

The Christmas FAMILY SONGBOOK

Over 100 Favorites for Piano and Sing-Along



A note about the arrangements and recordings: Most of the sheet music begins with an intro. For the sheets that do not, we've used key phrases within the music—indicated with brackets and a footnote in the arrangement—as the intro on the included recording. The MP3 recordings always begin with an intro.

mp3

The included DVD-ROM contains MP3s that demonstrate the piano parts to each song. To access these recordings, insert the DVD-ROM into a computer, navigate to **Computer** or **My Computer**, right-click on the disc drive icon, and select **Open** or **Explore**. (Mac users can simply double-click the disc icon that appears on the desktop.) The MP3s are located in the **"MP3s"** folder.



To help spark up an old-fashioned holiday sing-along, the DVD-ROM features printable lyric sheets to all the songs in the book, in PDF format. Also included are six intermediate to advanced solo and duet piano arrangements—perfect for those seeking a challenge. To access these extras, follow the MP3 instructions at left to explore the disc and proceed to the **"PDFs"** folder.



In addition to the bonuses detailed at left, the DVD-ROM contains our exclusive TNT 2 software for practice—you can slow down the MP3 audio, loop sections, change keys, and more.

For installation, follow the MP3 instructions at left to explore the disc and double-click on the installer file. Installation may take up to 15 minutes.

TNT 2 SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS

WINDOWS

7, Vista, XP
QuickTime 7 or higher
1.8 GHz processor or faster
3.4 GB hard drive space, 2 GB RAM minimum
DVD drive for installation
Speakers or headphones
Internet access required for updates

MACINTOSH

OS 10.4 and higher (Intel only)
QuickTime 7 or higher
3.4 GB hard drive space, 2 GB RAM minimum
DVD drive for installation
Speakers or headphones
Internet access required for updates



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All songs arranged and performed by Bill Galliford and Ethan Neuburg. Garritan's Abbey Road Studios CFX Concert Grand sound library was used in all piano recordings. Thanks to MakeMusic and Garritan for the use of this wonderful software instrument.

Facts in "About the Songs" section were compiled from various online sources, including Wikipedia.org, Songfacts.com, ChristmasSongs.com, Hymnary.org, and HymnsandCarolsofChristmas.com.

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*Refer to page 1 for instructions to access.



ABOUT *the* SONGS

“Angels from the Realms of Glory” celebrates the birth of Jesus and the good tidings he will bring the Earth-bound. The words were composed by Scottish poet James Montgomery and were first published in 1816 in the newspaper the *Sheffield Iris*. These lyrics have been set to a variety of melodies, but the tune we all know (and the one included in this book) marries Montgomery’s words to “Regent Square,” by Henry Smart.

“Angels We Have Heard on High” is most recognizable by a long melisma (more than one note sung on one syllable) on the word “Gloria” during the chorus. The lyrics for this song come down to us from the French—they were originally composed in the 18th or 19th century, but the first English version is thought to have been James Chadwick’s translation in 1862. These words were subsequently set to the hymn tune “Gloria.” The Latin phrase *Gloria in excelsis Deo*, from the aforementioned chorus, loosely translates to “Glory be to God on high.” Versions by such varied contemporary artists as Josh Groban, Jewel, and Pentatonix testify to this song’s enduring popularity.

“As Lately We Watched” is a traditional carol originating from Austria. The lyric tells the story of the Nativity: “As lately we watched o’er our fields through the night / a star there was seen of such glorious light.”

“As with Gladness Men of Old” The reverent lyrics to this song were written by William Chatterton Dix in 1860, and the tune they are set to, originally called “*Stimmen aus dem Reiche Gottes*,” is by German composer Konrad Kocher. Dix was quite prolific in the realm of Christmas and Easter carols, also writing “Come unto Me, Ye Weary” and “The Manger Throne,” among others. Kocher likewise embraced the spiritual, founding the School of Sacred Music in Stuttgart, Germany in 1821.

“Auld Lang Syne,” a wistful New Year tune, speaks of days gone by, goodwill in good company, and toasting for kindness. Indeed, a translation of the song’s title is “Times Gone By” or “Days Gone By.” The lyrics are usually attributed to the great Scottish poet Robert Burns (1759–1796), but he never claimed authorship, and some debate just how many of the words originate with him. When he submitted it to the Scots Musical Museum, he called it “an old song” that he got from “an old man.” Though scholarship reveals definite folk roots, it’s still maintained that some of the best lines originate with Burns.

