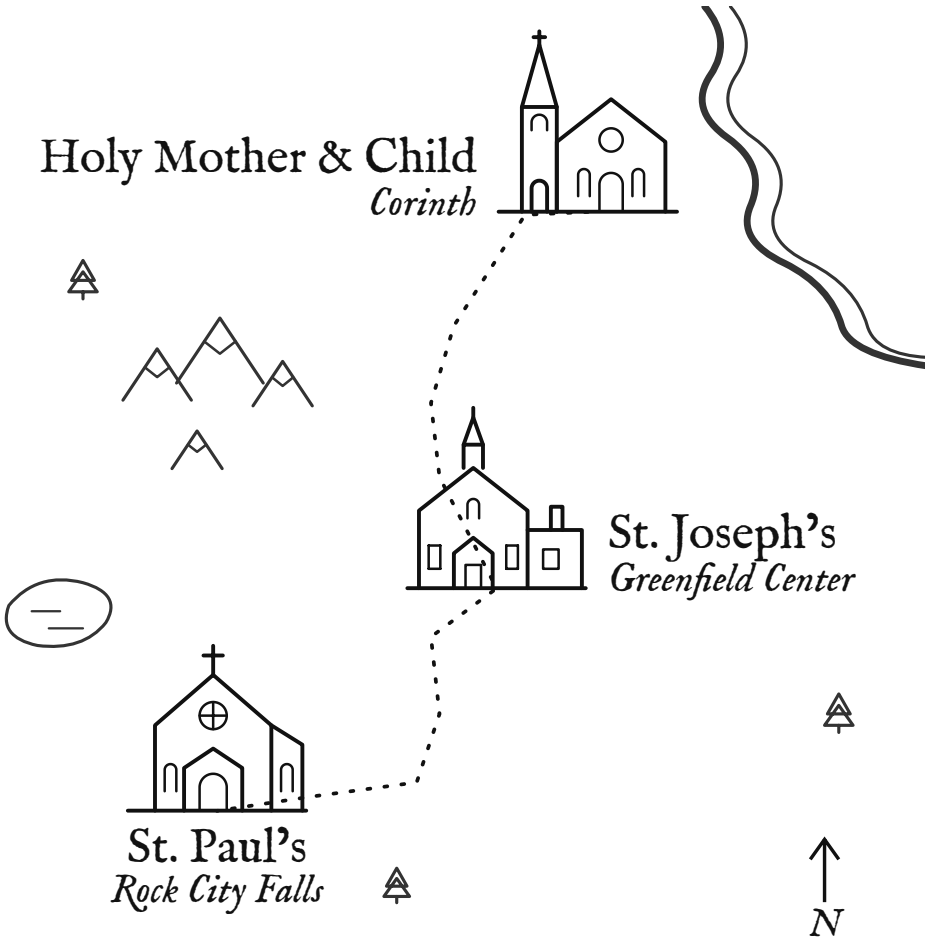
Christmas Songs

2026









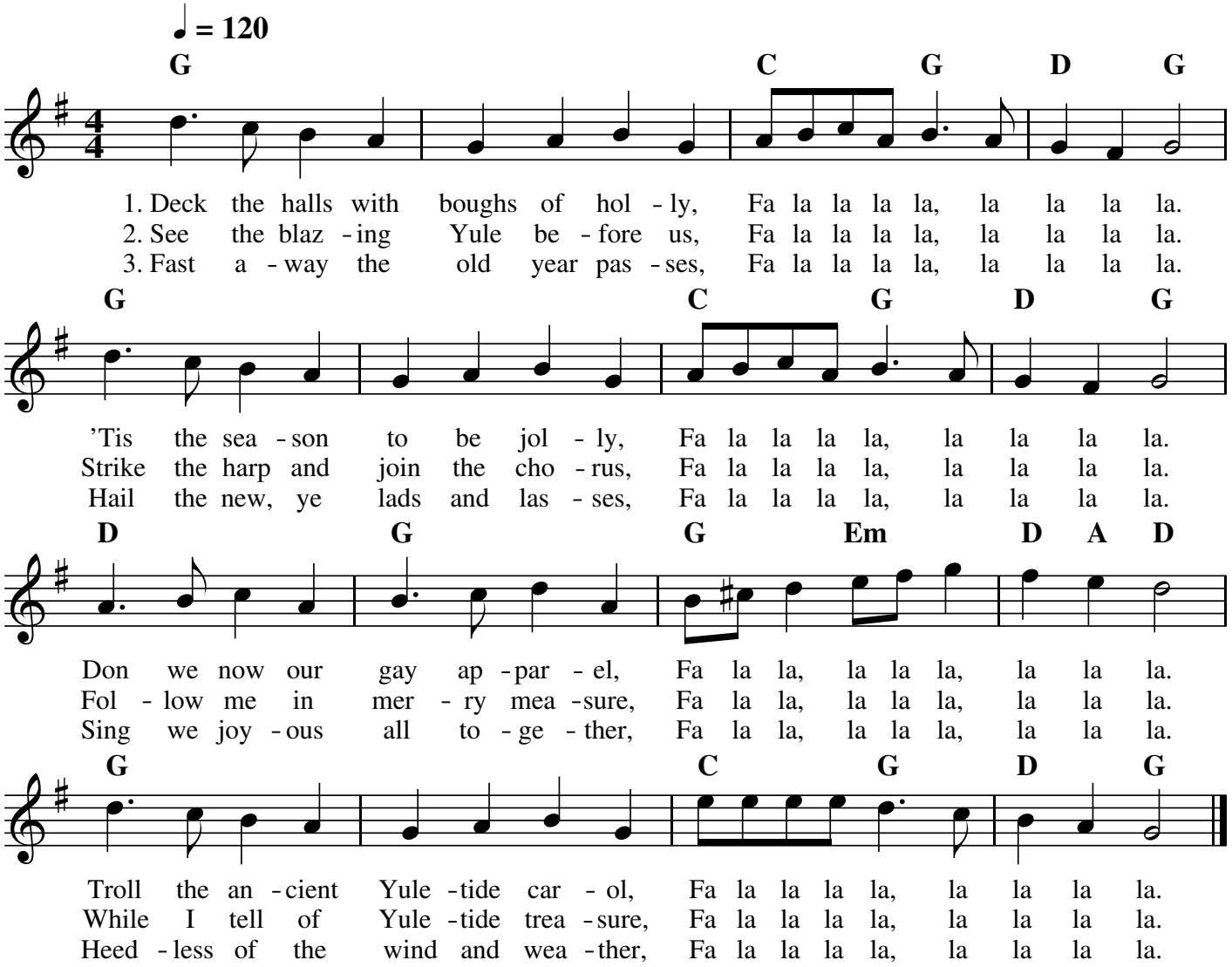
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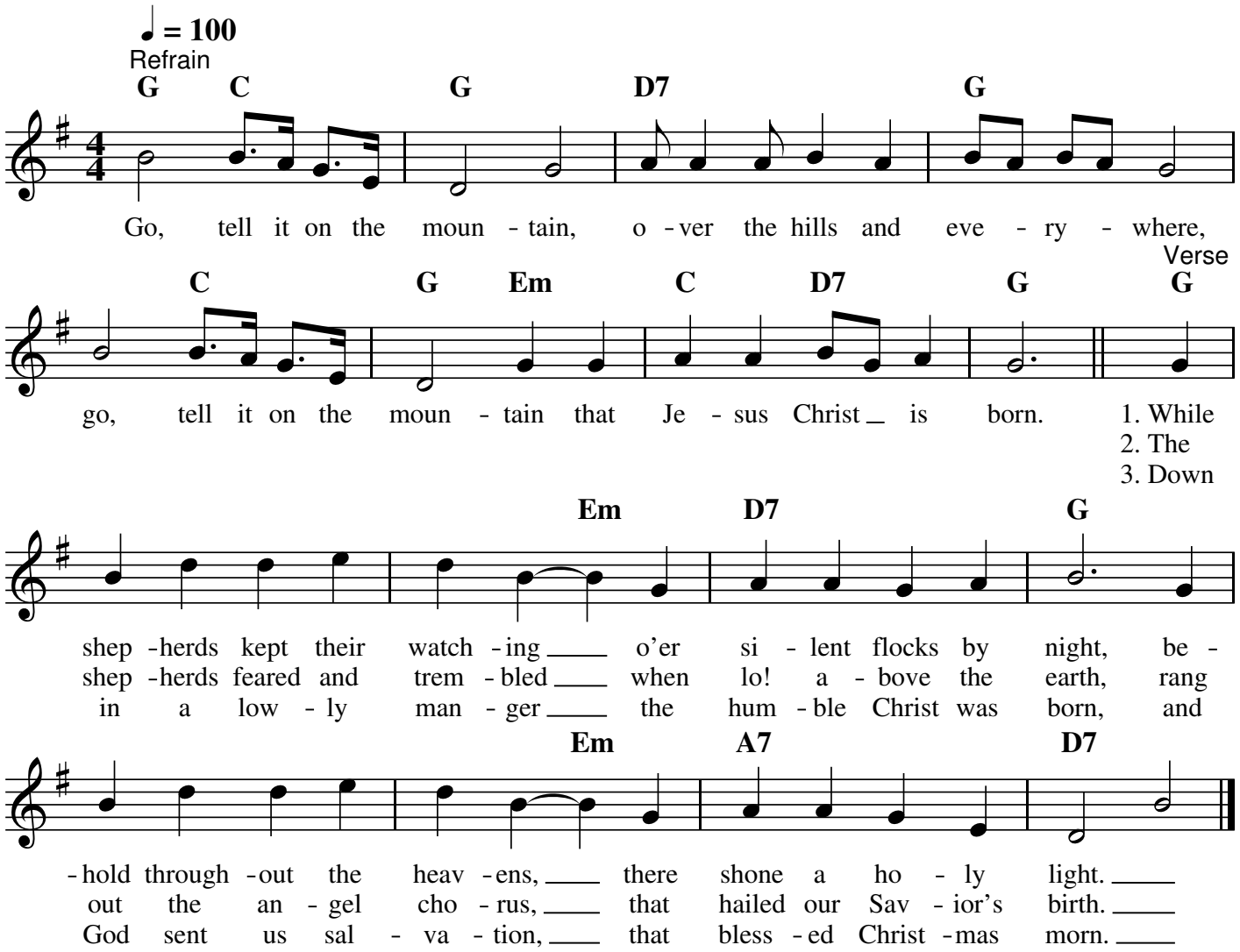
Deck the Halls

