

# *Once in Royal COVID's City: A Christmas Songbook*



*Traditional carols for St Christopher's 2020 caroling party  
With some timely carols transcribed by Geneva Cole  
With help from Maxine Kobinski, Matthew and Karla Cole  
And valuable assistance from Skittles*

## 1 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.*

God of God,  
Light from light eternal,  
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb.  
Only begotten  
son of the Father. *O come let us...*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:  
"Glory to God,  
all glory in the highest!" *O come, let us...*



## 2 Hark, the Herald Angels Sing

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 th'angelic host proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem!

*Hark! the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King.*

Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Christ the everlasting Lord:  
Late in time, behold him come,  
Offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
Hail the incarnate Deity.  
Pleased as man with us to dwell;  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!

*Hark! the herald...*

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.  
Risen with healing in his wings,  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

*Hark! the herald...*

### 3 The Christmas Song

Chestnuts roasting on an open fire,  
Jack Frost nipping at your nose.  
Yuletide carols being sung by a choir,  
And folks dressed up like Eskimos.  
Everybody knows a turkey and some mistletoe  
Help to make the season bright.  
Tiny tots with their eyes all aglow  
Will find it hard to sleep tonight.

They know that Santa's on his way.  
He's loaded lots of toys and goodies  
on his sleigh.  
And every mother's child is gonna spy  
To see if reindeer really know how to fly.

And so, I'm offering this simple phrase  
To kids from one to ninety-two:  
Although it's been said many times, many ways,  
Merry Christmas to you!

### 4 Joy to the World!

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing...

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns;  
Let us our songs employ.  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy...

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

### 5 We Three Kings

We three kings of Orient are  
bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain,  
following yonder star.

*O, star of wonder, star of light,  
star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding,  
guide us to thy perfect light.*

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,  
gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never,  
over us all to reign. *O, star...*

Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising, voices raising,  
worshiping God on high. *O, star...*

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. *O, star...*

Glorious now behold him arise;  
King and God and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia,  
sounds through the earth and skies. *O, star...*



## 6 Angels we have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plain.  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strain.

*Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be?  
Which inspire your heavenly songs? *Gloria...*

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee,  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King. *Gloria...*

## 7 Once in Royal COVID's City

Once in royal COVID's city  
Sat a lonely toilet roll.  
All that's left at Target, pity!  
Hordes just came and bought them all.  
One per customer per day  
Maybe I should order a bidet

We went home and stayed all year,  
Where we watched the *Tiger King*.  
Then we made a sourdough starter.  
Hanging on by a shoestring.  
Carole Baskin's husband's dead  
To a tiger she him fed

Will this be our lifelong pattern?  
Daily COVID on earth grew.  
All our friends and loved ones scattered.  
Holidays are happening on Zoom.  
Make it stop, we've all had plenty  
Of this endless twenty-twenty.

## 8 Go tell it on the mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere.  
Go, tell it on the mountain,  
That we have a vaccine!

The people feared and trembled  
And tried to stay inside.  
Still some people assembled  
COVID was on the rise...

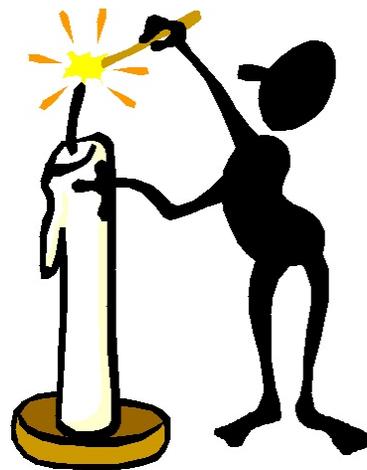
*Go, tell it...*

The State Fair was cancelled  
First time since '46.  
I never got my junk food  
All fried and on a stick...

*Go, tell it...*

While scientists kept their watching  
o'er test tubes day and night,  
Behold throughout the nation:  
A new recommendation...

*Go, tell it...*

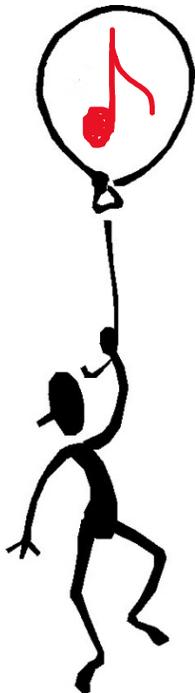


## 9 Away in a Manger

Away in New Zealand  
where COVID is gone,  
The children are singing  
without a mask on.  
The people are dancing  
throughout Vietnam.  
They laugh, sing, and hug  
without masks in Taiwan.

