

2024



Christmas Carol

SONGBOOK

Merry Christmas

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'The Night Before Christmas'

'Twas the night before Christmas, when
all through the house,

Not a creature was stirring, not even a
mouse;

The stockings were hung by the chimney
with care,

In hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be
there;

The children were nestled all snug in
their beds,

While visions of sugar plums danced in
their heads,

And Mama in her 'kerchief, and I in my
cap,

Had just settled down for a long
winter's nap,

When out on the lawn there arose such
a clatter,

I sprang from the bed to see what was
the matter.

Away to the window I flew like a flash,
Tore open the shutters and threw up the
sash.

The moon on the breast of the new
fallen snow,

Gave the luster of mid-day to objects
below;

When, what to my wondering eyes
should appear,

But a miniature sleigh, and eight tiny
reindeer,

With a little old driver, so lively and
quick,

I knew in a moment it must be St. Nick.
More rapid than eagles his coursers they
came,

And he whistled, and shouted, and called
them by name:

"Now, Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now,
Prancer and Vixen!

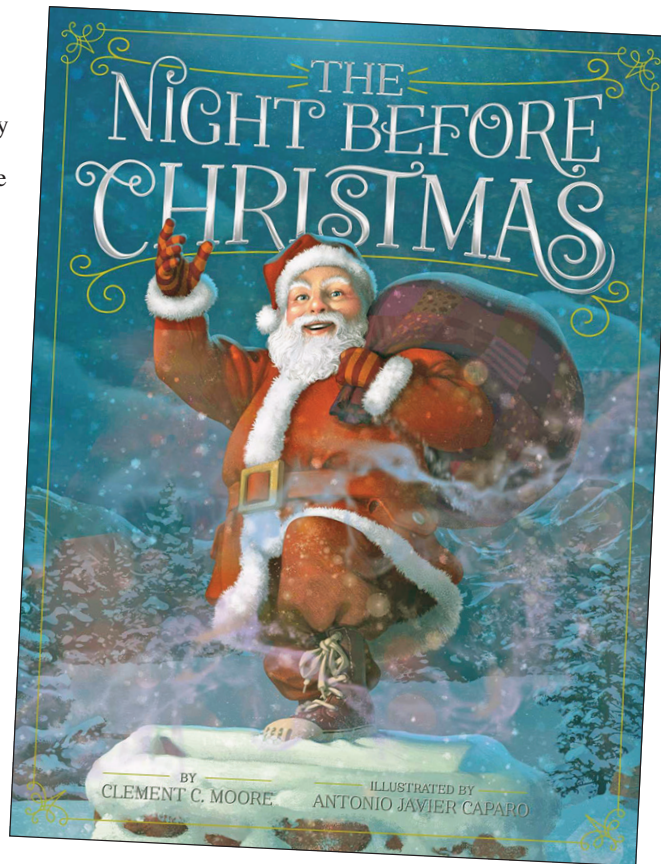
"On, Comet! On, Cupid! On, Donner and
Blitzen!

"To the top of the porch! To the top of the
wall!

"Now dash away! Dash away! Dash away
all!"

As dry leaves before the wild hurricane
fly,

When they meet with an obstacle, mount



to the sky,

So up to the house-top the coursers they
flew,

With the sleigh full of toys, and St.
Nicholas too.

And then, in a twinkling, I heard on the
roof,

The prancing and pawing of each little
hoof.

As I drew in my hand and was turning
around,

Down the chimney St. Nicholas came
with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur, from his head to

his foot,

And his clothes were all
tarnished with ashes and
soot;

A bundle of toys was
flung on his back,

And he looked like a
peddler just opening his
pack:

His eyes – how they
twinkled! His dimples how
merry!

His cheeks were like
roses, his nose like a cherry!

His droll little mouth was
drawn up like a bow,

And the beard of his chin
was as white as the snow;

The stump of a pipe he
held tight in his teeth,

And the smoke, it encircled
his head like a wreath;

He had a broad face, and a
little round belly

That shook when he
laughed, like a bowl full of
jelly.

He was chubby and plump,
a right jolly old elf,

And I laughed when I saw
him, in spite of myself;

A wink of his eye and a
twist of his head,

Soon gave me to know I

had nothing to dread;

He spoke not a word, but went straight to
his work,

And filled all the stockings; then turned
with a jerk,

And laying his finger aside of his nose,
And giving a nod, up the chimney he rose.

