FATHER FINN'S CAROL BOOK

60

Christmas Songs and Carols
Old and New

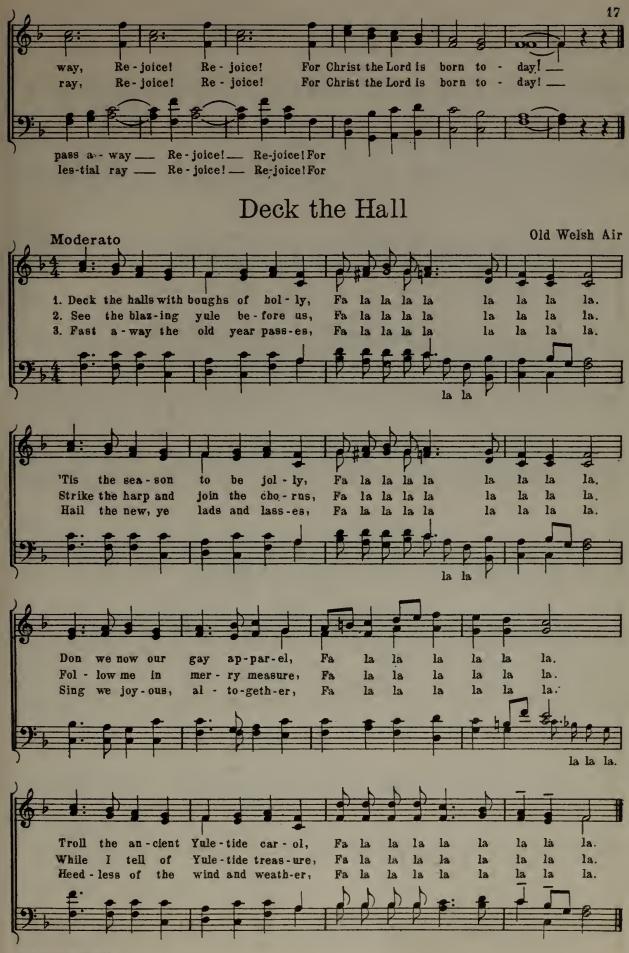
Selected from the Repertory of the Paulist Choristers

Compiled and Edited by

FATHER FINN

Conductor Paulist Choristers, Chicago, Illinois

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THE LEGEND OF THE CHRIST CHILD AND SAINT ANTHONY.

Long ago there lived in the city of Padua, a happy little child whose name was Antonio. He loved birds and flowers and all beautiful things, and he was so gentle to every body and every thing, that the white swans sailing on the water would follow at his call; the robins and swallows would come from their homes in the trees to eat out of his hand, and the lambkins in the meadows would even leave the mother sheep to play with the little Antonio.

As he grew older Antonio became a very studious boy, and I think his parents and teachers must have thought that his name was well chosen-for Antonio or Anthony, (as we should say), means "worthy of praise." The book this little scholar loved best of all, was the one that tells the story of the dear Lord, who made the sun to shine, the birds to sing, and the trees and plants to grow for His children.

When Antonio became a man, he went far from his home to a country where the people were rough and fierce, to try to teach them to be wiser and more gentle in their way of living with each other.

Antonio himself, was so patient in his teaching, so brave and loving in all his

work for them, that the people, rude as they were, would always listen to him gladly, and it was not long before many of them had learned a great many lessons of love from him, and they grew wiser too. When he was tired and sad because of all the cruel things he saw, and the cross words that he heard, Antonio would go alone to the shore of the great sea, and there he would talk to the Heavenly Father, and ask him to make the people better. One story tells that the tones of Antonio's voice were so sweet and strong that when he prayed by the seaside, the fishes would come in crowds to the shore, just as the birds used to come to him when he was a little boy, and then Antonio would talk to them about the One who made them.

One day as he kneeled by his table to pray, dressed in the coarse gown that he always wore, a most beautiful picture seemed to be opened out before him. He seemed to see the Lord Jesus coming to him in the form of a little naked baby. All around the Holy Child, floated and hovered a host of baby Angels; but the Christ-child walked on the bright clouds as if he were treading on the earth.

Looking up, waiting and hoping, Antonio stretched out his arms-when, Beneath the stars, across the snow, like clear bells ringing,

And a voice within cried, 'Listen! Christmas carols even here!