Welsh traditional (Nos Galan, 16th c.)



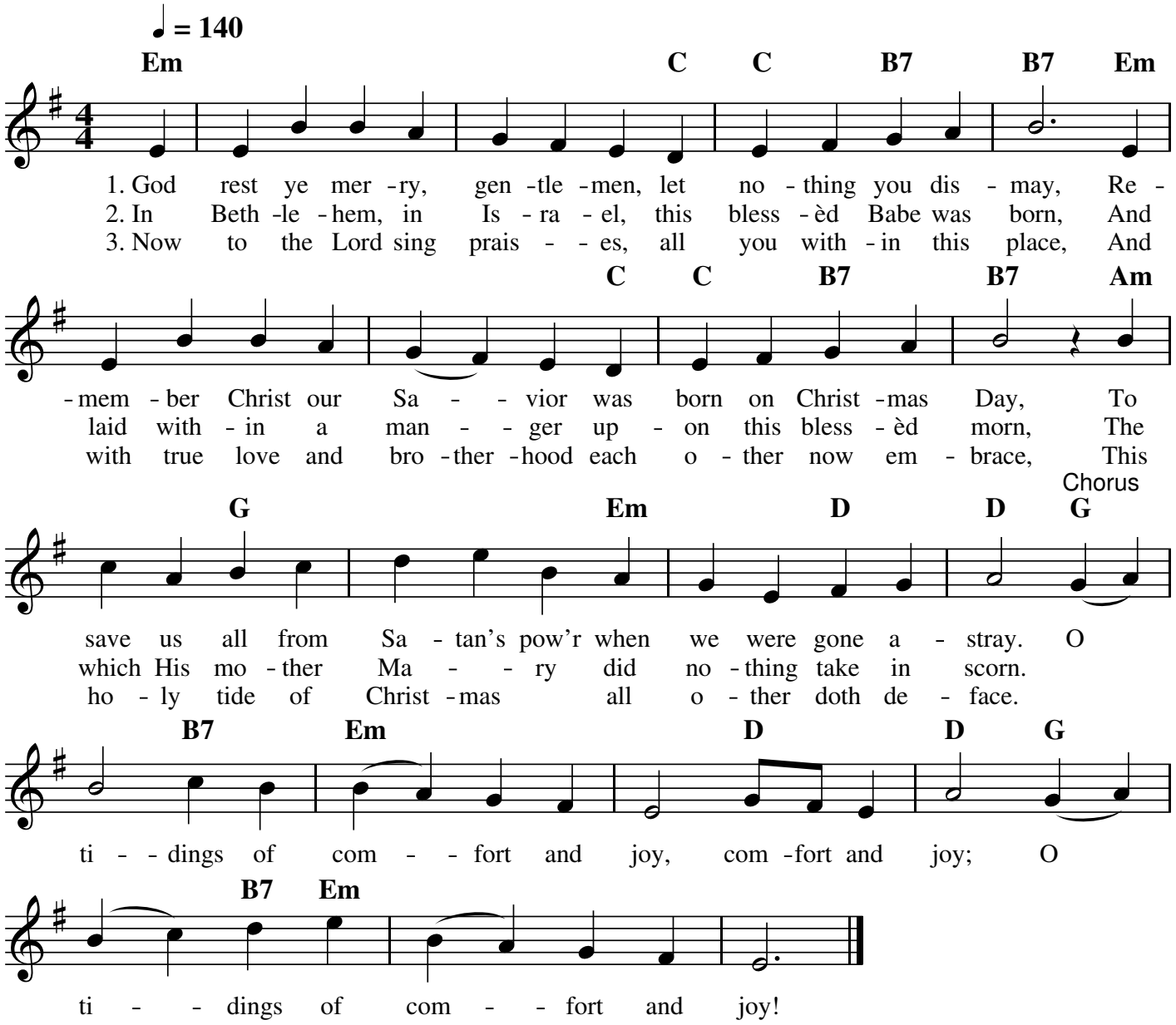
Go, Tell It on the Mountain

African-American spiritual; verses by John W. Work II



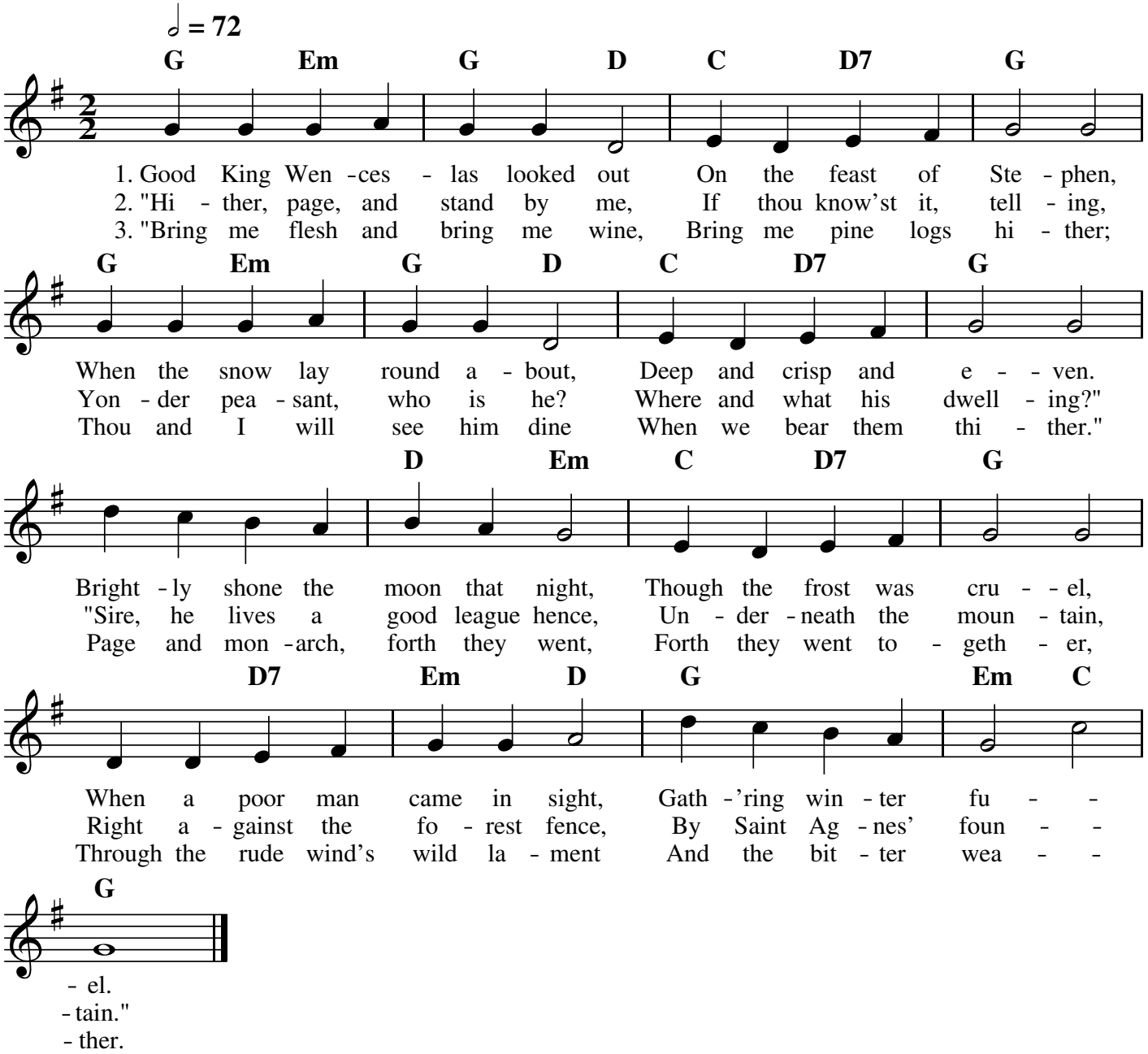
God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