Meanwhile, in the U.S.  
the outlook is bleak.  
We've set a new record  
for death tolls last week.  
In South Dakota,  
COVID is at its peak.  
Please put on a mask  
To end this losing streak.

But in Minnesota  
we're all wearing masks,  
And we're social distanced,  
If anyone asks.  
The vaccine is coming  
And soon we'll be well.  
We'll get to stop living  
In this COVID hell!



## 10 Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow

Oh, the COVID outside is contagious  
And our politicians are outrageous.  
But since we can't go outside,  
Let's all cry, let's all cry let's all cry.

It doesn't seem to be slowing,  
But our Christmas lights are glowing.  
We're stuck in a holiday funk.  
Let's get drunk, let's get drunk, let's get drunk

When we're finally done with this  
We will all join St. Christopher's choir!  
We can see all the people we miss.  
New talents we can acquire!

Oh, we're tired of quarantining.  
Feels like life is without meaning.  
There's still no place we can go.  
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow!

## 11 It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

It came upon a midnight clear,  
That glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth  
To touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will 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 lowly plains  
They bend on hovering wing,  
And ever o'er its Babel-sounds  
The blessed angels sing.

## 12 COVID the Global Outbreak

You know Measles and Smallpox, and Tetanus,  
Ebola,  
There's Swine-flu and Rabies and even Rubella.  
But do you recall  
The most famous pandemic of all?

COVID the global outbreak:  
Nausea, coughing, runny nose.  
It could give you a headache.  
You'll be breathing through a hose.

All of the other symptoms  
Knock you down flat on your face.  
You shouldn't see your family  
Unless you commit to contact trace.

Then one foggy Christmas Eve,  
Fauci came to say (No No No!)  
People with your noses red,  
Mask up! Don't you super spread!

All of the other countries  
Social distanced, quarantined.  
We didn't so we have to  
Stay inside 'til the vaccine!!



## 13 I'm dreaming of a Normal Christmas

I'm dreaming of a normal Christmas  
Just like the one we had last year.  
There were parties, and pageants,  
And Lessons and Carols  
But this time we will persevere.

I'm dreaming of an ordinary Yuletide.  
We've had them many times before.  
We went sledding and skating,  
and shopping and dating,  
But we have just a few months more.

I'm dreaming now of next Christmas,  
Just like the ones of days gone by.  
May you get through this one alright  
And may your next Christmases be bright.

## 14 Frosty, the Snowman

Frosty, the Snowman was a jolly happy soul  
With a corncob pipe and a button nose  
And two eyes made out of coal.  
Frosty, the Snowman made the children laugh  
and play.

And were they surprised when before their eyes  
How he came to life one day!

There must have been some magic  
In that old silk hat they found.  
For when they placed it on his head,  
He began to dance around.

O, Frosty the Snowman was alive as he could be,  
And the children say he could laugh and play  
Just the same as you and me.

*Thumpety thump thump*  
*Thumpety thump thump*  
Look at Frosty go!  
*Thumpety thump thump*  
*Thumpety thump thump*  
Over the hills of snow!

## 15 Deck the halls

Deck the hall with boughs of holly!

*Fa la la...*

'Tis the season to be jolly!

*Fa la la...*

Don we now our gay apparel,

*Fa la la...*

Troll the ancient yuletide carol!

*Fa la la...*

See the blazing yule before us.

*Fa la la...*

Strike the harp and join the chorus.

*Fa la la...*

Follow me in merry measure,

*Fa la la...*

While I tell of yuletide treasure.

*Fa la la...*

Fast away the old year passes!

*Fa la la...*

Hail the new, ye lads and lasses.

*Fa la la...*

Sing we joyous all together.

*Fa la la...*

Heedless of the wind and weather.

*Fa la la...*



## 16 Silent 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 host sing "alleluia."

Christ the Savior is born! Christ the Savior 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.

## 17 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!

Good tidings we bring

to you and your kin.

Good tidings of Christmas

And a Happy New Year!!

We all want mulled wine and cider,

We all want mulled wine and cider,

We all want mulled wine and cider,

And Christmas cookies, too!

We're lonely and sad,

And we all want a hug.

But we'll wear a mask

for a better new year!

We wish you a Merry Christmas,

We wish you a Merry Christmas,

We wish you a Merry Christmas,

And a COVID-free New Year!!