Though thou be dumb, yet o'er their work the stars and snows are singing.

Blind! I live, I love, I reign; and all the nations through

even now are ringing;

Do thou fulfill thy work but as you wild fowl do,

Thou wilt heed no less the wailing, yet hear through it angels singing."

4. Another thought to be impressed is, goodwill towards men, love to all, a thought to be borne in mind as we make our gifts. "Whenever auntie looks at the pretty mat you are making for her, she will think of the love that goes with it." This is a happy thought for Alice and puts new life in the little fingers. Our feast days will be merrier if we have first spread a feast for those more needy; to remember them with words only, gives no pleasure to us or to them. Talk over with the children these three stanzas from Phœbe Cary and assist in putting them into practice:

"Children, whose lives are blest with the love untold.

Whose gifts are greater than your arms can hold.

> Think of the child who stands To-day with empty hands!

"Go fill them up, and you will also fill Their empty hearts, that be so cold and still,

> And brighten longing eyes With grateful, glad surprise.

"May all who have, at this blest season seek

His precious little ones, the poor and weak:

> In joyful, sweet accord, Thus lending to the Lord."

- 5. It is well to invest Christmas and Christ's birth with all the beauty and brightness, and glory of picture, song and poem. For the children, at least, make these joyful seasons. Blessed are you, O With the thunder of my judgments. Mother! if your child's religion be one of joy and gladness; there will be more likelihood when sorrow comes that his religion will still be one of gratefulness and trust. Some of the German legends of the Christ Child are very beautiful, such as "The Little Stranger" which tells of the Stranger Child cared for by two peasant children.* "Good King Wenceslas" which is sung to a quaint old English melody is always liked by the little ones, and most children know "'Twas the Night before Christmas." Sing with the children such songs as "Jolly Old St. Nicholas," "Deck the Halls with Boughs of Holly," and as many beautiful Christmas carols as you know or can find.
 - 6. The last thought is to be found in a stanza from Christina Rosetti:

"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."

To-day let us read with the children Muhlenberg's beautiful "Carol, Brothers, Carol."†



^{• &}quot;The Bird's Carol," and "Dame Dimple's Christmas," are two pretty holiday gift books for children a little older.

^{†&}quot; Franklin Square Song Collection," No. 3, page 57. It could probably be found in almost any Episcopal Collection of Christmas Carols.

that is angels, sang to the shepherds and the shepherds' hearts were full of gladness. So we must feel as the angels did, and wish that Christmas morning may be bright and sunny in every land, and what we must do is to make a merry Christmas for as many as we can, and we must pray, that is, ask for, a merry Christmas and wish a Merry Christmas to all the world.

"'Let our hearts responding, To the seraph band, Wish this morning's sunshine Bright in every land; Word and deed and prayer Speed the grateful sound, Wishing "Merry Christmas!" All the world around.''

-Susan P. Clement, Racine, Wis.

THE PIANOFORTE AND THE CHILD. What are tone-pictures?

This must be understood before we can enter upon the subject of what steps must be taken to develop the powers to think such things.

We have seen that music is a form of thought, but when we speak of form what do we mean?

When you look at a picture, say the Sistine Madonna, you say that is the form of the child, of Mary, as pictured, as conceived by the artist. But what do we mean by form in this case?

The very young child looks up at such a picture but sees no form. There is only a mass of color. What is the difference between the child's perception and yours? Simply this, you perceive not a mere mass of color, but larger or smaller masses of colors or shades of color. The boundaries of such masses form lines that stand in definite relationship to one another, and there is a representation of forms corresponding to such as you have daily experienced.

The more masses of color or shades you can define and relate, the greater the number of forms you perceive, and the greater the number of these individual forms in a given design, the greater the difficulty of grasping their unity.

Now if we perceived these forms with vivid clearness we should be able not only to clearly re-form them in thought, -that is, remember them,-but also represent them with color or in outline, with pencil. But most of us do not clearly and vividly perceive the outlines of even the majority of things we say we see, and countless numbers of beautiful forms pass before our eyes unseen.

You have seen pansies by the hundreds, but how many people have so vivid a picture of the relation and boundaries of masses of color in a daisy, (in other words simple outlines) as to be able to re-present it on the blackboard by giving a mere outline?