English traditional, 16th c.



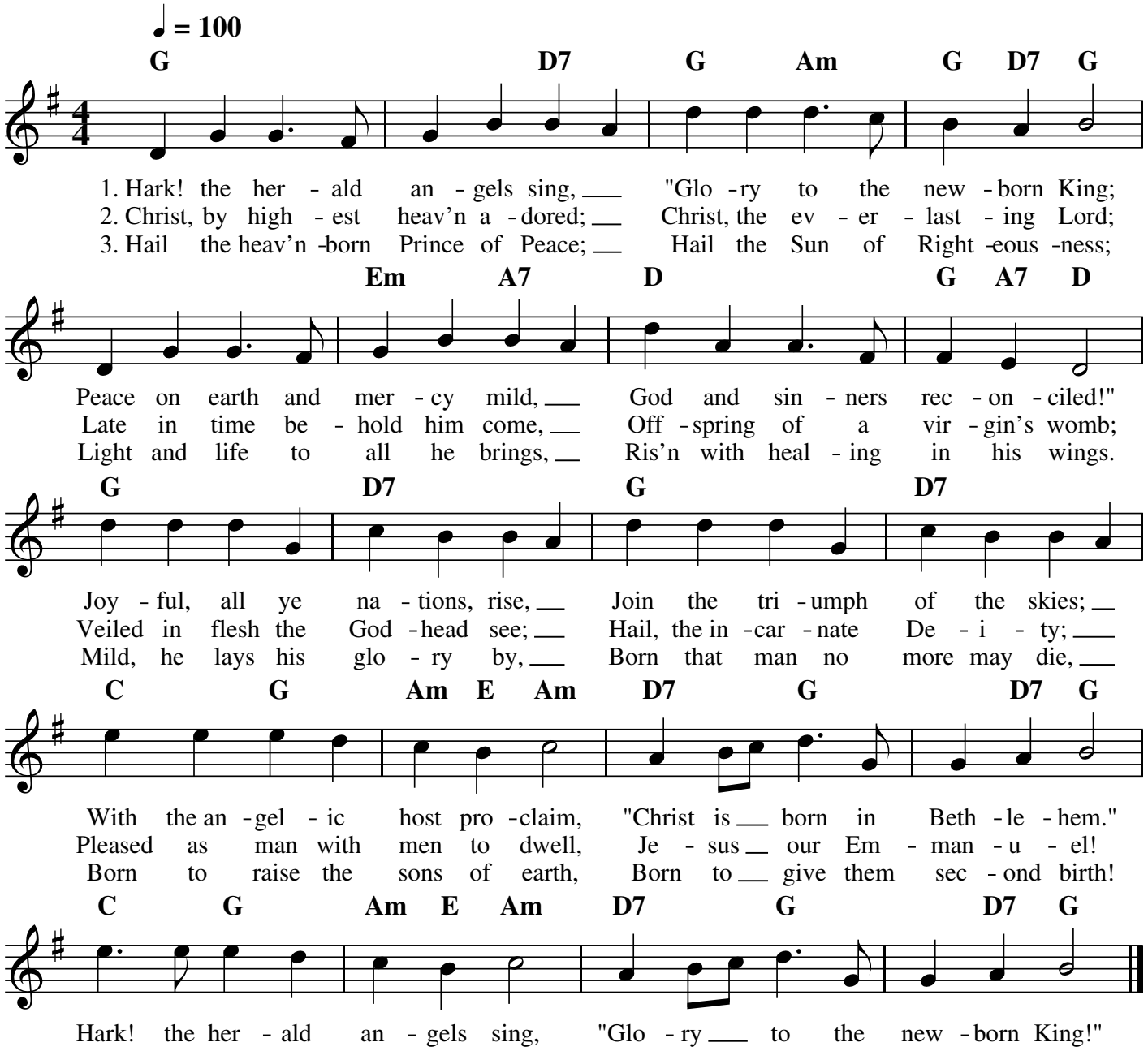
Good King Wenceslas

Melody: Tempus Adest Floridum, 13th c. Words: John Mason Neale, 1853



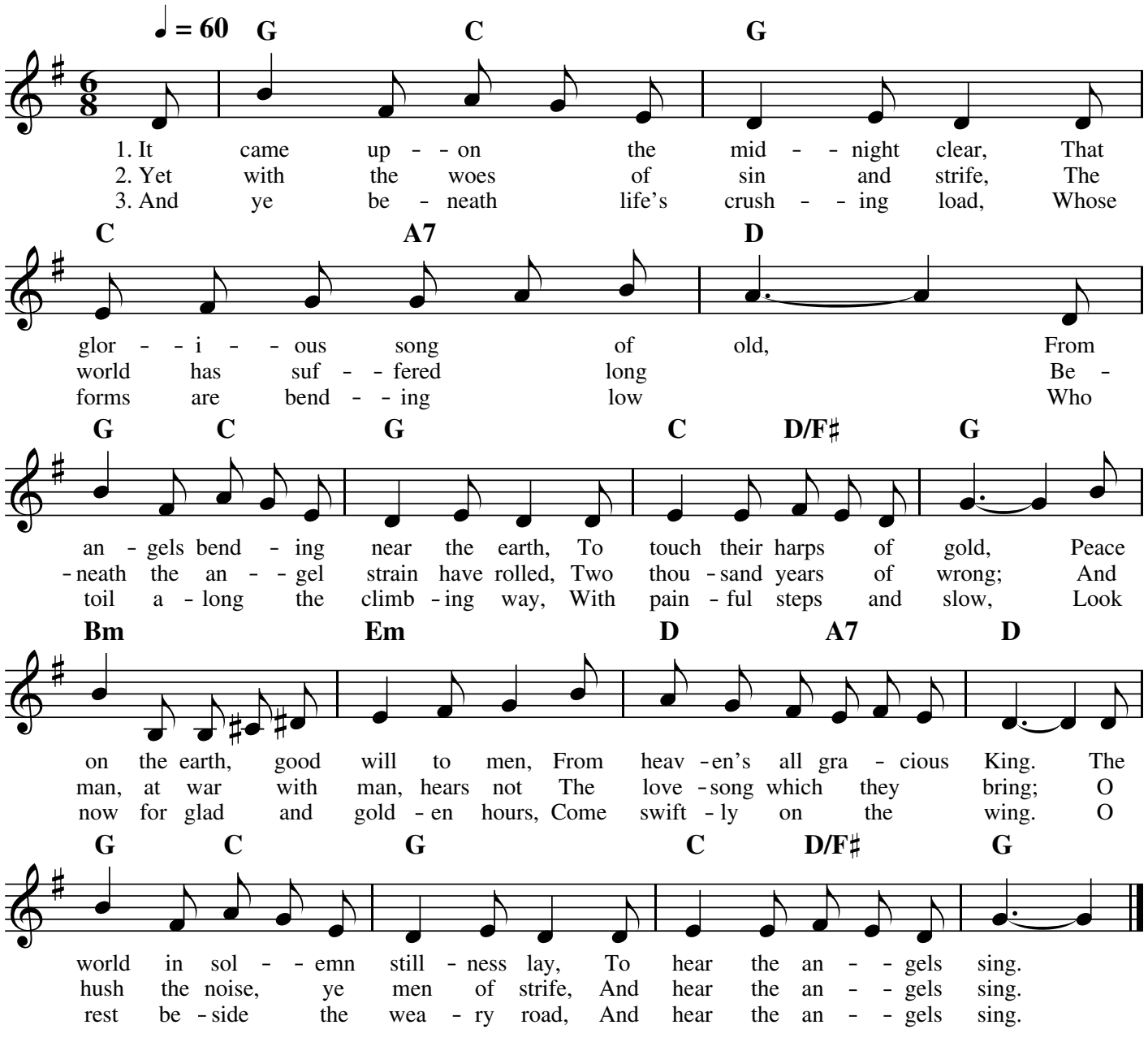
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Felix Mendelssohn, 1840. Words: Charles Wesley, 1739



