## Paul Hardy's Xmas Tunebook 2012

## Introduction

This tunebook contains Christmas tunes and carols that I play on my English concertina. They should also be playable on fiddle, whistle, flute, dulcimer, etc. The predominant keys used are G, D and C (and Em, Bm, and Am) to suit folk instruments and ease learning.

Most are traditional tunes, minly from the British Isles, but others are imports from various sources. All tunes are believed free of current copyright (unless noted explicitly), or else appear to have been placed in the public domain as part of the ongoing live folk music tradition. Please let me know if you are the owner of any that are under access restrictions and I'll remove them.

I have tried to choose the simple versions of most tunes, without much decoration and interpretation, so add your own triplets, grace notes and variations. I have also included guitar chords, often based on computer generated ones if not present at the tune's source. I'm not a guitarist, so these will not necessarily be the best possibilities! I've also included a small subset of words – just enough to go with the notes written, usually one verse plus a chorus if any. This tunebook is for instrumentalists, not singers!

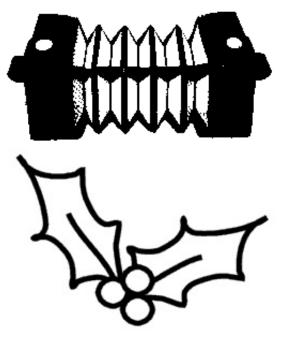
This tunebook has been prepared using the abcm2ps software, with help from abcmus, EasyABC, and ABCexplorer. A big thank you goes to those creative and dedicated people who give their time to create and maintain low–cost or free and open source software for abc music editing and output.

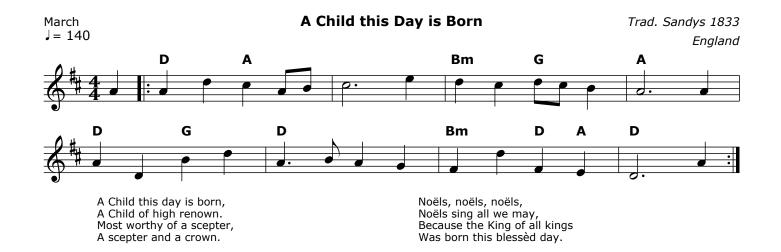
The current version of this tunebook, in ABC and in PDF forms, is downloadable from Paul's web site at http://www.pghardy.net/, along with Paul Hardy's Session Tunebook.

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Original version of 16 December 2009, this version of 12 October 2012.

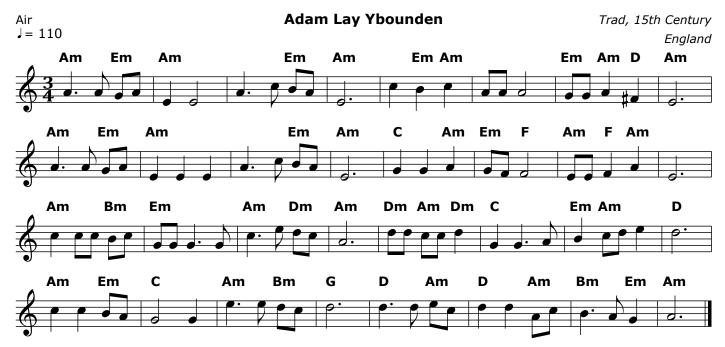




12 Oct, 2012 A Virgin Most Pure



A virgin most pure, as the prophets do tell, Hath brought forth a Baby, as it hath befell, To be our Redeemer from death, hell and sin, Which Adam´s transgression has wrappèd us in. And therefore be merry, set sorrow aside; Christ Jesus our Savior was born on this tide.

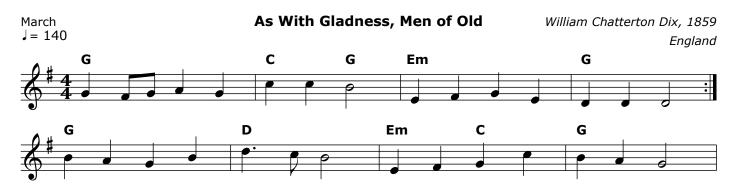


Adam lay ybounden, bounden in a bond; Four thousand winter, thought he not too long. And all was for an apple, an apple that he took, As clerkès finden written in their book. Ne had the apple taken been, the apple taken been, Ne had never Our Lady a been heavenly queen. Blessed be the time that apple taken was. Therefore we moun singen Deo gratias!



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, Come and worship; Worship Christ, the newborn King!