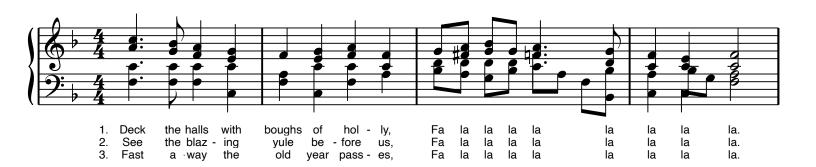
Now I know you have heard this many times, but I speak of it here because we shall see its relation later to the development of musical forms of thought.

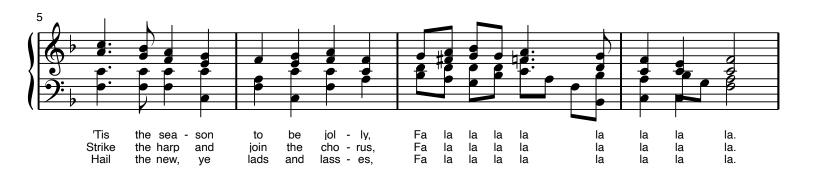
How often have you heard it said by a listener at a concert: "Oh! I wish they would play something that had a tune to it; that was just a mass of sound."

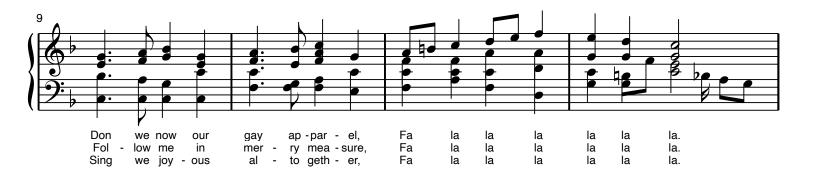
Now, I am sorry to say, that too often the "player" has given cause for such a remark, but supposing the piece to have been truly represented and interpreted, what is the difference between the one who made this remark and her neighbor who was truly delighted and heard very many "tunes"? Just the difference between the young child who looking at the picture, saw no forms because unable to discern the outlines formed by masses of colors or shades of color, and you who

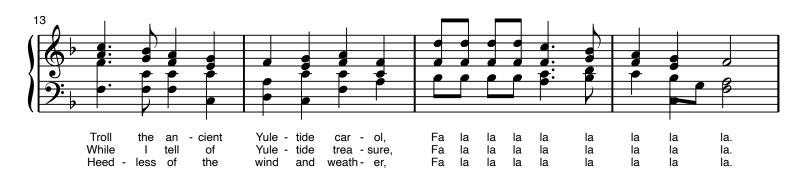
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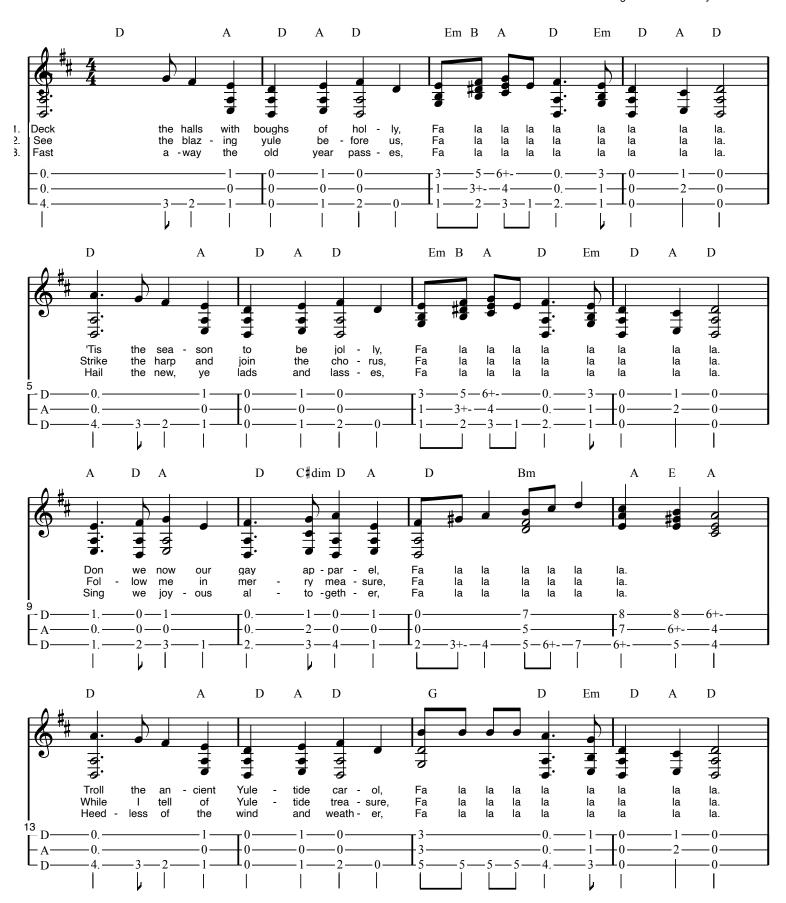






