa, must be Santa
Must be Santa, Santa Claus

Who very soon will come our way?
Santa very soon will come our way
Eight little reindeer pull his sleigh
Santa's little reindeer pull his sleigh
Reindeer sleigh, come our way
Ho, ho, ho, cherry nose
Cap on head, suit that's red
Special night, beard that's white
Must be Santa, must be Santa
Must be Santa, Santa Claus

Must be Santa, must be Santa
Must be Santa, Santa Claus
Must be Santa, must be Santa
Must be Santa, Santa Claus
Must be Santa, must be Santa
Must be Santa, Santa Claus.

(Hal Moore and Bill Fredericks)

Christmas in the Harbour

(key of D)

Intro and instrumental break (2x): Dsus D Bm G A

Chorus: D

Toorah, loorrah, loorah lay,
A Bm
Christ the King was born today,
D Bm
Hark! the herald angels say,
G A A7
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)

Rudolf, the Red-Nosed Reindeer

Intro: Am7

Or, if skipping first verse: D7 G

Am7 Bm D9 G
You know Dasher and Dancer, and Prancer and Vixen,
Am7 Bm D9 G
Comet and Cupid, and Donner and Blitzen.
Em B7 Em Em7 A7 D7
But do you recall, the most famous reindeer of all?

G D
Rudolph the red-nose reindeer, had a very shiny nose
D7 G
And if you ever saw it, you would even say it glows
G D
All of the other reindeer, used to laugh and call him names;
D7 G G7
They never let poor Rudolph, join in any reindeer games

C G Am D7 G
Then one foggy Christmas Eve, Santa came to say
D Em A7 D7
Rudolph with your nose so bright, won't you guide my sleigh tonight?
G D
Then how the reindeer loved him, as they shouted out with glee
D7 G
Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer, you'll go down in history.

(Johnny Marks)

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?"*

Intro: G A7 D

D G D E7 A
Hark what's the noise, out by the porch door, Granny 'tis mummers there's twenty or more;
D G A7 D
Her old withered face brightens up with a grin, "Any mummers nice mummers 'lowed in?"
D G D E7 A
"Come in lovely mummers don't bother the snow, We can wipe up the water sure after you go;
D G A7 D
Sit if you can or on some mummer's knee, Let's see if we know who you be."

A D E A7
There's big ones and small ones and tall ones and thin, Boys dressed as women and girls dressed as men;
D G A7 D
Humps on their backs and mitts on their feet, My blessed we'll die with the heat.
D G D E7 A
There's only one there I think that I know, That tall feller standing o'er long side the stove;
D G A7 D
He's shakin' his fist for to make me not tell, Must be Willy from out on the hill.

D G D E7 A
Now that one's a stranger if there ever was one, With his underwear stuffed and his trap door undone;
D G A7 D
Is he wearing his mother's big forty two bra? I knows but I'm not gonna say.

A D E A7
Don't 'spose you fine mummers will turn down a drop, No home brew, nor alchie whatever you got;
D G A7 D
Now the one with his rubber boots on the wrong feet, He's had enough for to do him a week.
D G D E7 A
'Spose you can dance, yes they all nods their heads, They've been tappin' their feet ever since they came in;
D G A7 D
Now that the drinks have been all passed around, The mummers are plankin' her down.

Instrumental

D G D E7 A
Hold on to the lamp and be careful the stove, Don't swing Granny hard for you know that she's old;
D G A7 D
No need for to care how you buckles the floor, 'Cause mummers have danced here before.
A D E A7
My God, how hot is it, we better go, I 'low we'll all get the devil's own cold;
D G A7 D
Good night and good Christmas, mummers me dears, Please God we will see you next year.
D G A7 D
Good night and good Christmas, mummers me dears, Please God we will see you next year.

(Bud Davidge)

The Wren

(key of D)

Intro (two instrumental tunes): Bring a Torch & I Saw Three Ships

D A
The wren, the wren, the king of all birds,
D A
St. Stephen's day was caught in the firs;
D A
Although he was little his honour was great,
D A7 D
Rise up young ladies and give us a treat.

Chorus:

D A
Up with the kettle and down with the pan,
D A
A penny or two to bury the wren;
D A
With a pocket full 'o money and a cellar full o' beer,
D A7 D A7 D
We wish you Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

(Traditional)

Feliz Navidad

(keys of G & A)

Intro (last two lines of first verse): G C D G

G C D
Feliz Navidad
G Em
Feliz Navidad
C
Feliz Navidad
D G
Prospero ano y Felicidad.

Feliz Navidad
Feliz Navidad
Feliz Navidad
Prospero ano y Felicidad.

G C D
We want to wish you a Merry Christmas
G Em
We want to wish you a Merry Christmas
C
We want to wish you a Merry Christmas
D G
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 in G, modulating to the key of A the third time)

(Jose Feliciano)

Ding Dong Merrily on High

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

Intro: (last line): F Gsus C

C F6 G
Ding dong! merrily on high,
F Gsus C
The bells are gaily ringing.
C F6 G
Ding dong! happily reply,
F Gsus C
The angels all are singing.

C/e Dm Am/c G7/b Am G
Glo -..... ria
F Gsus C
Hosanna in ex - celsis.

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)*

Silver Bells

(key of G)

Intro: C/g GM7 Am7 D7

G /
City sidewalks, busy sidewalks
C Am7
Dressed in holiday style
D D7 G
In the air there's a feeling of Christmas
G /
Children laughing, people passing
C Am7
Meeting smile after smile
D D7 G
And on every street corner you'll hear

Chorus:

G C
Silver bells, silver bells
D D7 G /
It's Christmas time in the city
G C
Ring-a-ling, hear them ring
D D7 G C/g Am7 D7
Soon it will be Christmas day

G /
Strings of street lights, even stop lights
C Am7
Blink a bright red and green
D D7 G
As the shoppers run home with their treasures
G /
Hear the snow crunch, see the kids bunch
C Am7
This is Santa's big scene
D D7 G
And above all the bustle you'll hear...

Chorus

(Ray Evans and Jay Livingston)