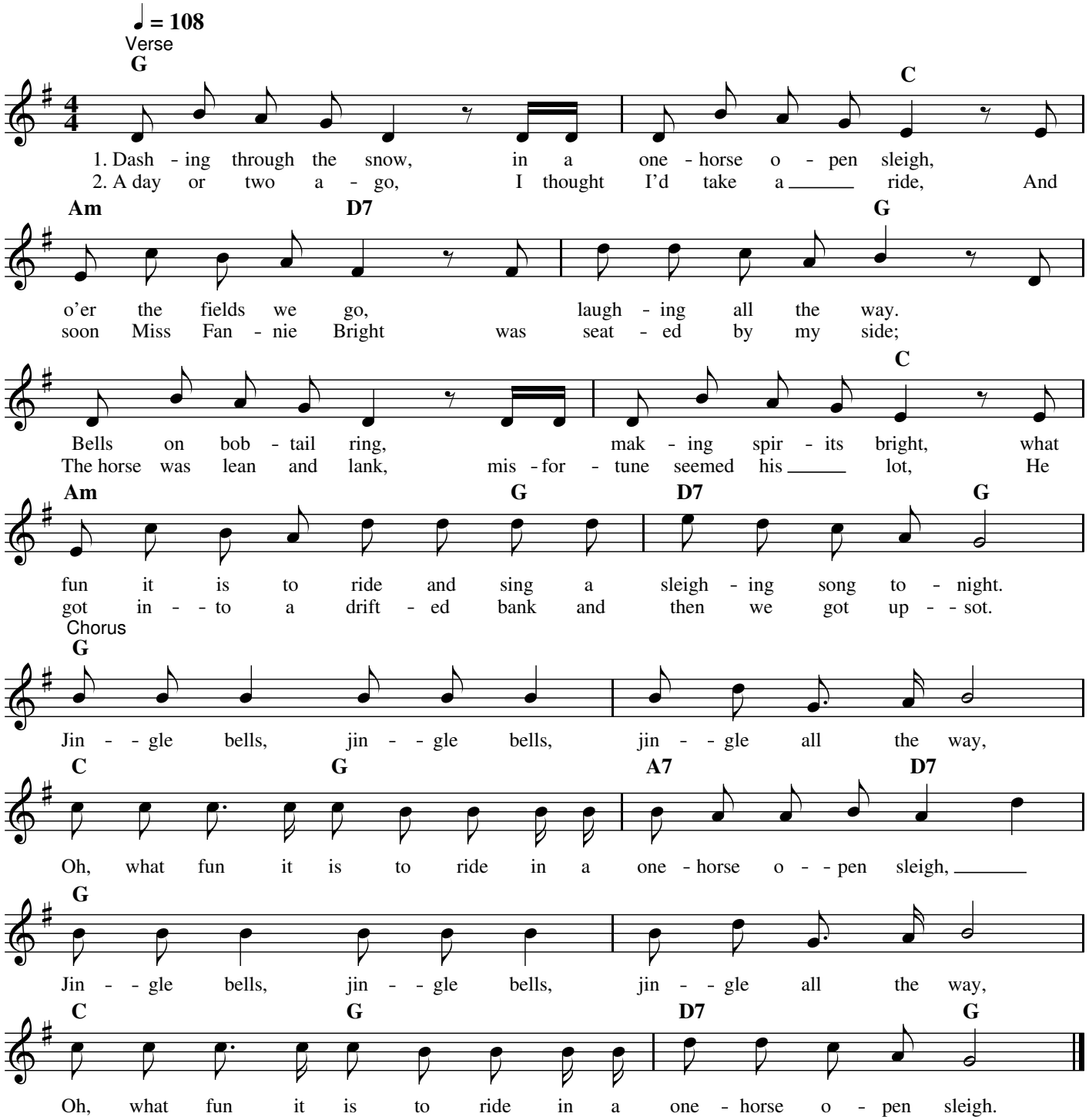
It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Richard S. Willis, 1850. Words: Edmund H. Sears, 1849



Jingle Bells

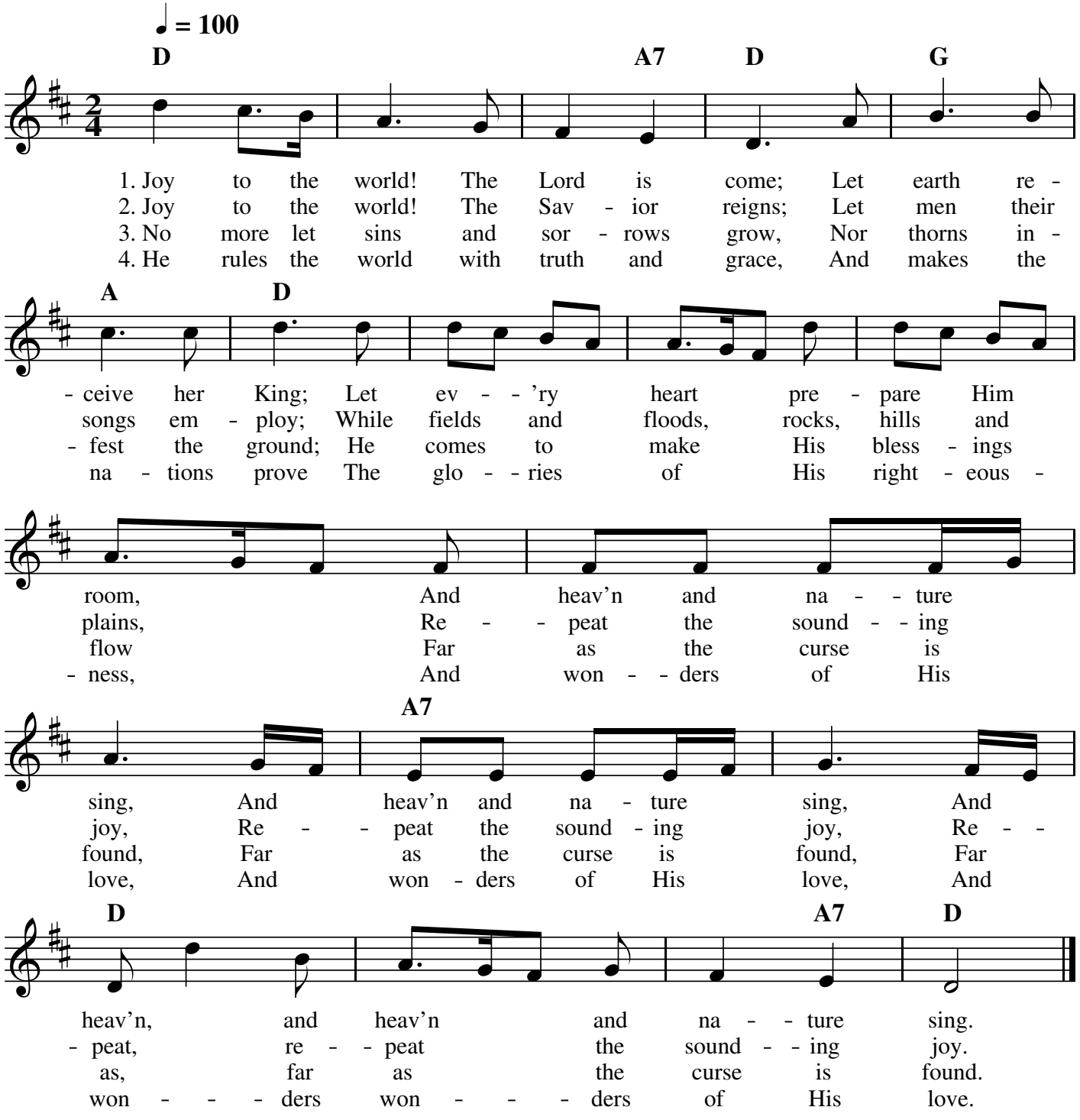
James Lord Pierpont, 1857



3. A day or two ago, the story I must tell,
   I went out on the snow, and on my back I fell;
   A gent was riding by in a one-horse open sleigh,
   He laughed as there I sprawling lie, but quickly drove away. (Chorus)
4. Now the ground is white, go it while you're young,
   Take the girls tonight and sing this sleighing song;
   Just get a bob-tailed bay, two-forty as his speed,
   Hitch him to an open sleigh and crack! you'll take the lead. (Chorus)

