Carols on the Doorstep

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 thee 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 new born King

Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a Virgin's womb! Veiled in flesh the God-head see; Hail the incarnate Deity! Pleased as man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!

(Repeat chorus)

Hail the Heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Hail the Sun of Righteousness! Light and life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings. Mild, He lay His glory by, Born that man no more may die, Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.

(Repeat chorus)

It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

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 earth, goodwill to men, From heaven's all-gracious King!" The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,

With peaceful wings unfurled, And still their heavenly music floats

O'er all the weary world; Above its sad and lonely plains They bend on heavenly wing, And ever o'er its Babel sounds The blessed angels sing.

For lo! The days are hastening on, By prophet bards foretold When with the ever circling years, Comes round the age of gold; When peace shall over all the earth

Its ancient splendours fling And the whole world sends back the song Which now the angels sing!

Carols on the Doorstep

Silent Night

Silent Night! Holy Night! All is calm, all is bright, Round the virgin mother and child; Holy infant, 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 Al-le-lu-ia! Christ the Saviour is born! Christ the Saviour is born! Christ the Saviour is born!

Silent night, holy night Son of God, oh, 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 Jesus, Lord at Thy birth

The First Noel

The first Noel, 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.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel 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.

Repeat chorus

This star drew nigh to the northwest, O'er Bethlehem it took its rest;

And there it did both stop and stay,

Right over the place where Jesus lay.

Repeat chorus

Then entered in those Wise men three

Full reverently upon their knee And offered there in His presence Their gold and myrrh and frankincense.

Repeat chorus

Carols on the Doorstep

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 mean and lowly lived on earth our Saviour holy.

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.

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; there his children gather round bright like stars, with glory crowned.

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 ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him Nor earth sustain; Heaven and earth shall flee away When He comes to reign: In the bleak mid-winter A stable-place sufficed The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

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 give Him? Give Him my heart.

Carols on the Doorstep

Good King Wenceslas

B B C RADIO

Northampton

Good King Wenceslas last 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 St. Agnes' fountain."

In his master's steps he trod, Where the snow lay dinted, 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.

While Shepherds Watched

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 tiding of great joy I bring To you and all mankind

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.

"The heavenly babe You there shall find To human view displayed And meanly wrapped In swathing bands And in a manger laid 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 to the earth be peace. Goodwill henceforth from heaven to men begin and never cease.

Carols on the Doorstep

O Little Town of Bethlehem

B B C RADIO

Northampton

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.

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

Away in a Manger

Away in a Manger, No crib for a bed, The little Lord Jesus Lay 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 me, I pray Bless all the dear children In thy tender care And fit us for heaven To live with thee there.

Carols on the Doorstep

Angels from the Realms 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, Christ the new born king x2

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, Christ the new born king x2

Sages leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar; Seek the great desire of nations Ye have seen His natal star;

Come and worship, Christ the new born king x2

Saints before the altar bending, Watching long in hope and fear, Suddenly the Lord, descending, In His temple shall appear:

Come and worship Christ, the new born King!

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

God Rest ye merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay, For Jesus Christ our Saviour Was born upon this 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 heav'nly 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

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.

Repeat Chorus

And when they came to Bethlehem Where our dear Saviour lay, They found Him in a manger, Where oxen feed on hay; His Mother Mary kneeling down,

Repeat Chorus

Now to the Lord sing praises All you within this place, And with true love and brotherhood Each other now embrace This holy tide of Christmas All others doth deface

Repeat Chorus

Carols on the Doorstep

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! x2

E'en so here below, below Let steeple bells be swungen And i-o i-o i-o By priest and people sungen

Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis! x2

Pray you dutifully prime Your matin chime, ye ringers; May you beautifully rime Your evetime song, ye singers

Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis! x2

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, (Repeat x 3) Christ the Lord.

See how the shepherds, Summoned to his cradle, Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear; We too will thither bend our joyful footsteps:

O come let us adore him, (Repeat x 3) Christ the Lord.

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, (Repeat x 3) Christ the Lord.