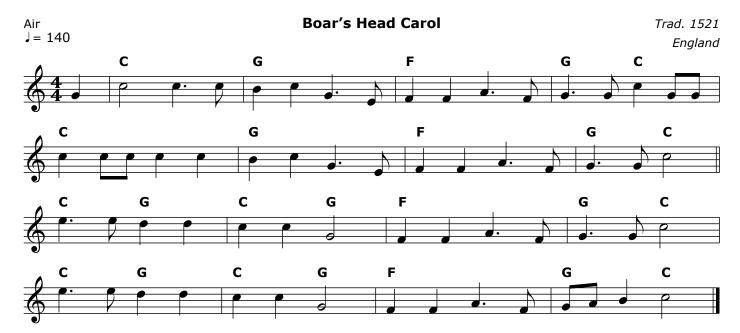


As with gladness, men of old; Did the guiding star behold As with joy they hailed its light; Leading onward, beaming bright So, most glorious Lord, may we; Evermore be led to Thee

12 Oct, 2012 Away in a Manger



Away in a manger, No crib for His 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 12 Oct, 2012 Boar's Head Carol



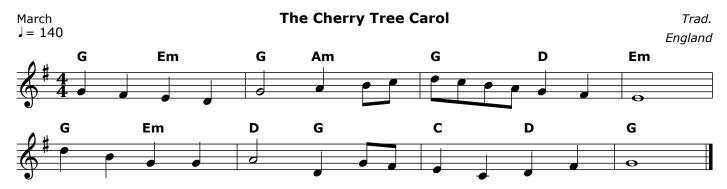
The boar's head in hand bear I Bedecked with bays and rosemary; And I pray you, my masters, be merry, Quot estis in convivio:

Caput apri defero, Reddens laudes Domino. Caput apri defero, Reddens laudes Domino. 12 Oct, 2012 Brightest and Best

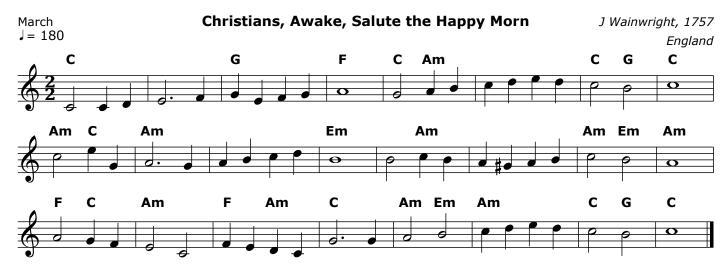


Brightest and best of the sons of the morning, Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid; Star of the East, the horizon adorning, Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

(Bishop Reginald Heber 1783-1826)



Joseph was an old man, and an old man was he, when he wedded Mary in the land of Galilee.

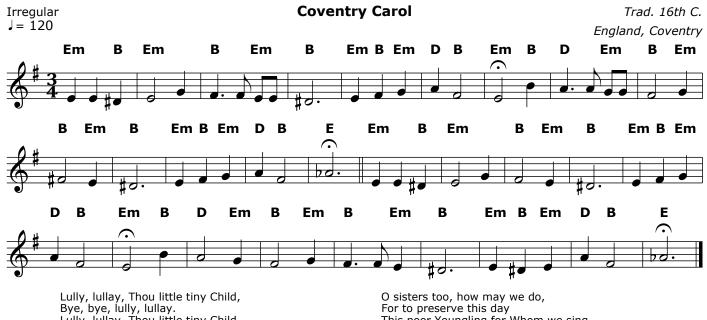


Christians, awake, salute the happy morn Whereon the Saviour of the world was born Rise to adore the mystery of love Which hosts of angels chanted from above With them the joyful tidings first begun Of God incarnate and the Virgin's Son

(John Byron 1745)



Christmas is coming, the goose is getting fat Please put a penny in the old man's hat If you haven't got a penny, a ha'penny will do If you haven't got a ha'penny, then God bless you! 12 Oct, 2012 Coventry Carol

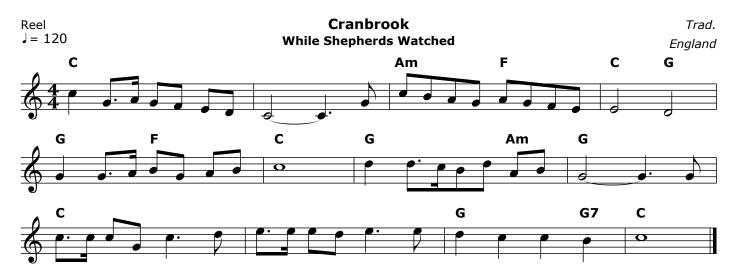


Lully, lullay, Thou little tiny Child, Bye, bye, lully, lullay. Lully, lullay, Thou little tiny Child, Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

This poor Youngling for Whom we sing Bye, bye, lully, lullay?

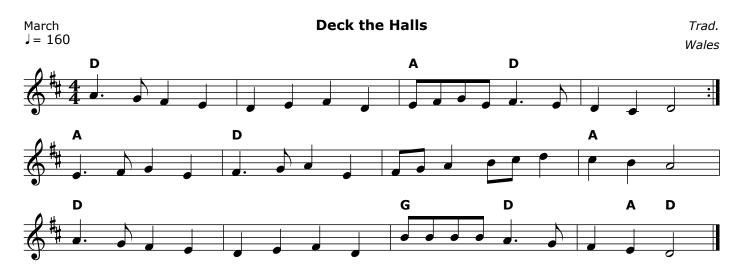
(16C Pageant of the Shearmen & Tailors)

12 Oct, 2012 Cranbrook

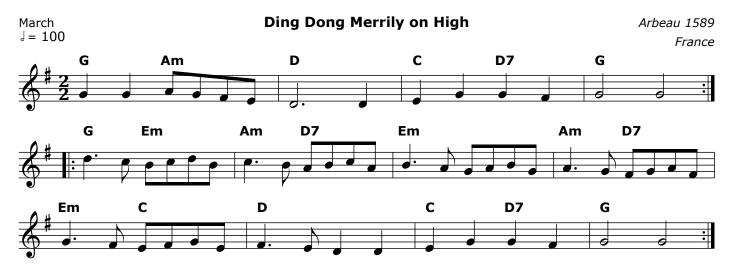


While shepherds watched their flocks by night,All seated on the ground, The angel of the Lord came down,The angel of the Lord came down, And glory shone around, And glory shone around.

