

# Baldock Festival Carol Service

## Good King Wenceslas

Good King Wenceslas looked out  
On the feast of Stephen,  
When the snow lay round about,  
Deep and crisp and even.  
Brightly shone the moon that night,  
Though the frost was cruel,  
When a poor man came in sight,  
Gathering winter fuel.



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.

Bring me flesh, and bring me wine.  
Bring me pine logs hither.  
Thou and I will see him dine  
When we bear them thither.  
Page and monarch, forth they went,  
Forth they went together  
Through the rude 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 step he trod,  
Where the snow lay dented.  
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.

## God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen

God rest you merry, gentlemen,  
Let nothing you dismay.  
For Jesus Christ our Saviour,  
Was born on Christmas Day;  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray.

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy  
O tidings of comfort and joy*

From God our heavenly Father,  
A blessed angel came.  
And unto certain shepherds,  
Brought tidings of the same,  
How that in Bethlehem was born,  
The Son of God by name:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, etc*

Fear not, then said the angel,  
Let nothing you affright,  
This day is born a Saviour,  
Of virtue, power, and might;  
So frequently to vanquish all,  
The friends of Satan quite;  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, etc*

The shepherds at those tidings,  
Rejoiced much in mind,  
And left their flocks a-feeding,  
In tempest, storm, and wind,  
And went to Bethlehem straightway,  
This blessed Babe to find:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, etc*

But when to Bethlehem they came,  
Whereat this Infant lay  
They found him in a manger,  
Where oxen feed on hay;  
His mother Mary kneeling,  
Unto the Lord did pray:  
*O tidings of comfort and joy, etc*

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## **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

O little town of Bethlehem,  
How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep  
The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth  
The everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.



O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth!  
And praises sing to God the King,  
And peace to men on earth.  
For Christ is born of Mary  
And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love.

How silently, how silently,  
The wondrous gift is given;  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His Heaven.  
No ear may hear His coming,  
But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him still,  
The dear Christ enters in.

## **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With th' angelic host proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!  
*Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King!*

Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold Him come,  
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail, the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as man with man to dwell;  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
*Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King!*

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail, the Son of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings,  
Risen with healing in His wings,  
Mild He lays His glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.  
*Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the new-born King!*

## **Ding Dong! Merrily On High**

Ding dong! merrily on high,  
In heav'n the bells are ringing:  
Ding dong! verily the sky  
Is riv'n with angels singing.

*Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!  
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!*

E'en so here below, below,  
Let steeple bells be swungen,  
And "Io, io, io!"  
By priest and people sungen.  
*Gloria etc...*

Pray you, dutifully prime  
Your matin chime, ye ringers;  
May you beautifully rhyme  
Your evetime song, ye singers.  
*Gloria etc...*

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## Once In Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city,  
Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby  
In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ her little child.



He came down to earth from heaven,  
Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable,  
And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and meek and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.

And through all His wondrous childhood,  
He would honour and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly mother,  
In whose gentle arms He lay.  
Christian children all should be,  
Mild, obedient, good as He.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,  
Through His own redeeming love;  
For that child so dear and gentle,  
Is our Lord in heaven above,  
And He leads His children on,  
To the place where He is gone.

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold him,  
Born the King of angels;  
*O come, let us adore him,*  
*O come, let us adore him,*  
*O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

God of God, Light of Light,  
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb:  
Very God, Begotten, not created;  
*O come, let us adore him etc*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God In the highest;  
*O come, let us adore him etc*

## The Holly And The Ivy

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

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

The holly bears a berry,  
As red as any blood,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,  
To do poor sinners good  
*O, the rising of the sun, etc*

The holly bears a prickly,  
As sharp as any thorn,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,  
On Christmas Day in the morn  
*O, the rising of the sun, etc*

The holly bears a bark,  
As bitter as the gall,  
And Mary bore sweet Jesus Christ,  
For to redeem us all  
*O, the rising of the sun, etc*