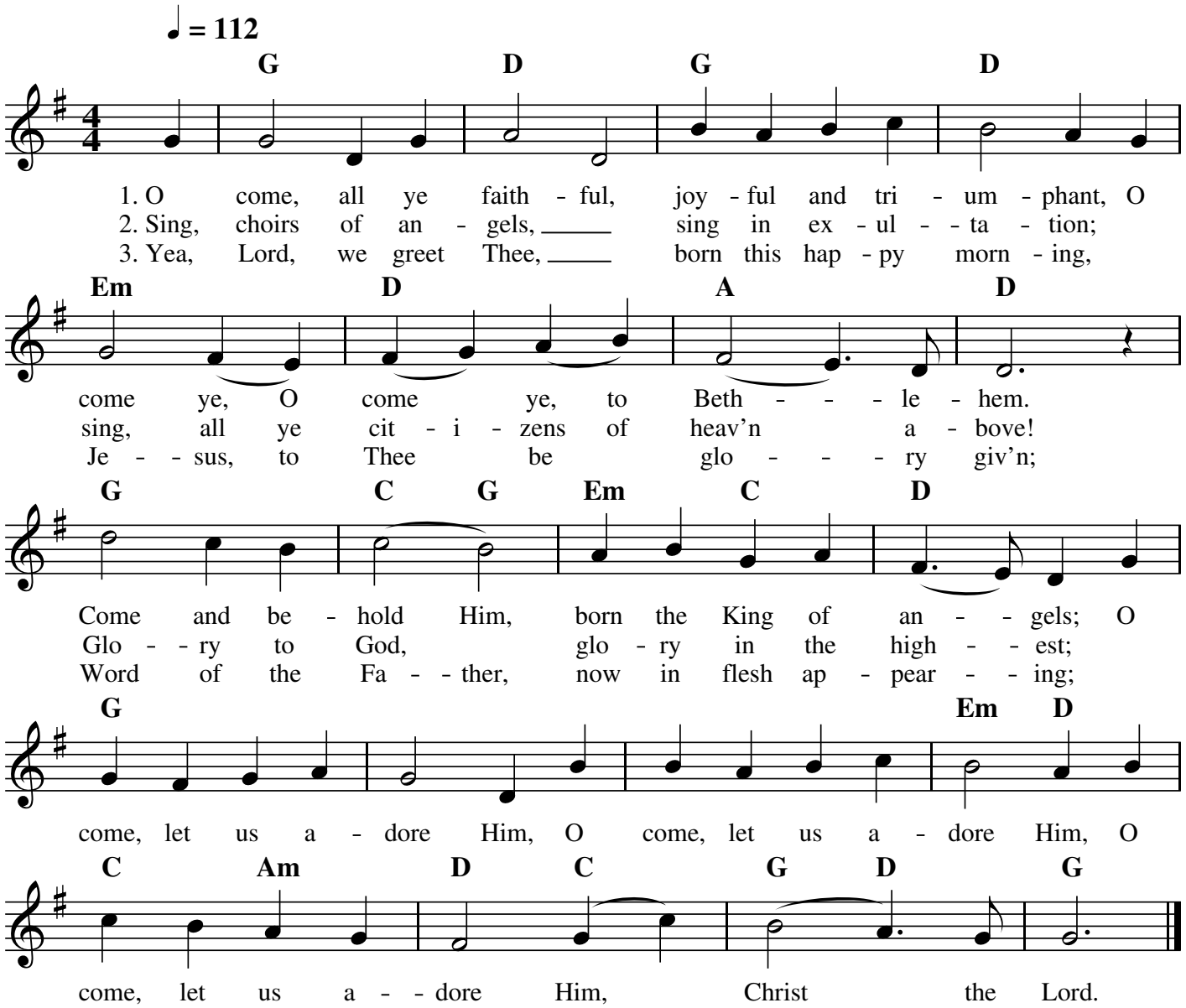
Joy to the World

George F. Handel, arr. Lowell Mason, 1839. Words: Isaac Watts, 1719



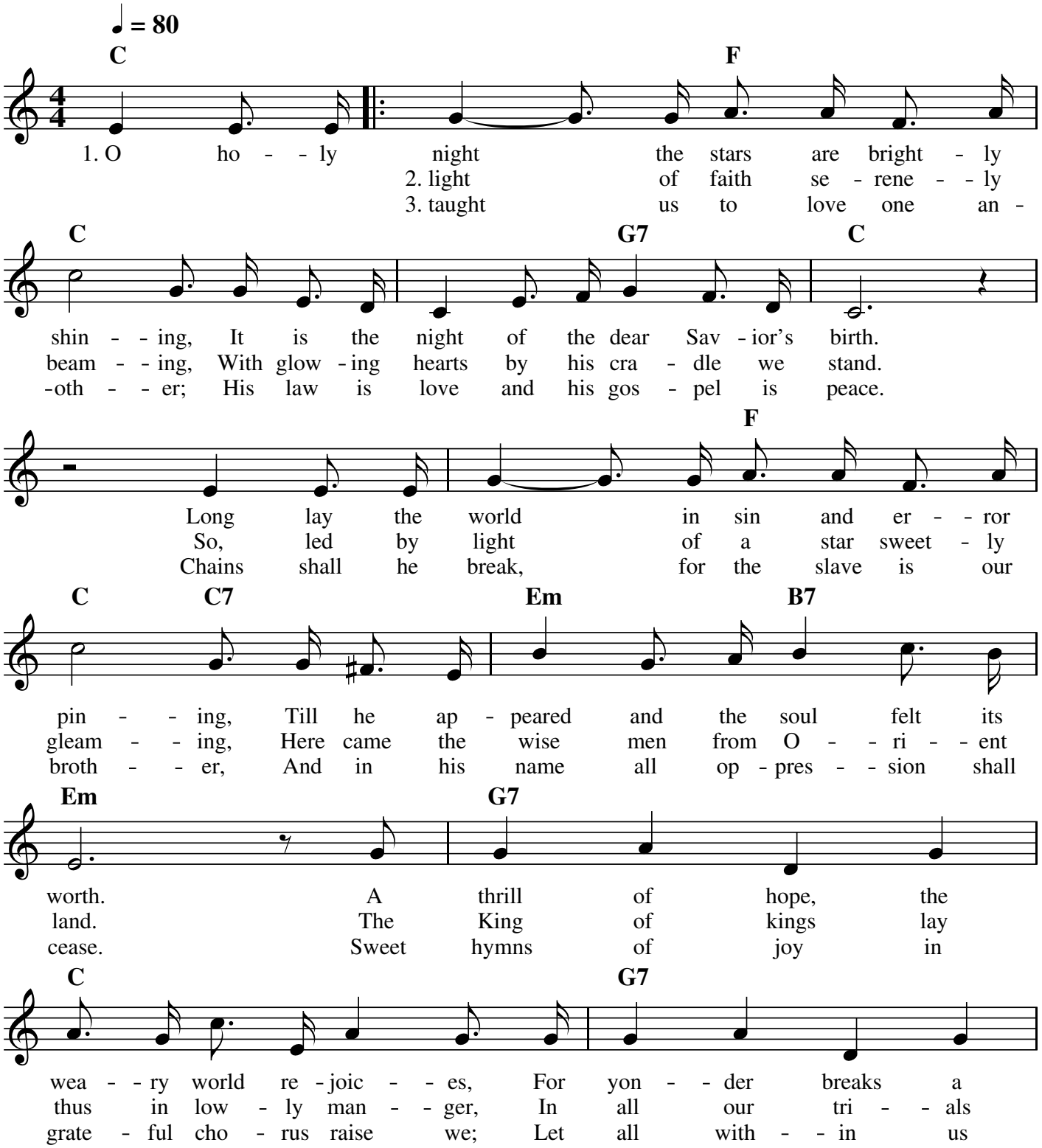
O Come, All Ye Faithful

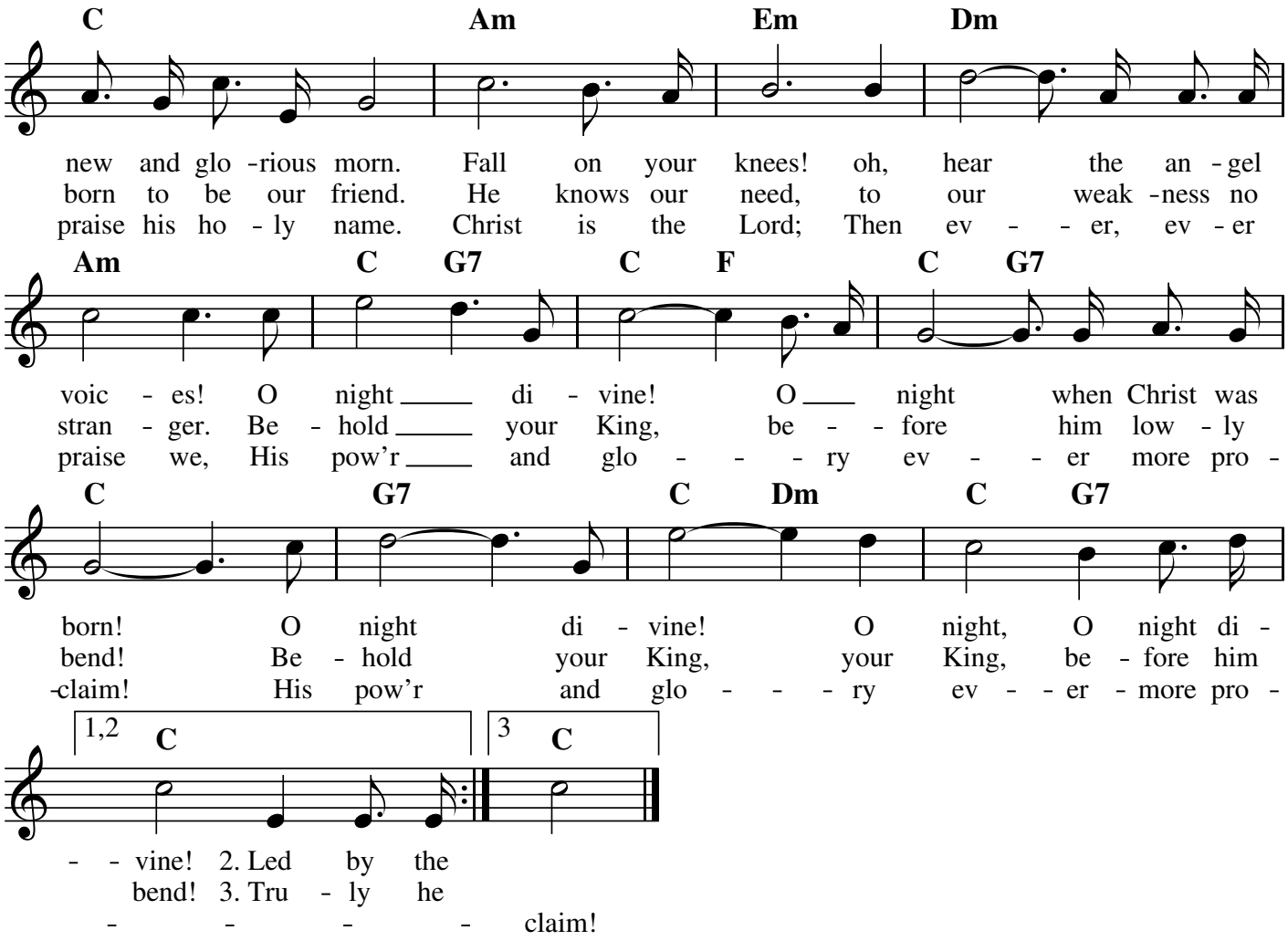
John Francis Wade, c. 1743 (Adeste Fideles)



O Holy Night

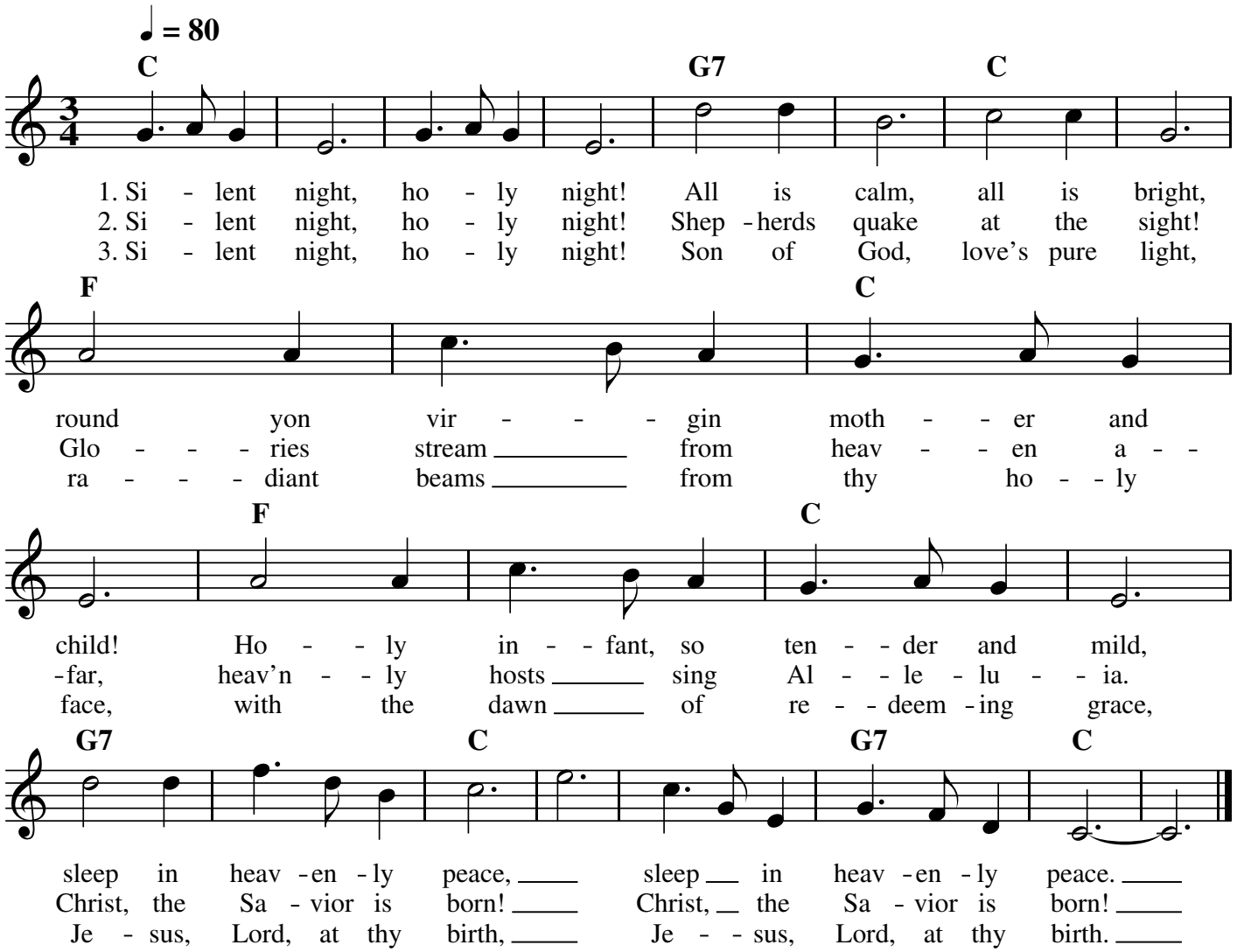
Adolphe Adam, 1847 (Cantique de Noël). Words: John S. Dwight




C Am Em Dm
new and glo -rious morn. Fall on your knees! oh, hear the an - gel
born to be our friend. He knows our need, to our weak -ness no
praise his ho - ly name. Christ is the Lord; Then ev - - er, ev - er
Am C G7 C F C G7
voic - es! O night di - vine! O night when Christ was
stran - ger. Be - hold your King, be - - fore him low - ly
praise we, His pow'r and glo - - - ry ev - - er more pro -
C G7 C Dm C G7
born! O night di - vine! O night, O night di -
bend! Be - hold your King, your King, be - fore him
-claim! His pow'r and glo - - - ry ev - - er - more pro -
1,2 C 3 C
- - vine! 2. Led by the
bend! 3. Tru - ly he
- - - - claim!