12 Oct, 2012 Deck the Halls

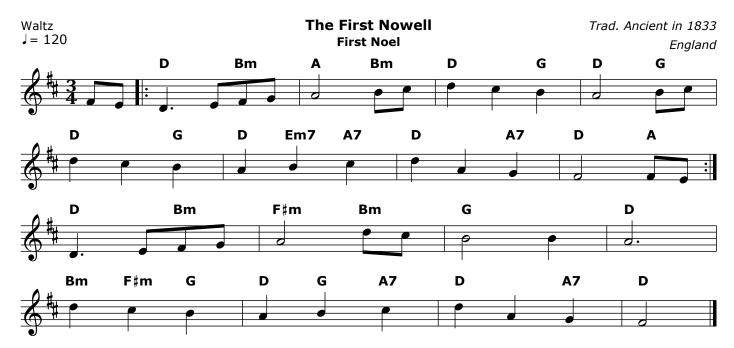


Deck the halls with boughs of holly, Fa la la la la, la la la la, Tis the season to be jolly, Fa la la la la, la la la la, Don we now our gay apparel, Fa la la la la, la la la la, Troll the ancient Yule—tide carol, Fa la la la la, la la la la,



Ding dong! merrily on high In heav'n the bells are ringing: Ding dong! verily the sky Is riv'n with Angel singing. Gloria; Hosanna in excelsis! (George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1924)

12 Oct, 2012 First Nowell, The



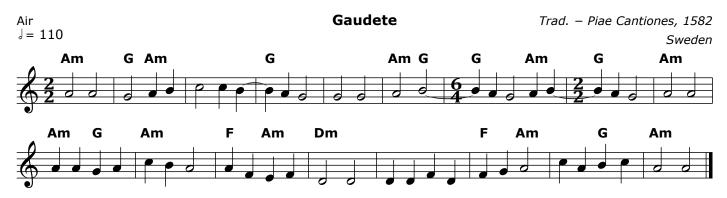
The first nowell the angels did say Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, On a cold winter's night that was so deep;

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

12 Oct, 2012 Gabriel's Message

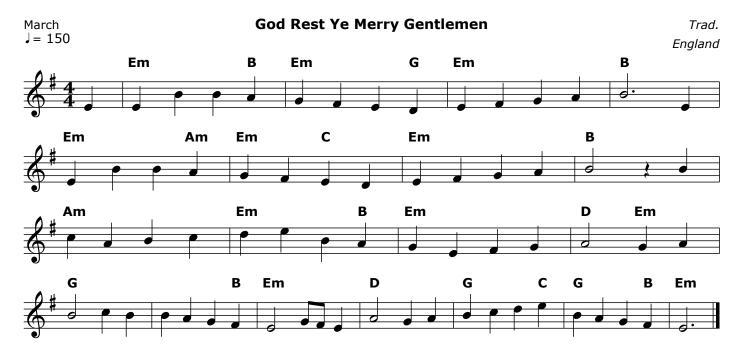


The angel Gabriel from heaven came, His wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame; All hail, said he, thou lowly maiden Mary, Most highly favour'd lady, Gloria! 12 Oct, 2012 Gaudete

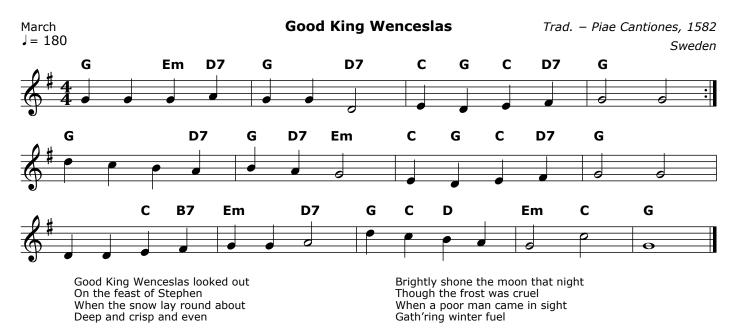


Gaudete! Gaudete! Christus est natus ex Maria virgine. Gaudete!

Tempus adest gratiae, hoc quod optabamus; Carmina laetitiae devote reddamus.



God rest you merry, gentlemen,Let nothing you dismay, Remember Christ, our Savior, 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.



(John Mason Neale, 1853, after Czech poem)



Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and everywhere Go, tell it on the mountain, That Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching Over silent flocks by night Behold throughout the heavens There shone a holy light.