He sprang to his sleigh, to his team gave
a whistle,

And away they all flew, like the down of
a thistle:

But I heard him exclaim, as he drove out
of sight–

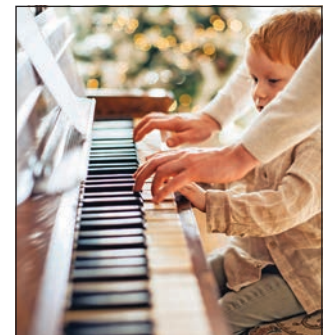
Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good
night!

2024 Christmas Carol Songbook

AN ANNUAL PUBLICATION OF ROCK VALLEY PUBLISHING LLC.

1102 Ann Street, Delavan, WI 53115 • (262) 728-3411

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Creative Director: Heidi Schulz • Advertising Director: Vicki Vanderwerff





Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

CHARLES WESLEY

FELIX MENDELSSOHN

Joyfully

G D G D G C D G

Hark! the her - ald an - gelssing, "Glo-ry to the new - born King!
 Christ, by high - est heav'n a - dored; Christ, the ev - er last - ing Lord;
 Hail! the heav'nborn Prince of Peace! Hail! the Son of right - eous - ness!

D G A D A D

Peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled."
 Late in time be - hold Him come, Off - spring of the fa - vored one.
 Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with heal - ing in His wings.

G C G D G C G D

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, Join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh, the God - head see; Hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty
 Mild He lays His glo - ry by, Born that man no more may die;

C E7 Am D G D G

With th'an - gel - ic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem."
 Please, as man with men to dwell, Je - sus our Im - man - u - el!
 Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them sec - ond birth.

C E7 Am D G D G

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born King!"

Talcott Free Library invites public to holiday book sale

The Friends of Talcott Free Library wish to invite the community to their Holiday Used Book Sale on Dec. 6, 7, and 9. Stop by and shop for gently used books, DVDs, and miscellaneous items.

Give the gift of reading and help support Talcott Free Library.

Many families also make it a holiday tradition to participate in Talcott's Adopt-A-Book program. Stop by the Adopt-A-Book display and choose a book to donate to the library as a gift for a loved one.

You will receive an official certificate of adoption to present to them and a bookplate will be placed in the book with your names.

Three days only

Friday, Dec. 6
9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, Dec. 7
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 9
9 a.m. to 8 p.m.

This gift gives a book a good home at Talcott Free Library, where it will be read and enjoyed by many in the community! The Adopt-A-Book program runs through Dec. 21.

Be sure to visit Talcott during the Rockton Christmas Walk – make this event part of your annual traditions! Talcott

Free Library is located at 101 E. Main Street. For more information go to www.talcottfreelibrary.com.

Deck The Halls



mf F C F C F

Deck the hall with boughs of hol-ly, Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 See the blaz-ing Yule be-fore us, Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 Fast a-way the old year pass-es, Fa la la la la, la la la la.

C F C F

'Tis the sea-son to be jol-ly, Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 Strike the harp and join the cho-rus, Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 Hail the new, ye lads and lass-es, Fa la la la la, la la la la.

C F D C

Don we now our gay ap-par-rel, Fa la la, la la la, la la la,
 Fol-low me in mer-ry meas-ure, Fa la la, la la la, la la la,
 Sing we joy-ous all to-geth-er, Fa la la, la la la, la la la,

F B \flat F C F

Troll the an-cient Yule-tide car-ol, Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 While I tell of Yule-tide treas-ure, Fa la la la la, la la la la.
 Heed-less of the wind and weath-er, Fa la la la la, la la la la.



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Festival of Lights

The Festival of Lights illuminates Sinissippi Park with more than 85 Christmas light displays. The light displays are created and sponsored by local families, non-profits, and businesses, adding new and exciting displays to look forward to each year. Take a ride in your family vehicle, wrap up in cozy blankets, and sip on some hot cocoa as you drive through this one-of-a-kind experience. If you don't have a cassette tape of holiday music or music on your phone, you can tune to a radio station playing holiday music. On weekends, you might spy the Snow Queen or Santa along the way. Admission is free. The Festival of Lights is open until Dec. 31.