“Away in a Manger” Like many of the timeless Christmas tunes in this book that have come to us through the mist of the ages, authorship of the lyrics for “Away in a Manger” is difficult to parse. The first-known printing of the words was in 1884, in a Boston Universalist publication called *The Myrtle*. In subsequent appearances they were erroneously attributed to 16th-century reformer Rev. Martin Luther, but nowadays it’s generally agreed that the poem was actually written for the 400th anniversary of Luther’s birth.

“Believe,” best known by Josh Groban’s performance featured in the yuletide movie *The Polar Express*, is all about rekindling the magic of life, a magic that is easy to lose in the inevitable growth to adulthood. Naturally, this theme is the main focus of the film, which is based upon a children’s book of the same name. “Believe” was destined to become a smash hit, winning a Grammy for Best Song Written for a Motion Picture and making No. 1 on Billboard’s Adult Contemporary chart.

“Blue Christmas” was recorded by Elvis Presley in 1957 and has since become a pop music Christmas standard. The song was first recorded in 1948 and early pre-Elvis versions include those by Ernest Tubb and Billy Eckstein. The song has been covered by many artists ranging from The Beach Boys and The Platters to Johnny Cash, Patti LaBelle, Celine Dion, and Kelly Clarkson.

“Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light” is a German carol with words originally written by Johann Rist (1607–1667) with an English translation by John Troutbeck (1832–1899). The melody was composed by Johann Schop and the harmonization of the melody was composed by Johann Sebastian Bach.

“Breath of Heaven (Mary’s Song)” Pop artist Amy Grant’s lyrics set the scene for this unique take on the Nativity, showing us Mary’s perspective during her divine pregnancy with the unborn Jesus. Mary recognizes she has been chosen for an important but obviously heavy task, and asks for the “breath of heaven” to give her the strength to bear the load. Interestingly, one of Grant’s touring-band members, Chris Eaton, initially wrote the song, albeit with different words. Grant heard it and asked if she could rewrite the lyrics. Pregnant at the time, Grant channeled her feelings into the composition of this tune, which she has said is divine in and of itself, a true prayer.

“Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella” is now associated with Christmas, but originally the tune was meant to be a festive dance for any occasion. The first publishing of the complete carol (both words and music) was in 1553 in a collection of Christmas music called *Cantiques du premier advenement de Jésus-Christ*. In the tune, the narrator gently admonishes those visiting the baby Jesus, telling them they must be quiet so as not to wake the baby.

“Buon Natale (Means Merry Christmas to You)” is an uptempo waltz with a strong ethnic Italian flavor. It has been recorded by both Nat King Cole and Dean Martin.

“Carol of the Bells (Ukrainian Bell Carol)” Anyone who doesn’t know this tune by its name will surely be roused to recognition upon hearing the four-note motif repeated throughout this traditional classic. It’s dramatic, ominous, and celebratory all at once—probably the reason it’s been prominently used and parodied in countless films, TV shows, and other media, including *Home Alone*, *Saturday Night Live*, and even a spoof by The Muppets.

Based on a Ukrainian folk chant, the music was written by Mykola Leontovych in 1916. The English lyrics were composed 20 years later by Peter J. Wilhousky.



at Christmas time. The song has been covered by artists such as Ruben Studdard and Al Jarreau.

“A Child This Day Is Born” is a traditional carol, although very little information exists as to the original author and composer. It is a joyous, celebratory piece, as evidenced by the opening verse and chorus:

*A child this day is born,
A child of high renown,
Most worthy of a scepter and a crown.

Glad tidings to all men.
Glad tidings, sing we may,
Because the King of kings
Was born on Christmas Day*

“Children, Go Where I Send Thee” is a traditional carol. An interesting version performed by Natalie Merchant, of the group 10,000 Maniacs, can be found on *A Very Special Christmas, Vol. 3*, an installment of a Christmas-themed series of recordings that benefits the Special Olympics.

“Christ Was Born on Christmas Day” is based on the 14th century carol *“Resonet in laudibus,”* which translates to “Let the voice of praise resound.”