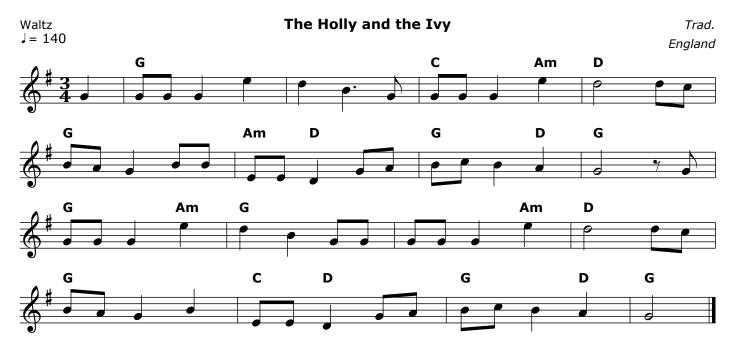
Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King; Peace on earth and mercy mild God and sinners reconciled! Joyful all ye nations rise Join the triumph of the skies With the angelic host proclaim, Christ is born in Bethlehem! Hark the herald angels sing, Glory to the newborn King!

(Charles Wesley 1839)



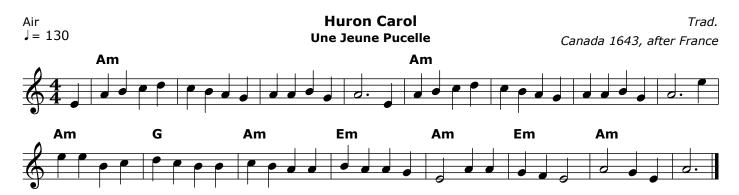
Here we come a-wassailing; Among the leaves so green; Here we come a-wand'ring; So fair to be seen.

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.



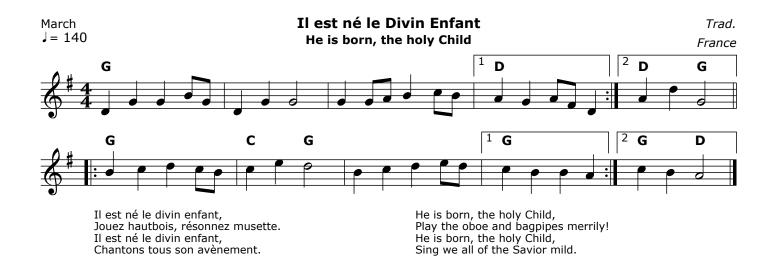
The holly and the ivy, When they are both full grown, Of all the trees that are in the wood, The holly bears the crown: The rising of the sun, And the running of the deer, The playing of the merry organ, Sweet singing in the choir.

12 Oct, 2012 Huron Carol

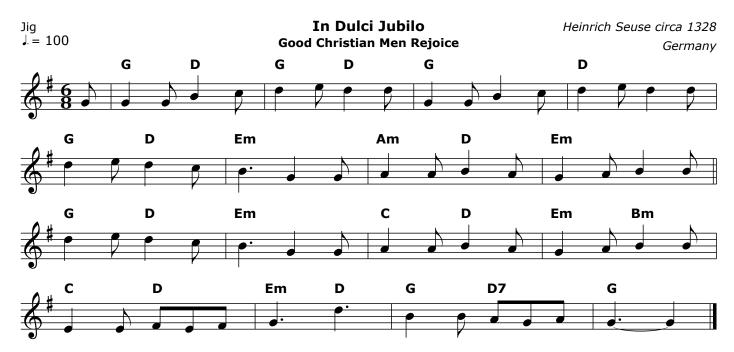


Twas in the moon of wintertime when all the birds had fled That mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angel choirs instead; Before their light the stars grew dim and wondering hunters heard the hymn, Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria.

(Translation by Jesse Middleton, of Jesous Ahatonia by Saint Jean de Brebeuf, 1643)



12 Oct, 2012 In Dulci Jubilo



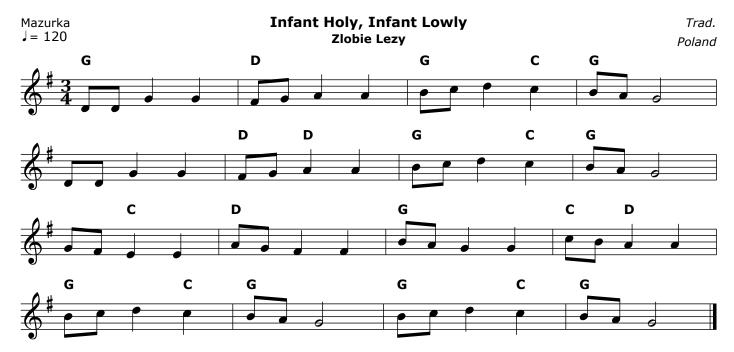
In dulci jubilo; Now sing we all with hearts aglow! Our delight and pleasure; Lies in praesepio, Like sunshine is our treasure; Matris in gremio. Alpha es et O! Alpha es et O!

