

SING CHRISTMAS

Live on BBC Radio Leicester

7 - 8pm Monday 21 December 2009

SONG SHEET

Welcome to the region's big sing-along

Thousands of people in pubs, clubs, community centres, care homes, churches and other venues across the region are joining in with Sing Christmas, live on BBC Radio Leicester.

HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING

1. 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."

Chorus:

HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING,
"GLORY TO THE NEWBORN KING!"

2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail the incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel

Chorus:

3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
 Hail the Son of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all he brings,
 Ris'n with healing in his wings
 Mild, he lays his glory by,
 Born that we no more may die;
 Born to raise us from the earth;
 Born to give us second birth,

Chorus:

CELEBRATING ACROSS THE REGION – 1

THE THEME – CHRISTMAS PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

1. **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

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The everlasting light
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight.

2. 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.

3. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in;
Be born to us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel!

CHRISTMAS PAST - THE BEST REMEMBERED

SILENT NIGHT

1. **Silent night, holy night!**

All is calm, all is bright.

Mary and Joseph in stable bare

Watched o'er the child beloved and fair

Sleep in heavenly peace,

Sleep in heavenly peace.

2. Silent night, holy night!

Shepherds first saw the light,

Heard resounding clear and long,

Far and near, the angel-song:

"Christ the Redeemer is here,

Christ the Redeemer is here."

3. Silent night, holy night!

Son of God, love's pure light.

Love is smiling from your face

With the dawn of saving grace.

Saviour, since you are born,

Saviour, since you are born.

**ACTIVITY – SHARE FOOD
(INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC DURING)**

DING DONG MERRILY ON HIGH

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

Chorus:

GLORIA, HOSANNA IN EXCELSIS!
GLORIA, HOSANNA IN EXCELSIS!

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

Chorus:

3. Pray you, dutifully prime
Your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rime

Your evetime song, ye singers.

Chorus:

**CHRISTMAS STORY – JESUS IS BORN
(MATTHEW 1 V. 18-25)**

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

1. 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.

2. 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.

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3. Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high,
When like stars his children crowned,
All in white shall wait around.

CELEBRATING ACROSS THE REGION - 2

CHRISTMAS PRESENT – WHAT SOME PEOPLE WILL BE DOING

MARY'S BOY CHILD

1. 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 NEW KING BORN TODAY,
AND MAN WILL LIVE FOR EVERMORE,
BECAUSE OF CHRISTMAS DAY.

2. While shepherds watched their flocks
by night,
They saw a bright new shining star.
They heard a choir sing,
The music seemed to come from afar,

Chorus:

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

Chorus:

4. By and by, they find a little nook,
In a stable all forlorn,
And in a manger cold and dark,
Mary's little boy was born!
Trumpets sound and angels sing,
Listen to what they say,
That man will live for evermore,
Because of Christmas Day.

CHRISTMAS STORY – ANGELS AND SHEPHERDS (LUKE 2 V. 8-14)

ACTIVITY – PULL CRACKERS (INSTUMENTAL MUSIC DURING)

WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night,

All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down
And glory shone around.

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

3. "To you in David's town this day
Is born of David's line
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign.

4. "The heavenly babe you there shall
find

To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapped in swaddling bands,
And in a manger laid."

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

6. "All glory be to God on high
And to the earth be peace;
Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men
Begin and never cease."

CELEBRATING ACROSS THE REGION - 3

CHRISTMAS STORY – VISIT OF THE WISE MEN (MATTHEW 2 v. 1-3, 7-12)

WE THREE KINGS

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

Chorus:

O STAR OF WONDER, STAR OF NIGHT,
STAR WITH ROYAL BEAUTY BRIGHT,
WESTWARD LEADING, STILL PROCEEDING,
GUIDE US TO THY PERFECT LIGHT.

2. Born a king on Bethlehem plain
Gold I bring to crown him again.
King forever, ceasing never
Over us all to reign.

Chorus:

3. Frankincense to offer have I,
Incense owns a deity nigh
Prayer and praising, all men raising,
Worship him, God most high.

Chorus:

4. Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume
Breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
Sealed in the stone-cold tomb.

Chorus:

5. Glorious now, behold him arise,
King and God and sacrifice!
Heaven sings Alleluia,
Alleluia the earth replies.

Chorus:

CHRISTMAS FUTURE – HOPES FOR THE YEARS AHEAD

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

1. It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold:

“Peace on the earth, goodwill to all,
From heav’n’s all-gracious King!”
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing.

2. Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And warring humankind hears not
The love-song which they bring;
O hush the noise of mortal strife,
And hear the angels sing!

3. For lo, the days are hast’ning on,
By prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years
Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendours fling
And all the world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

PRAYERS

AWAY IN A MANGER

1. 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.

2. The cattle are lowing, the baby
awakes,

But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes:
I love you, Lord Jesus! Look down from
the sky

And stay by my side until morning is
nigh.

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask you
to stay

Close by me for ever and love me, I pray;
Bless all the dear children in your tender
care,

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And fit us for heaven to live with you
there.

CELEBRATING ACROSS THE REGION - 4

CHRISTMAS THOUGHT

JOY TO THE WORLD

1. 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!

2. Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns;

Your sweetest songs employ.

While fields and streams and hills and
plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy!

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

THE BLESSING

ACTIVITY – DRINK A TOAST

O COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

1. **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;

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Chorus:

O COME, LET US ADORE HIM,
O COME, LET US ADORE HIM,
O COME, LET US ADORE HIM,
CHRIST THE LORD!

2. God from God,
Light from light,
He who rejects not the virgin's womb
Son of the Father, begotten not created;

Chorus:

3. Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation,
sing all you citizens of heaven above.
'Glory to God, glory in the highest';

Chorus:

We hope you enjoyed this unique interactive Carol Service wherever you have listened!

You can continue to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas at a church near you.

Why not go along to one of the carol services

... and check out
www.rejesus.co.uk/christmas

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