The holly and the ivy,  
When they are both full grown,  
Of all trees that are in the wood,  
The holly bears the crown  
*O, the rising of the sun, etc*

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## The First Nowell

The first Nowell the Angel did say  
Was to certain poor Shepherds in fields as they  
lay.  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,  
Born is the King of Israel.*

They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the East, beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued, both day and night.  
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell, etc*



This star drew nigh to the North West;  
O'er Bethlehem it took it's rest.  
And there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.  
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell, etc*

Then let us all with one accord  
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;  
That hath made heaven and earth of nought,  
And with his blood mankind hath bought.  
*Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell, etc*

## Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where  
he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the  
sky,  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.

Be near me Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay.  
Close by me forever, And love my I pray.  
Bless all the dear children, In thy tender care.  
And fit us for heaven, To live with thee  
there.

## We Three Kings Of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are  
Bearing gifts, we traverse afar.  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
Following yonder star.

*O star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright,  
Westward leading, still proceeding,  
Guide us to Thy perfect light.*

Born a King on Bethlehem plain,  
Gold I bring to crown Him again,  
King forever, ceasing never  
Over us all to reign.  
*O star of wonder, star of night, etc*

Frankincense to offer have I;  
Incense owns a Deity nigh:  
Prayer and praising, all men raising,  
Worship Him God most high.  
*O star of wonder, star of night, etc*

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume.  
Breathes a life of gathering gloom:  
Sorrowing, sighing,  
Bleeding, dying,  
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.  
*O star of wonder, star of night, etc*

Glorious now behold Him arise,  
King and God and sacrifice.  
Heav'n sings  
Halleluia;  
Halleluia the earth replies.  
*O star of wonder, star of night, etc*

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### **While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks**

While shepherds watched their flocks by  
night,  
All seated on the ground,  
The angel of the Lord came down,  
And glory shone around.

"Fear not," said he, for mighty dread  
Had seized their troubled mind,  
"Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
To you and all mankind."

"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:

The heavenly Babe you there shall find  
To human view displayed,  
All meanly wrapped in swathing bands,  
And in a manger laid."

Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith  
Appeared a shining throng  
Of angels praising God who thus  
Addressed their joyful song:

‘All glory be to God on high  
And on the earth be peace,  
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men  
Begin and never cease.’

### **Silent Night**

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.

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## **Good Christian Men, Rejoice**

Good Christian men, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Give ye heed to what we say:  
News! News! News!  
Jesus Christ is born today:  
Ox and ass before him bow  
And He is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today!  
Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye hear of endless bliss;  
Joy! Joy! Joy!  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has ope'd the heav'nly door  
And man is blessed evermore.  
Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice;  
Now ye need not fear the grave;  
Peace! Peace! Peace!  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all  
To gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save!  
Christ was born to save!

## **Angels From The Realm Of Glory**

Angels from the realms of glory  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth  
Ye, who sang creation's story  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth  
*Come and worship,*  
*Worship Christ the newborn King*

Shepherds in the fields abiding  
Watching o'er your flocks by night  
God with man is now residing  
Yonder shines the Infant light  
*Come and worship,*  
*Worship Christ the newborn King*

Sages leave your contemplations  
Brighter visions beam afar  
Seek the great Desire of nations  
Ye have seen His natal star  
*Come and worship,*  
*Worship Christ the newborn King*



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## Here We Come A-Wassailing

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

*Love and joy come to you,  
And to you a 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  
*Love and joy come to you, etc*

God bless the master of this house,  
Likewise the mistress too;  
And all the little children  
That round the table go.  
*Love and joy come to you, etc*



## O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Rod of Jesse, free  
Thine own from Satan's tyranny  
From depths of Hell Thy people save  
And give them victory o'er the grave  
*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.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Thou Key of David, come,  
And open wide our heavenly home;  
Make safe the way that leads on high,  
And close the path to misery.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, O come, Thou Lord of might,  
Who to Thy tribes, on Sinai's height,  
In ancient times did'st give the Law,  
In cloud, and majesty and awe.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*