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AMERICANIZATION SONGS

LIBERTY CHORUS SONG BOOK

for

HOME, SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY SINGING

EDITED BY

ANNE SHAW FAULKNER

FOREWORD

At no time in the history of the world has any nation faced such an opportunity for the development of a National art as that which lies before America today. We have always been told that "History repeats itself." In all the great wars in the past, we know that music has been of the greatest importance in stimulating patriotism and enthusiasm. In the devastation and destruction of war, music is the only art which has escaped unscathed, while in the reconstruction after war, music is the art that has been given an immediate chance for development.

From every great war in the past some one nation has arisen supreme in political and commercial importance. Then begins the development of its arts, and, if we review the pages of musical history, we will find that the greatest growth in music always follows some great war. Today we face the same situation in America.

The world war left to America a unique heritage in the suddenly awakened corsciousness of her great public, that they loved to sing. When, at the beginning of the war, Gen. Bell demanded more music by saying, "A singing army is a winning army," only the musicians of America really believed him; but today the truth of his statement is acknowledged all over the land, and a vast civilian army stands ready to prove that music is a force which will win in peace as well as war.

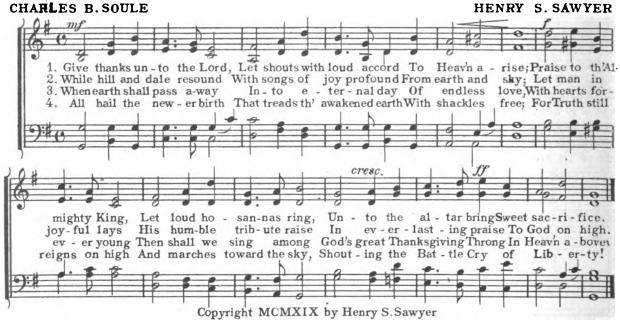
But what is this singing army to sing? Many of the songs heard at the Community Sings today are hardly worthy of the intelligence of the American public. It was natural that during the war we all should want to sing together, over here, what our boys were singing together, over there. But Community Singing will hardly accomplish its best purpose if we continue to sing only the popular songs of the day. Why not turn to the true folk-songs of America? Is it not time that we take a census of our American Music and learn what we really possess?

Confucius once said, "If you would know if a country is well governed and of good morals, listen to its music." The folk music of any land is its most important musical asset, yet it has only been recently that we in America have come to