Good Christian men rejoice; With heart and soul and voice! Give ye heed to what we say; 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! 12 Oct, 2012 In the Bleak Midwinter



In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, In the bleak midwinter, long a go.

(Christina Rosetti, 1872)



Infant holy, Infant lowly, For His bed a cattle stall; Oxen lowing, Little knowing, Christ the Babe is Lord of all. Swift are winging, Angels singing, Nowells ringing, Tidings bringing, Christ the Babe is Lord of all; Christ the Babe is Lord of all.



I saw three ships come sailing in On Christmas Day, on Christmas Day; I saw three ships come sailing in On Christmas Day in the morning.

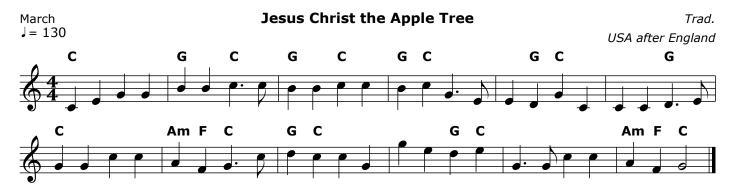


(Edmund Hamilton Sears, 1849)

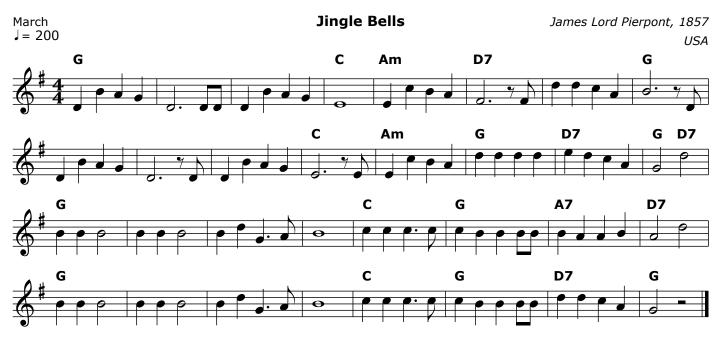
12 Oct, 2012 I Wonder as I Wander



I wonder as I wander out under the sky, How Jesus the Savior did come for to die. For poor ordinary people like you and like I, I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

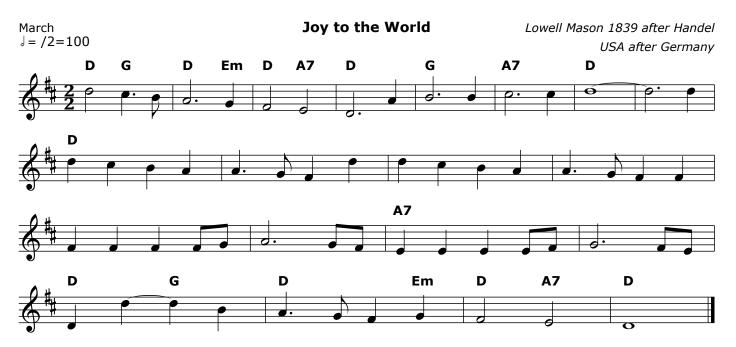


The tree of life my soul hath seen, Laden with fruit and always green: The trees of nature fruitless be Compared with Christ the apple tree. 12 Oct, 2012 Jingle Bells



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 Oh, what fun it is to sing A sleighing song tonight

Jingle bells, jingle bells, Jingle all the way; Oh! what fun it is to ride In a one—horse open sleigh. Jingle bells, jingle bells, Jingle all the way; Oh! what fun it is to ride In a one—horse open sleigh. 12 Oct, 2012 Joy to the World



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.

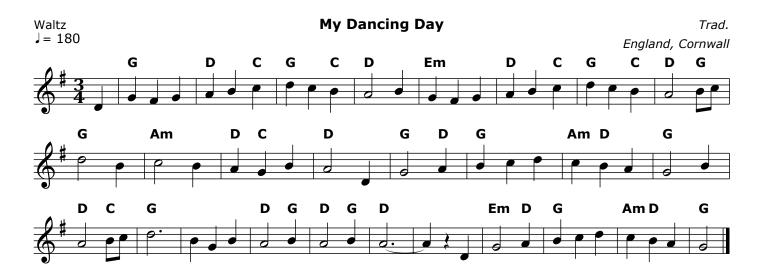
(Isaac Watts 1719)



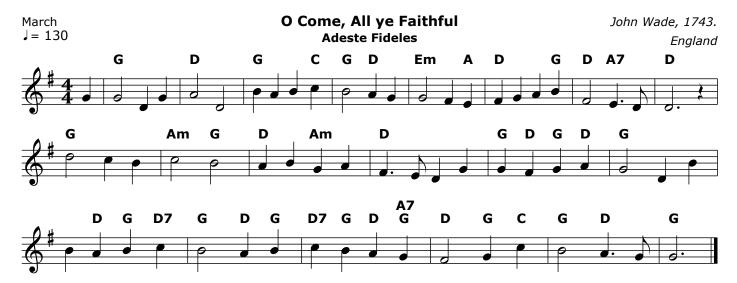
Love came down at Christmas, Love all lovely, love divine; Love was born at Christmas, Star and angels gave the sign. 12 Oct, 2012 Mary Had a Baby