GO ROCKFORD PHOTO Christmas Songbook



Joy To The World

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth re -
 Joy to the world! the Sav - ior reigns; Let men their
 He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the
 ceive her King; Let ev - 'ry heart __ pre - pare Him
 songs em - ploy; __ While fields and floods, __ rocks, hills and
 na - tions prove __ The glo - ries of __ His right - eous -
 room, __ And heav'n and na - ture sing, And heav'n and na - ture
 plains, __ Re - peat the sound - ing joy, Re - peat the sound - ing
 ness, __ And won - ders of His love, And won - ders of His
 sing, And heav'n, __ and heav'n __ and na - ture sing.
 joy; Re - peat, __ re - peat __ the sound - ing joy.
 love. And won - ders, and won - ders of His love.



Williams Tree Farm is open for the holiday season. Cut the perfect tree, warm up with hot cocoa by the stone fireplace and stop by the gift shop. Pony rides, animals, and a kid-friendly maze are available and enjoy a meal or treat in the cozy lodge. Start a family tradition and experience the magic of the holidays this year. Williams Tree Farm is located at 4661 Yale Bridge Rd. in Rockton.

GO ROCKFORD PHOTO *Christmas Songbook*

Happy
HOLIDAYS


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Happy Holidays

During this holiday season, we wish you all the best.

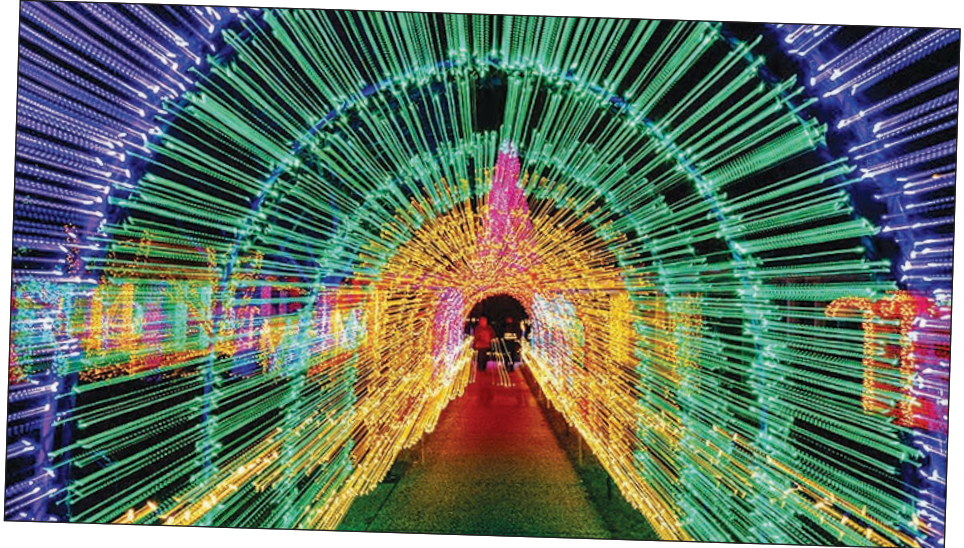
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All Aglow

Situated along the Rock River, the Nicholas Conservatory's All Aglow light display in Rockford has been described as one of the most beautiful displays ever seen. It's the picture perfect photo spot, ideal for a holiday walk, and there's no charge for admission. There's a food truck on site where guests can purchase hot chocolate and carry a steaming cup to keep them warm through your magical stroll. There are more than 300,000 lights to enjoy in the display. All Aglow will be open until Jan. 7.

GO ROCKFORD PHOTO Christmas Songbook



Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella

G Emin D/F# D G Emin
 Bring a torch - Jean - nette, Is - a - bel - la! Bring a torch, to the
 Cloud-less is - the sky - a - bove us. Leave your bed - and
 Gen - tly come to the hum - ble sta - ble, Pause be - side - His
 D7 G G G Dsus4
 cra - dle run. It is - Je - sus, good folk of the vil - lage;
 qui - et - ly come. Come, and you - will see - the Small One,
 ho - ly bed. See how beau - ti - ful - is Je - sus,
 C G/B C/E D Emin D7
 Christ - is born, and Mar - y calls us. Ah, ah,
 Like - a star, His face is shin - ing. Go, go,
 Like - a rose, so pure, so love - ly. Hush, hush,
 G D G Emin D7 G D7 G
 beau - ti - ful is the Moth - er; Ah, ah, beau - ti - ful is the Son!
 put on your fin - set gar - ments; Go, go, bring fin - est gifts.
 sweet is the sleep of Je - sus, Hush, hush, ho - ly is His rest.