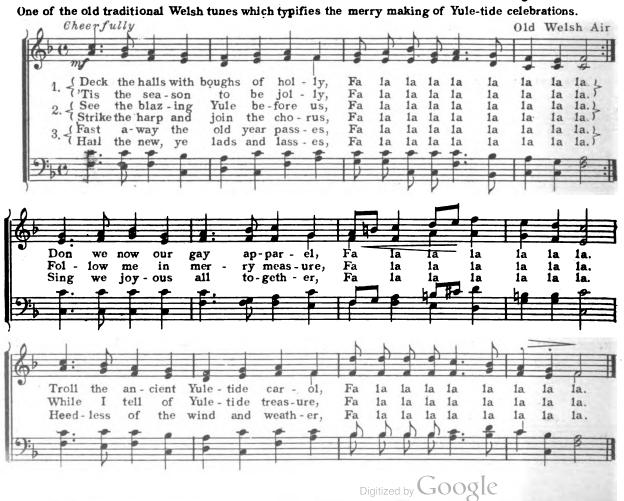


SEASONABLE SONGS

National Thanksgiving Hymn

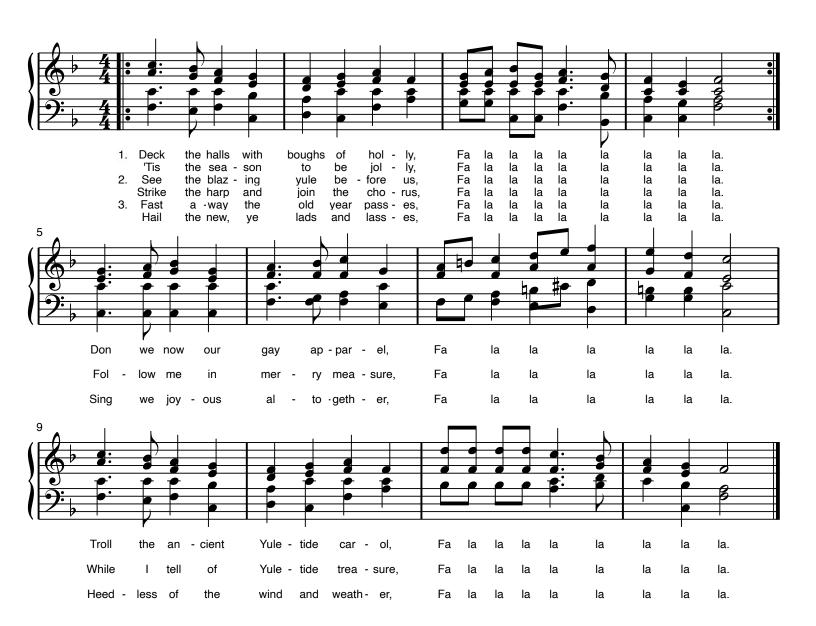


Deck the Halls With Boughs of Holly



Deck the Halls With Boughs of Holly Americanization Songs, 1920

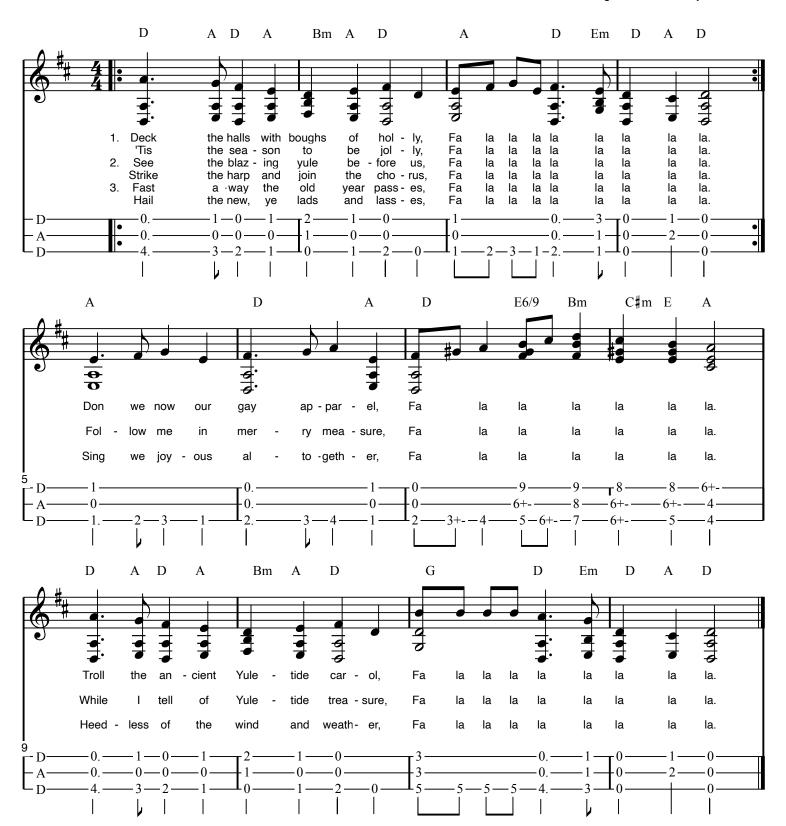
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THE GOLDEN BOOK FAVORITE SONGS

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(202 songs, 192 of which are with music)

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Responsive Readings

LEADER: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,

And the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.

