



# Wantage Town Mayor's Carols and Songs

## No 1 - 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," he said,  
For mighty dread  
Had seized their troubled minds  
"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  
And 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  
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!"

## No 2 - 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

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

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 to us today  
We hear the Christmas angels  
The great glad tidings tell  
O come to us, abide with us  
Our Lord Emmanuel



### No 3 - 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 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 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!"

### No 4 - The First Noel

The first Noel 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

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

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel!

And by the light of that same star  
Three Wise men came from country far  
To seek for a King was their intent  
And to follow the star wherever it went

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel!

This star drew nigh to the northwest  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest  
And there it did both stop and stay  
Right o'er the place where Jesus lay

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel!



### No 5 - 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

The cattle are lowing  
The poor Baby wakes  
But little Lord Jesus  
No crying He makes

I love Thee, Lord Jesus  
Look down from the sky  
And stay by my side,  
'Til 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 take us to heaven  
To live with Thee there

### No 6 - 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 angel 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, Hosanna in excelsis!  
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

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

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



### **No 7 - 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.

### **No 8 - 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  
Gath'ring 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 him 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 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



### No 9 - 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.

O Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing all ye citizens of heav'n above.  
Glory to God in the Highest;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning,  
O Jesus! for evermore be Thy name adored.  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

### No 10 - In the Bleak Midwinter

In the bleak mid-winter  
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 mid-winter  
Long ago.

Angels and Archangels may have gathered  
there,  
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;  
But only His Mother, in her maiden bliss  
Worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.

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.

### No 11—Silent Night, Holy 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



## No 12 - 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 the earth, goodwill to men  
From heavens 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 lowly plains  
They bend on hovering wing,  
And ever o'er its Babel sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,  
By prophets seen of old,  
When with the ever-circling years  
Shall come the time foretold,  
When the new heaven and earth shall  
own  
The Prince of Peace, their King,  
And the whole world send back the  
song  
Which now the angels sing.

## No 13 - We Wish You a Merry Christmas

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.

Now bring us a figgy pudding;  
Now bring us a figgy pudding;  
Now bring us a figgy pudding  
and a cup of good cheer

Glad tidings we bring to you and your kin;  
We wish you a Merry Christmas,  
and a Happy New Year.

And we won't go until we get some;  
We won't go until we get some;  
We won't go until we get some,  
so bring some out here

Glad tidings we bring to you and your kin;  
We wish you a Merry Christmas,  
and a Happy New Year.

We wish you a Merry Christmas;  
We wish you a Merry Christmas;  
We wish you a Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year.