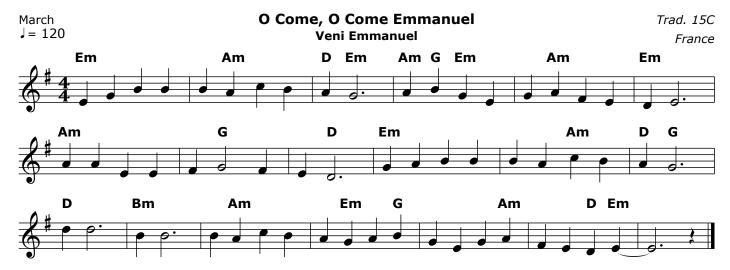
Mary had a baby (Aye Lord) Mary had a baby (Oh My Lord) Mary had a baby (Aye Lord) The people keep a—comin' and the train done gone. 12 Oct, 2012 My Dancing Day



Tomorrow shall be my dancing day: I would my true love did so chance; To see the legend of my play, To call my true love to my dance Sing O my love, O my love, my love, my love; This have I done for my true love.



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; Oh come let us adore Him; Oh come let us adore Him Oh come let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.



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.

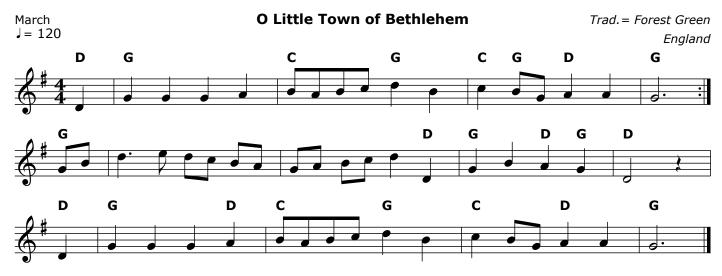
(Trans. John Neale of 12C Veni, veni, Emmanuel)

12 Oct, 2012 O Holy Night



O Holy night, the stars are brightly shining. It is the night of our dear savior's birth. Long lay the world in sin and error pining, Til he appeared and the soul 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 angels voices. Oh, night divine. Oh, night when Christ was born. Oh, night. Oh, holy night. Oh, night divine.

(Translation by by John Dwight, of Minuit Chrétien by Placide Cappeau, 1847)



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 to-night.

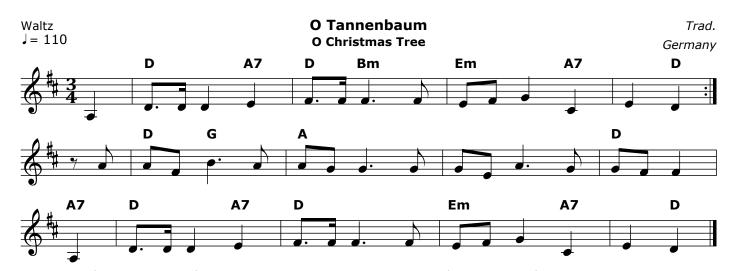
(Phillips Brooks, 1903)



Once in royal Davids 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.

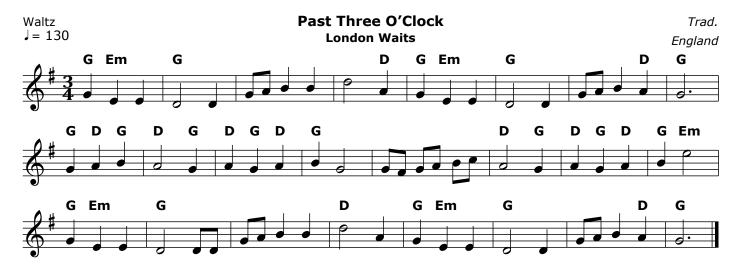
(Cecil Frances Humphreys Alexander, 1848)

12 Oct, 2012 O Tannenbaum



O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree, Your branches green delight us. (x2) They're green when summer days are bright; They're green when winter snow is white. O, Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree, Your branches green delight us!

O Tannenbaum, o Tannenbaum, Wie treu sind deine Blätter! Du grünst nicht nur zur Sommerzeit, Nein, auch im Winter, wenn es schneit. O Tannenbaum, o Tannenbaum, Wie treu sind deine Blätter! 12 Oct, 2012 Past Three O'Clock

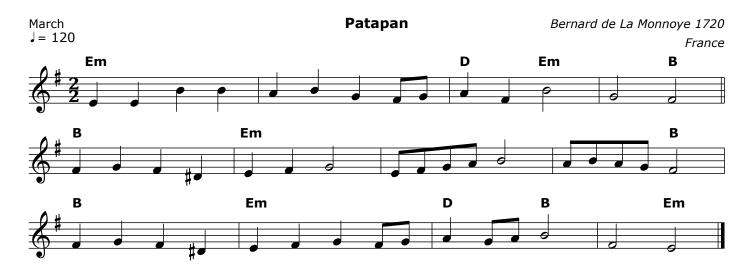


Past three a clock, And a cold frosty morning, Past three a clock; Good morrow, masters all!