ASSEMBLY: Righteousness exalteth a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people.

LEADER: When the righteous are in authority the people rejoice; but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.

If thou hearken diligently unto the voice of the Lord thy God,

The Lord thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth.

Psalms

UNISON: We hold these truths to be self-evident:

That all men are created equal;

That they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights;

That among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness;

That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed.

Thomas Jefferson

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address

LEADER: Fourscore and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

ASSEMBLY: Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure.

LEADER: We are met on a great battle-field of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting-place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live.

ASSEMBLY: It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this. But, in a larger sense we cannot dedicate—we cannot consecrate—we cannot hallow—this ground.

LEADER: The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it far above our poor power to add or detract.

ASSEMBLY: The world will little note nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here.

LEADER: It is for us, the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced.

Assembly: It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion;

That we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom; and that the government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth. Abraham Lincoln

LEADER: God hath made of one blood all nations of men, and we are his children,—brothers and sisters all.

ASSEMBLY: We are citizens of these United States, and we believe our Flag stands for self-sacrifice for the good of all the people. We want, therefore, to be true citizens of our great country, and will show our love for her by our works.

LEADER: Our country does not ask us to die for her welfare; she asks us to live for her, and so to live and so to act that her government may be pure, her officers honest, and every corner of her territory shall be a place fit to grow the best men and women, who shall rule over her.

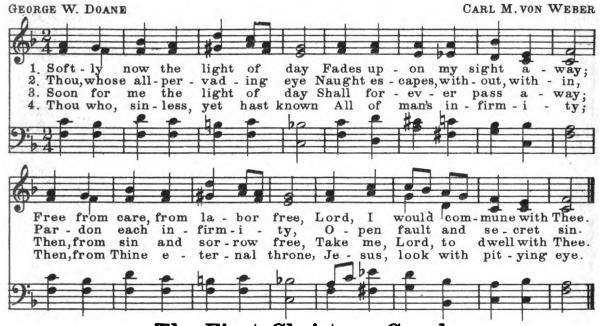
Mary McDowell

UNISON: The Flag means universal education—light for every mind, knowledge for every child. We must have but one flag. We must also have but one language. This must be the language of the Declaration of Independence. Woodrow Wilson

Pledge To The Flag

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, One Nation indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Softly Now The Light Of Day



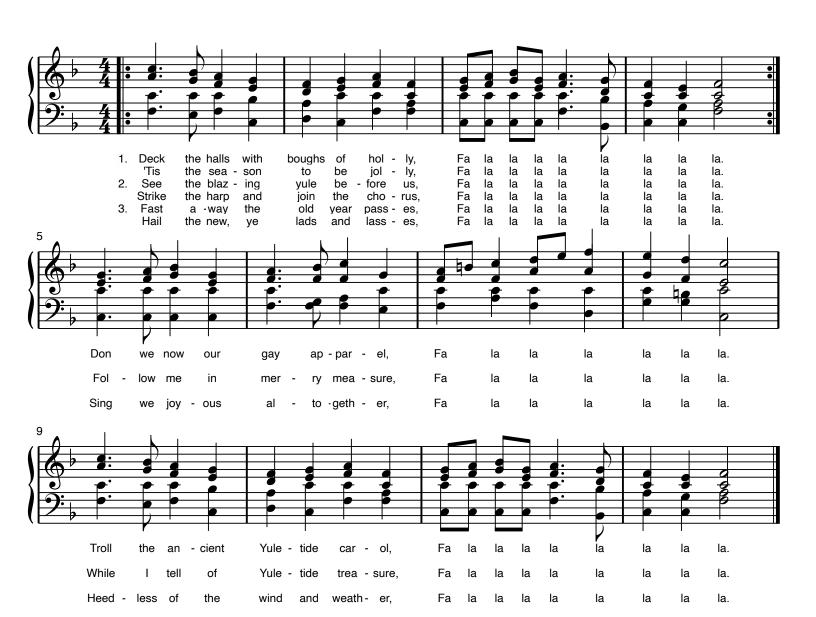
The First Christmas Carol—

Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger. CHORUS: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. — St. Luke's Gospel.



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