What Child Is This

WILLIAM C. DIX

ENGLISH

Moderately Em D Em C B

What Child is this, Who laid to rest On Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing? Whom
 Why lies He in such mean es - tate, Where ox and ass are feed - ing? Good
 So bring Him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, Come peas-ant, king to own Him; The

Em D Em Em

an - gels greet with an-thems sweet, While shep - herds watch are keep - ing?
 Chris-tian, fear: for sin - ners here The si - lent Word is plead - ing;
 King of kings sal - va - tion brings; Let lov - ing hearts en - throne Him.

G D Em C B

This, this is Christ, the King; Whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing:
 Nails, spear shall pierce Him through, The Cross be born for me, for you;
 Raise, raise the song on high, The Vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;

G D Em B Em

Haste, haste to bring Him laud, The Babe, the Son of Mar - y!
 Hail, hail the Word made flesh, The Babe, the Son of Mar - y!
 Joy, joy for Christ is born, The Babe, the Son of Mar - y!



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Village of Machesney Park

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Anderson Gardens

Anderson Gardens' Illuminated is a winter wonderland that is a holiday tradition for many. The white lights are classic and the uplighting of blues and purples create a beautiful reflection on the pond in the center of the gardens. Enjoy the season of lights paired with the Japanese Gardens and hot drinks from Rockford Roasting. Admission is \$13 for adults and \$11 for children. Illuminated will be open daily from 5 to 8:30 p.m. until Dec. 30.

GO ROCKFORD PHOTO *Christmas Songbook*



O Come, All Ye Faithful

G D G D G C G D

O come, all ye faith-ful, joy-ful and tri-um-ph-ant, O
Sing, choirs of an-gels, sing in ex-ul-ta-tion; O

Emin D D G D A7 D G

come ye, O come ye, to Beth-le-hem. Come and be-
sing, all ye cit-i-zens of heaven a-bove! Glo-ry to

Am G D A7 D D7 G D/A C G

hold him, born the King of an-gels; O come, let us a-dore him, O
God, all glo-ry in the high-est;

G D G C G D Amin G D D G C G D7 G

come, let us a-dore him, O come, let us a-dore him, Christ the Lord.

Historic manor open for holiday tours

A special holiday reception will be held at Esta Barrett Manor & Gardens on Saturday, Dec. 14. Guests are welcome to take a self-guided tour, exploring two levels of the 1917 manor, while soaking up the ambiance of sparkling chandeliers, festive greenery, and holiday decorations throughout the home. Knowledgeable guides will be on hand to tell the story of Esta Barrett and her Rockford manor and estate.

The \$35 ticket includes hors d'oeuvres, decadent desserts, and plenty of historical facts while wandering throughout the home. Doors will open at 6 p.m. for this holiday open house and close at 8 p.m. Tickets must be purchased at EstaBarrett.com by Saturday, Dec. 9. The event is limited to 60 people and may sell out.

Those who prefer a guided tour of the decorated manor can visit EstaBarrett.com and book a tour with a trained guide who will begin the story in 1903 with Esta's passion for music.

Learn of her husband's rise from clerk to President of the Devoe & Reynolds paint company and his passion for building a manor and farm along the Rock River before his

untimely death in 1918. The tour will include mention of Charles Bradley – the architect who thoughtfully designed the buildings, and O. C. Simonds – the landscape gardener who laid the way for using native plants in landscapes throughout the Midwest. The cost for the guided tour is \$15.

Esta Barrett Manor & Gardens is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is located at 6901 Kishwaukee Rd., Rockford, IL, with a public entrance on South Bend Road. From Kishwaukee Road, turn south on South Bend and the entrance is 500 feet on the left. To schedule groups of over 10 people or for more information, contact Brian Reis at 815-964-6464 or breis@estabarrett.com.



Away In A Manger

p G C G D7

A - way in a man - ger No crib for a bed, The lit - tle Lord
The cat - tle are low - ing, The poor Ba - by wakes, But lit - tle Lord
Be near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask Thee to stay Close by me for -

G

Je - sus Laid down His sweet head, The stars in the sky_ Looked
Je - sus No cry - ing He makes, I love Thee Lord Je - sus Look
ev - er, And love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil - dren In

C G D7 G C D7 G

down where he lay, The lit - tle Lord Je - sus A - sleep on the hay.
down from the sky, And stay by my cra - dle Till morn - ing is night.
Thy ten - der care, And take us to heav - en, To live with Thee there.