“Christmas Offering” is a song by Christian artist and worship leader Paul Baloche, a pastor at Community Christian Fellowship in Lindale, Texas. While he is a worthy performer in his own right, other artists have also recorded his songs, such as kindred spirits Michael W. Smith, Casting Crowns, and Kari Jobe.

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” The words to this hymn were written by English Methodist Charles Wesley, and they were first published in *Hymns for the Nativity of Our Lord* in 1744. Wesley was a prolific hymn writer, penning more than 6,000 of them throughout his life. These lyrics have been set to several tunes over time, including the Welsh tune *“Hyfrydol”* and the German melody *“Stuttgart.”*

“The Coventry Carol” This mournful tune sounds that way for a reason: its lyrics allude to the biblical story of King Herod, who ordered the slaying of all boys under the age of two in Bethlehem out of fear that one among them would grow up to claim Herod’s throne. This is a Renaissance-era composition; Robert Croo edited the earliest surviving copy of the lyrics in 1534, and Thomas Mawdyke added music in three-part harmony around 1591. We can’t know for sure whether these two composers were the originators, but as with many traditional works, only bits of information have survived.

“December,” written by Kenny Loggins and Peter Dinklage, was first released on Loggins’ 1998 Christmas album of the same name. The song quickly became a modern Christmas standard.

“Deck the Hall” is a traditional Welsh New Year’s Eve carol dating back to the 16th century. Thomas Oliphant wrote the English lyrics, more an interpretation than a translation of the original Welsh words by poet John Jones (a.k.a. Talhaiarn). The song did not start being called by the name “Deck the Hall” until about the 1930s.



ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

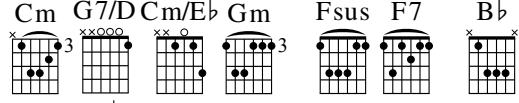
Words by
JAMES MONTGOMERY

Music Regent Square
by HENRY T. SMART

Moderately (♩ = 96)

Verse:


Cm G7/D Cm/Eb Gm Fsus F7 Bb



mf


1. An - gels from the realms of glo - ry,
2. Shep-herds in the fields a - bid - ing
3. Sag - es leave your con - tem - pla - tions.
4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing

Eb Bb/D Gm7 F/A F Bb F7/C Gm/D D



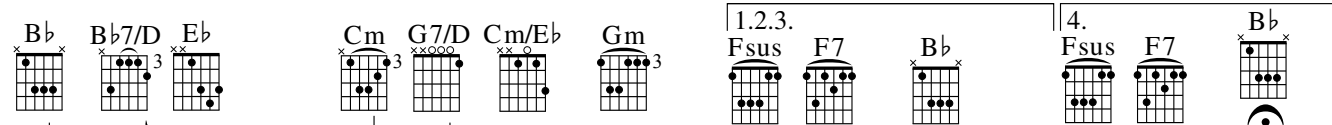
wing your flight o'er all the earth. Ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
watch - ing o'er your flocks by night. God with man is now re - sid - ing.
Bright - er vi - sions beam a - far, seek the great de - sire of na - tions.
watch - ing long in hope and fear. Sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

Gm D Gm/Bb F/C C7 F



now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth. } Come and wor - ship,
Yon - der shines the in - fant Light.
Ye have seen His na - tal star.
in His tem - ple shall ap - pear.

Bb Bb7/D Eb Cm G7/D Cm/Eb Gm 1.2.3. Fsus F7 Bb 4. Fsus F7 Bb



come and wor - ship. Wor - ship Christ, the new - born King. new - born King.
rit.

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

Traditional Christmas Carol

Joyfully (♩ = 112)

Verse:

1. An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the

o'er the plains. And the moun - tains in re - ply
 strains pro - long? Say what may the ti - dings be,
 an - gels sing. Come a - dore on bend - ed knee

ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?
 Christ the Lord, the new - born King. }

Chorus: Glo -

Gm C7/E F Bb C Dm C/E

ri - a

F/A C F Bb F/C C F D7

in ex - cel - sis De - o. Glo -

Gm C7/E F Bb C Dm C/E

ri - a

F/A C F Bb F/C C 1.2. F 3. F

in ex - cel - sis De o. o.

3rd time rit.