

# **SING CHRISTMAS**

## **The BBC Leicester Big Christmas Sing**

**7 - 8pm Monday 19 December 2011**

### **SONG SHEET**

*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 from St Martins House, Leicester.*

We'll be singing ten carols in popularity order from the results of a poll on Facebook organised by Highcross Leicester.

The presenters will announce the number of each carol to be sung, with the most popular last. Leading the singing is the choir of St Thomas Church South Wigston directed by **John Gull**, accompanied by the Wigston Brass Ensemble conducted by **Gary Sleath**.

The Christmas story from the Bible is read by award-winning actor, TV and film star **Robert Hardy**; BBC 1's *Over the Rainbow* finalist **Lauren Samuels**, now starring in *We Will Rock You*; the UK's fitness expert **Rosemary Conley**; TV gardener **Ady Dayman**; and BBC Radio Leicester's **Ben Jackson**. The Christmas Thought and Blessing is given by **Bishop Christopher Boyle**, Assistant Bishop of Leicester.

***Sing Christmas is interactive – let us know what's happening in your venue. During the broadcast text 81333 putting 'LEICESTER' at the beginning of your message. Shout out when you get a mention.***

## **RUNNING ORDER**

- **Welcome from Dave Andrews and John Florance**

**CAROL**

**CAROL**

- **Visit of the Angel – Luke 1 v. 26-38**

**CAROL**

- **Jesus is born – Luke 2 v. 1-7**

**CAROL**

- **Angels and Shepherds – Luke 2 v. 8-14**

**CAROL**

- **Visit of the Wise Men – Matthew 2 v. 1-3,  
7-12**

**CAROL**

**CAROL**

- **Escape to Egypt – Matthew 2 v. 13-15**

**CAROL**

- **Christmas Thought**

**CAROL**

- **The Blessing**

**CAROL**

# THE CAROLS

## 1. 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:*  
*Hark! the herald angels sing,*  
*"Glory to the newborn King!"*

## **2. 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  
The everlasting light  
The hopes and fears of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight.

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

3. 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.

4. 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!

### **3. 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.

## **4. 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,  
And fit us for heaven to live with you there.

## **5. 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."

## 6. 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.

## 7. IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

1. 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 ago.

2. Angels and archangels  
May have gathered there,  
Cherubim and seraphim  
Thronged the air.  
But His mother only,  
In her maiden bliss,  
Worshipped the Belovèd  
With a kiss.

3. 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.

## 8. 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:*

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

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

*Chorus:*

## 9. 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 mean, and lowly,  
Lived on earth our Saviour Holy.

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;  
Where like stars His children crowned  
All in white shall wait around.

## 10. 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;

*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:*

The End

**[www.singchristmas.org.uk](http://www.singchristmas.org.uk)**

**We hope you enjoyed this unique interactive broadcast wherever you have joined in.**

**You can continue to celebrate the real meaning of Christmas at a church near you. Why not go along to one of the special services**

**Thank you to all those who have taken part, to BBC Radio Leicester for the broadcast and Leicestershire Churches Media for the organisation.**

**BBC Radio Leicester 104.9 FM, DAB and [www.bbc.co.uk/leicester](http://www.bbc.co.uk/leicester)**