Jingle Bells

Brightly

G mf

Dash - ing thro' the snow In a one horse o - pen sleigh, *C*
 Day or two a - go I — thought I'd take a ride, And
 Now the ground is white, ——— Go it while you're young;

D G

O're the fields we go, ——— Laugh - ing all the way;
 soon Miss Fan - nie Bright Was seat - ed by my side. The
 Take the girls to - night, And sing this sleigh - ing song; Just

C

Bells on bob - tail ring, ——— Mak - ing spir - its bright; What
 horse was lean and lank, Mis - for - tune seem'd his lot, He
 get a bob - tailed nag, Two for - ty for his speed, Then

D7 G

fun it is to ride and sing A sleigh - ing song to - night!
 got in - to a drift - ed bank, and we, we got up - sot.
 hitch him to an o - pen sleigh, And crack! you'll take the lead.

G C G

Jin - gle Bells! Jin - gle Bells! Jin - gle all the way! Oh, what fun it is to ride

A D G Fine

In a one-horse o - pen sleigh! In a one-horse o - pen sleigh!
1 2 Fine

Christmas tree recycling sites



Remove all wires, plastic bags, decorations. No wreaths, flocked/artificial trees, or stands.

Rockford:

- Alpine Park
950 S. Alpine Road
Rockford, IL 61108
- Andrews Park
800 N. Central Avenue
Rockford, IL 61101
- Gambino Park
4421 Pepper Drive
Rockford, IL 61114
- Levings Lake
1420 S. Pierpont Avenue
Rockford, IL 61101

(East entrance:

- S. Johnston x Montague
- Sandy Hollow Golf Course
2670 Sandy Hollow Road
Rockford, IL 61109

Loves Park:

- Martin Park
5600 Park Ridge Road
Loves Park, IL 61111
- (South of Riverside/Northeast parking lot)

Cherry Valley:

- Baumann Park
S. Walnut Street
Cherry Valley, IL 61016
- (Daylight hours only)

Rockton:

- Rockton Boat Ramp
Near 830 E. Main Street
Rockton, IL 61072
- (Parking area opposite baseball field)

Roscoe:

- Valley View Farms
6440 Belvidere Road
Roscoe, IL 61073

Village of Davis:

- Davis Village Hall
104 W. McKimney Street
Davis, IL 61019

Pecatonica:

- Pecatonica Wetlands Forest Preserve
4550 North Pecatonica Road
Pecatonica, IL 61063
- (Near picnic area)

Harlem Township:

- Schoonmaker Park
10500 Ventura Blvd.
Machesney Park, IL 61115
- Free self-serve mulch while supplies last.

Rockford free mulch

- Available at:
523 S. Central Avenue
Rockford, IL 61102



Silent Night

JOSEPH MOHR

FRANZ GRUBER

Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! All is calm, all is bright.
Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Shep-herds quake at the sight!
Si - lent night! Ho - ly night! Son of God, love's pure light!

Round you Vir - gin Moth-er and Child! Ho - ly In-fant so ten-der and mild,
Glo - ries stream from heav-en a - far. Heav'n-ly hosts sing, "Al - le - lu - ia!"
Ra - dian beams from Thy ho - ly face With the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

Sleep in heav-en - ly peace! Sleep in heav-en - ly peace!
Christ, the Sav-ior, is born! Christ, the Sav-ior is born!
Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth! Je - sus, Lord, at Thy birth!



The First Noel

D A D G D G D

The first no - el the an-gels did say Was to cer-tain poor
 They look - ed up and saw a star Shin-ing in the
 And by the light of that same star, Three Wise - men
 This star drew nigh to the north - west, O'er Beth - le -
 Then en - ter'd in those Wise - men three. Full rev - 'rent-

D A D D A

shepherds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay
 east, be-yond them far; And to the earth it
 came from coun - try far, To seek for a King
 hem it took its rest, And there it did both
 ly up - on their knee, And of - fer'd there, in

D G D D A D

keep-ing their sheep On a cold win-ter's night that was so deep.
 gave great light, And so it con - tin-ued both day and night.
 was their in - tent, And to fol-low the star wher - ev - er it went.
 stop and stay, Right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.
 His pres - ence, Their gold and myrrh and frank - in - cense.

D A D

No - el, No - el, No - el, No - el, Born is the King of Is - ra - el.

*Looking for that perfect gift
or stocking stuffer?*

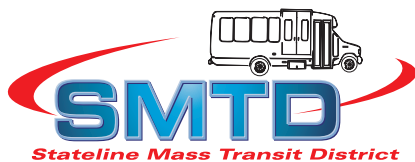
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