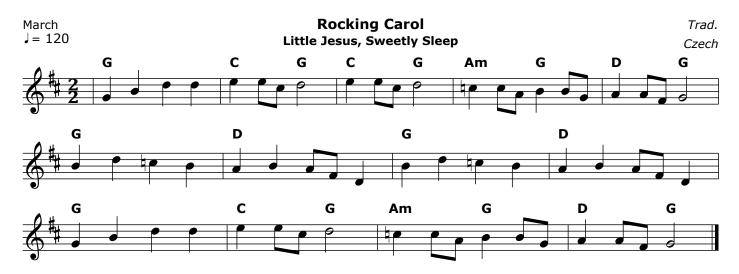
Born is a Baby, Gentle as may be, Son of the eternal, Father supernal. Past three a clock, And a cold frosty morning, Past three a clock; Good morrow, masters all!

(George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1924)

12 Oct, 2012 Patapan

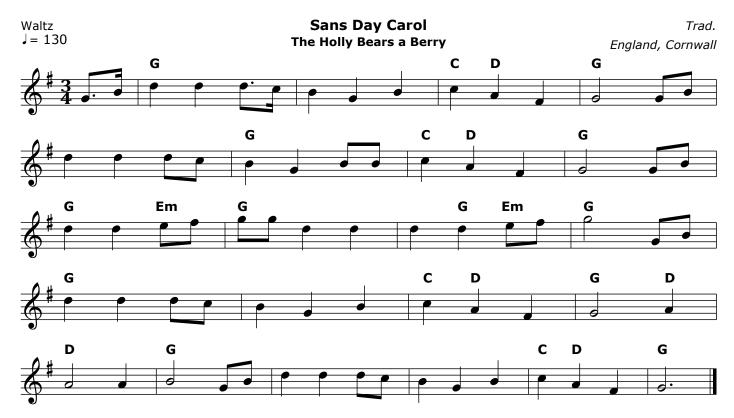


Guillaume, prends ton tambourin, Toi, prends ta flûte, Robin; Au son de ces instruments, Turelurelu, patapatapan, Au son de ces instruments, Je dirai Noël gaîment. Willie, bring your little drum; Robin, bring your flute and come; And be merry while you play, Tu-re-lu-re-lu, Pat-a-pat-a-pan, Come be merry while you play, On this joyous Holiday! 12 Oct, 2012 Rocking Carol



Little Jesus, sweetly sleep, do not stir; We will lend a coat of fur. We will rock you, rock you, rock you; We will rock you, rock you, rock you. See the fur to keep you warm; Snugly round your tiny form

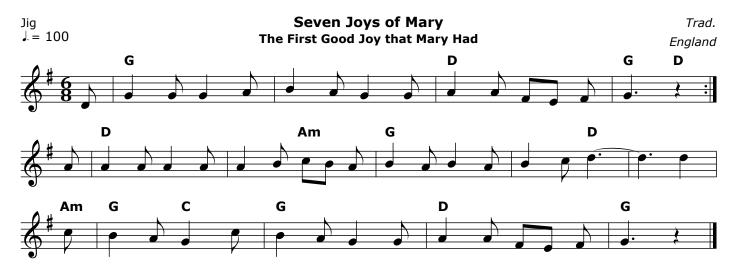
12 Oct, 2012 Sans Day Carol



Now the holly bears a berry as white as the milk, And Mary bore Jesus, who was wrapped up in silk: And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be, And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly. Holly! Holly! And the first tree in the greenwood, it was the holly!



(Edward Caswall, 1871)



The first good joy that Mary had, It was the joy of one, To see her ownsome Jesus Christ when he was first her son, When he was first her son, good man, and blessed may he be. O Father, Son and Holy Ghost, through all eternity.

12 Oct, 2012 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

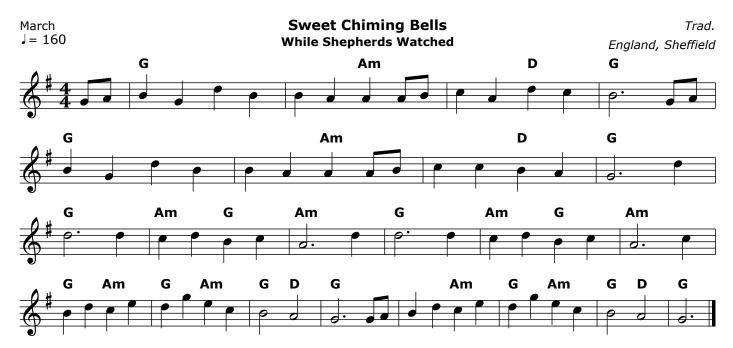
(Josef Mohr, 1818, Trans by John Young, 1819)

12 Oct, 2012 Sussex Carol



On Christmas night all Christians sing, To hear the news the angels bring, On Christmas night all Christians sing, To hear the news the angels bring, News of great joy news of great mirth, News of our Redeemer's birth