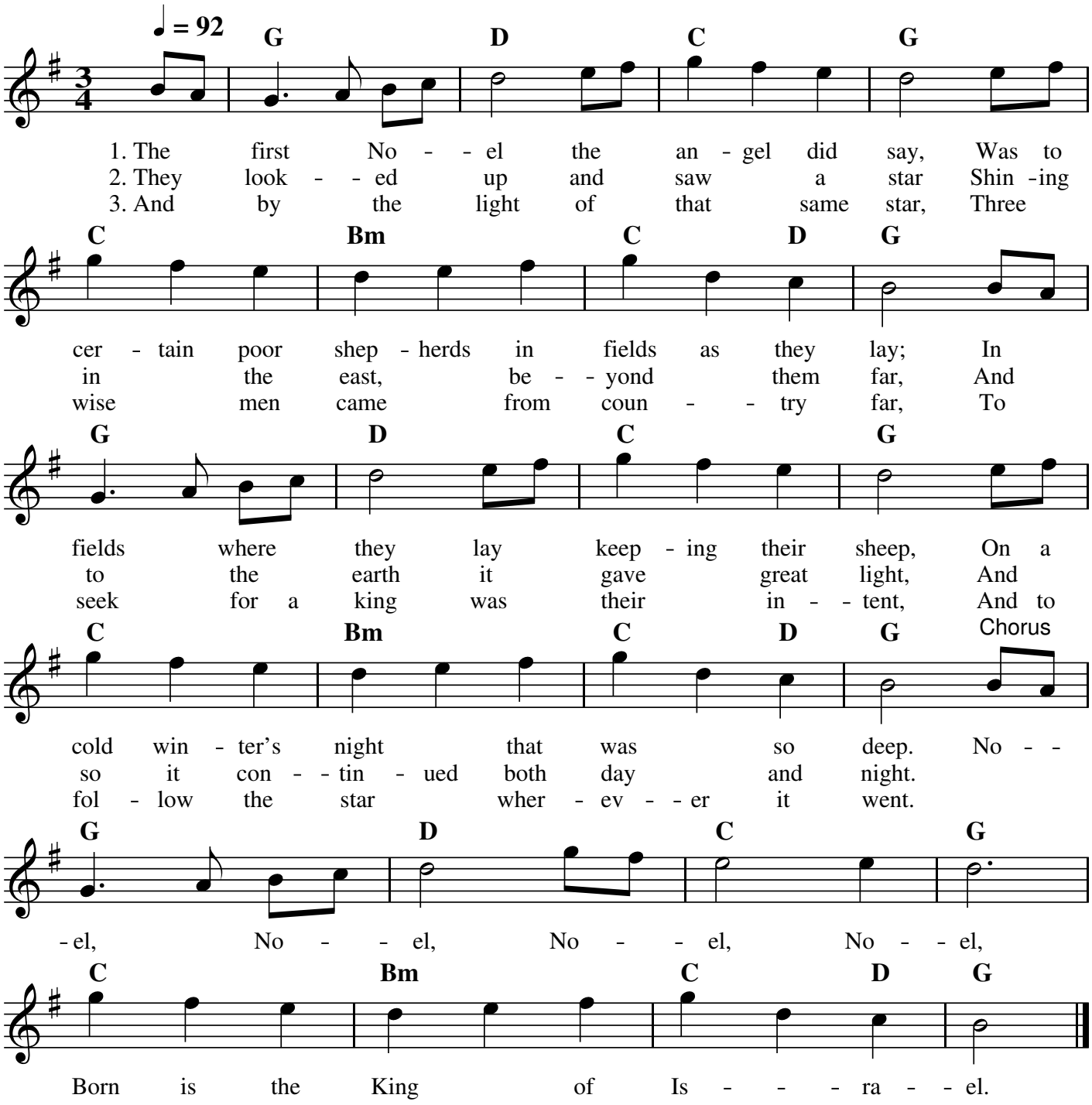
Silent Night

Franz Xaver Gruber, 1818. Words: Josef Mohr, tr. John F. Young



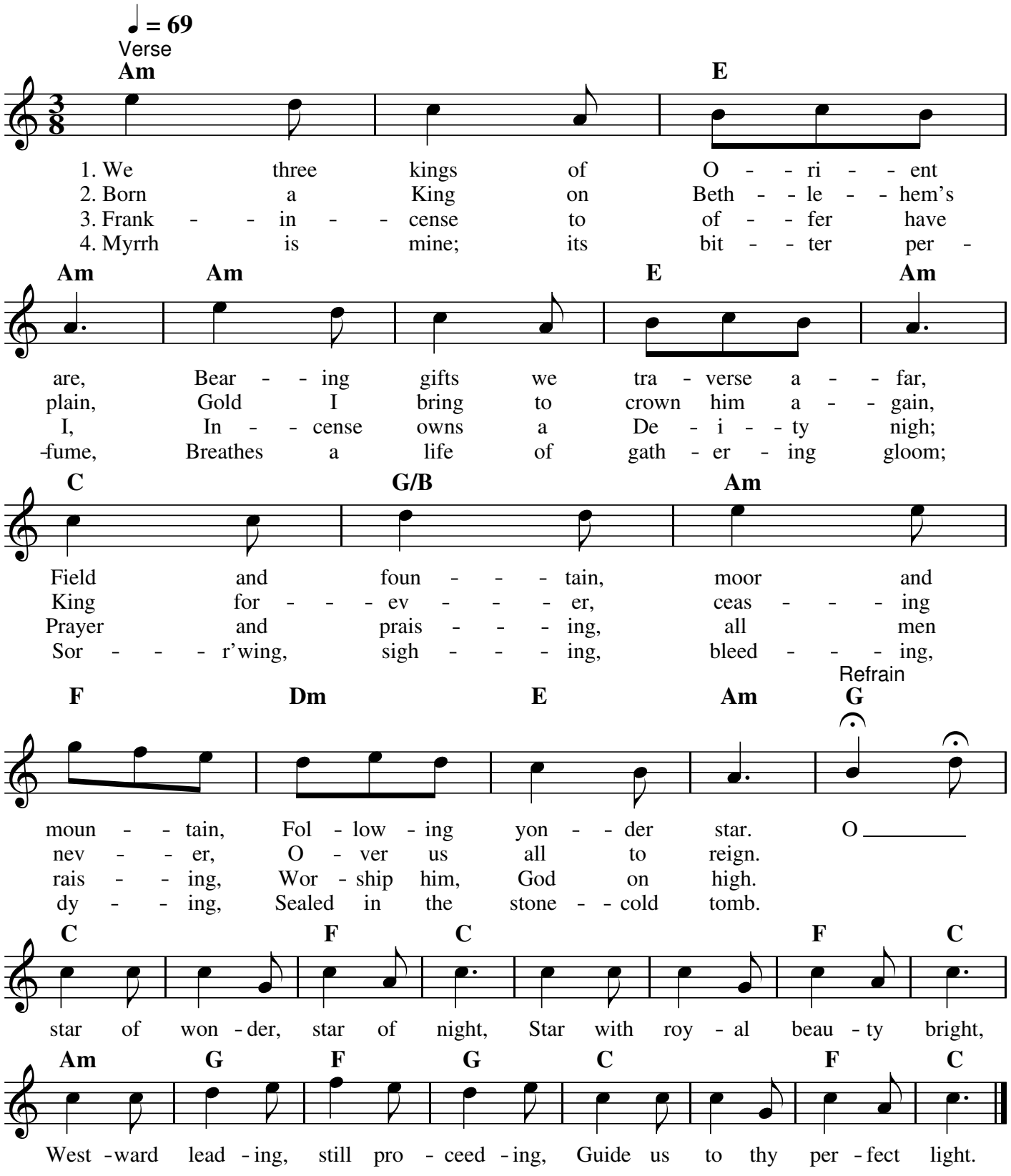
The First Noel

English traditional, 17th c.