12 Oct, 2012 Sweet Chiming Bells



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

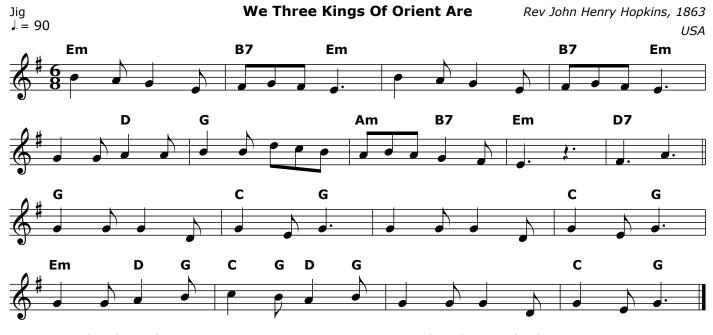
Sweet bells, sweet chiming Christmas bells, Sweet bells, sweet chiming Christmas bells, They lead us on our heav'nly way, sweet chiming bells. They lead us on our heav'nly way, sweet chiming bells. eight maids a' milking



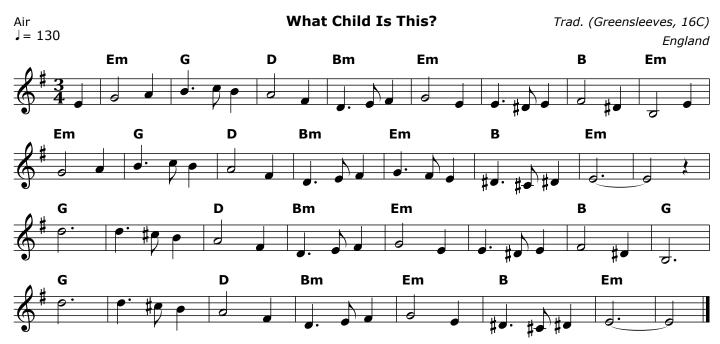
and a partridge in a pear tree



We wish you a merry Christmas, we wish you a merry Christmas, We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year! Glad tidings we bring, to you and your kin, We wish you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

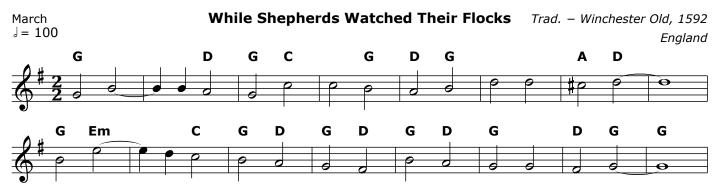


We three kings of Orient are Bearing gifts we traverse afar. Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star. O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect Light. 12 Oct, 2012 What Child Is This?



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? This, this is Christ the king; Whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring Him laud; The babe, the son of Mary!

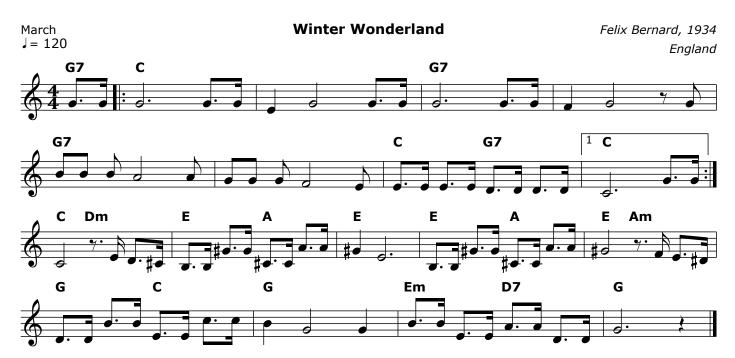
(William Chatterton Dix, 1865)



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

(Nahum Tate, 1700)

12 Oct, 2012 Winter Wonderland

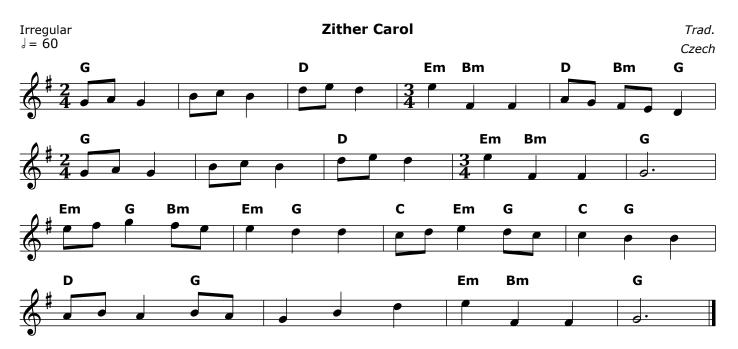


Sleigh bells ring, are you listening, In the lane, snow is glistening A beautiful sight, We're happy tonight. Walking in a winter wonderland.

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.

(Richard B. Smith 1934).

12 Oct, 2012 Zither Carol



Girls and boys, leave your toys. Make no noise, Kneel at His crib and worship Him. At Thy shrine, Child divine, we are Thine, Our Saviour's here.

"Hallelujah!" the church bells ring, "Hallelujah!" the angels sing, "Hallelujah!" from everything. All must draw near.