We Three Kings of Orient Are

John Henry Hopkins Jr., 1857



APPENDIX A

Additional Songs

The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire)

Music and words by Mel Torm^' and Robert Wells (1945)

Key of A. Slow swing, 4/4. Intro: the first five chords of the A section.

A SECTION

A Bm7 C#m7 Bm7 E7
Chestnuts roasting on an open fire

A Em7 A7 D C#7
Jack Frost nipping at your nose

F#m Dm6 A Ebm7 Ab7
Yuletide carols being sung by a choir

Dbmaj7 Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 Bm7 E7
And folks dressed up like Eski-mos

A SECTION

A Bm7 C#m7 Bm7 E7
Every-body knows a turkey and some mistle-toe

A Em7 A7 D C#7
Helps to make the season bright

F#m Dm6 A Ebm7 Ab7
Tiny tots with their eyes all a-glow

C#m7 F#7 Bm7 E7 A
Will find it hard to sleep to-night

BRIDGE

Em7 A9 Em7 A9
They know that Santa's on his way

Em7 A9 Dmaj7 D6
He's loaded lots of toys and goodies on his sleigh

Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 C6
And every mother's child is gonna spy

F#m B7 Bm7 E7b9
To see if reindeer really know how to fly

LAST A

A Bm7 C#m7 Bm7 E7
And so I'm offering this simple phrase

A Em7 A7 D C#7
To kids from one to ninety-two

F#m Dm6 A Ab7 Cdim
Al-though it's been said many times, many ways

C#m7 Bm7 E7 A
Merry Christmas to you

ENDING *(play the last A again, then)*

C#m7 Bm7 C#m7 Bm7
Merry Christmas, have a Merry Christmas

C#m7 Bm7 E7b9 A
Merry Christmas to you

Chords from the Dr. Uke free chart; check against a recording.
Chord key: maj7 = major seventh, dim = diminished, b9 = flat nine, 6 = major sixth

Christmas Time Is Here

Music by Vince Guaraldi, words by Lee Mendelson (1965)

Key of F. Slow waltz ballad, 3/4 (A Charlie Brown Christmas).

VERSE 1

Fmaj7 Eb7
Christmas time is here

Fmaj7 Eb7
Happiness and cheer

Bm7 Bb7 Am7
Fun for all that children call

Ab7 Gm7 C9 Fmaj9
Their favorite time of the year

VERSE 2

Fmaj7 Eb7
Snowflakes in the air

Fmaj7 Eb7
Carols every-where

Bm7 Bb7 Am7
Olden times and ancient rhymes

Ab7 Gm7 C9 Fmaj9
Of love and dreams to share

BRIDGE

Dbmaj7 Gb7b5
Sleigh bells in the air

Dbmaj7 Gb7b5
Beauty every-where

Fmaj7 Eb7 D7
Yuletide by the fireside

D7b9 Gm7 Db7 C7
And joyful memories there

LAST VERSE

Fmaj7 Eb7
Christmas time is here

Fmaj7 Eb7
We'll be drawing near

Bm7 Bb7 Am7
Oh, that we could always see

Ab7 Gm7 C9 Fmaj9
Such spirit through the year

INSTRUMENTAL *(then the bridge and last verse again, ending)*

Ab7 Gm7 C9 Fmaj9
Such spirit through the year

Words and chords from the Ultimate Guitar chart of the Vince Guaraldi Trio recording.
Chord key: maj7 / maj9 = major seventh / ninth, 7b5 = seventh with flat five, b9 = flat nine

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

Music and words by Hugh Martin and Ralph Blane (1944)

Key of G. Ballad, 4/4. Intro: | G Em7 | Am7 D7 | (twice)

VERSE 1

G Em7 Am7 D7
Have your-self a merry little Christmas

G Em7 Am7 D7
Let your heart be light

G Em7 Am7 D7 B7 E7 A7 D D7
Next year all our troubles will be out of sight

G Em7 Am7 D7
Have your-self a merry little Christmas

G Em7 Am7 D7
Make the Yuletide gay

G Em7 Am7 B7 Em G G7
Next year all our troubles will be miles away

BRIDGE

Cmaj7 Cm6 Bm Bbdim
Once a- gain as in olden days

Am D7 Gmaj7
Happy golden days of yore

Em F#7 Bm E7
Faithful friends who were dear to us

D7 A7 Am7 D7
Will be near to us once more

VERSE 2

G Em7 Am7 D7
Someday soon we all will be to-gether

G Em7 Am7 D7
If the Fates allow

G Em7 Am7 B7 Em G G7
Until then, we'll have to muddle through some-how

Cmaj7 Am7 D7 G
So have yourself a merry little Christmas now

ENDING

G Em7 Am7 D7 G Em7 Am7 D7 Gmaj7

Words and chords from the Ultimate Guitar chart of the Judy Garland recording (Meet Me in St. Louis).
Chord key: maj7 = major seventh, m6 = minor sixth, dim = diminished

How High the Moon

Music by Morgan Lewis, words by Nancy Hamilton (1940)

Key of D, as recorded by Les Paul & Mary Ford (1951). Medium swing, 4/4.

INTRO *(twice)*
F#m7 F7 Em7 A7 D A7

VERSE 1
A7 D Dm7 G7
Somewhere there's music, how faint the tune?
Cmaj7 C6 Cm7 F7
Somewhere there's heaven, how high the moon?
Bbmaj7
There is no moon above
Em7b5 A7 Dm Em7b5
When love is far away, too
A7 D A7 F#m7 F7 Em7
Till it comes true that you love me as I love you

VERSE 2
A7 D Dm7 G7
Somewhere there's music, how near, how far?
Cmaj7 C6 Cm7 F7
Somewhere there's heaven, it's where you are
Bbmaj7
The darkest night would shine
Em7b5 A7 D Em7
If you would come to me soon
A7 F#m7 F7 Em7
Un-til you will, how still my heart
A7sus A7 Dmaj7
How high the moon?

INTERLUDE *(instrumental)*
A7 D Dm7 G7 Cmaj7 C6 Cm7 F7

Bbmaj7 Em7b5 A7 Dm Em7b5

A7 D A7 F#m7 F7 Em7

VERSE 3
A7 D Dm7 G7
Somewhere there's music, how faint the tune?
Cmaj7 C6 Cm7 F7
Somewhere there's heaven, how high the moon?
Bbmaj7
There is no moon above
Em7b5 A7 Dm Em7b5
When love is far away, too
A7 D A7 F#m7 F7 Em7
Till it comes true that you love me as I love you

VERSE 4
A7 D Dm7 G7
Somewhere there's music, how near, how far?
Cmaj7 C6 Cm7 F7
Somewhere there's heaven, it's where you are
Bbmaj7
The darkest night would shine
Em7b5 A7 D Em7
If you would come to me soon
A7 F#m7 F7 Em7
Un-til you will, how still my heart
A7sus A7 Dmaj7
How high the moon?

Chords from the Ultimate Guitar chart of the Les Paul & Mary Ford recording.
Chord key: m7b5 = half-diminished (Em7-5), 6 = major sixth, sus = suspended fourth

I’ll Be Home for Christmas

Music by Walter Kent, words by Kim Gannon (1943)

Key of G. Ballad, 4/4. Intro: | G | Em | Am | D |

VERSE 1

G Em Am
I’ll be home for Christmas

G Dm E Am
You can plan on me

D G Em
Please have snow and mistle-toe

A Am D
And presents on the tree

VERSE 2

G Em Am
Christmas Eve will find me

G Dm E Am
Where the love light gleams

C Cm G E
I’ll be home for Christ-mas

Am Cm D G
If only in my dreams

VERSE 3

G Em Am
I’ll be home for Christmas

G Dm E Am
You can plan on me

Am D G Em
Please have snow and mistle-toe

A Am D
And presents on the tree

VERSE 4

G Em Am
Christmas Eve will find me

G Dm E Am
Where the love light gleams

C Cm G E
I’ll be home for Christ-mas

Am Cm D G
If only in my dreams

Chords as in the Bing Crosby recording (simplified chart).

Jingle-Bell Rock

Words and Music by Joe Beal and Jim Boothe (1957)

Key of C. Moderately, with a swing (cut time, two beats per bar). Intro: | C | C | G | G |

VERSE 1

C
Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock
C#dim7 Dm7 G7
Jingle bells swing and jingle bells ring
Dm7 G7 Dm7 G7
Snowin' and blowin' up bushels of fun
Dm7 G7 G7#5
Now the jingle hop has begun

VERSE 2

C
Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock
C#dim7 Dm7 G7
Jingle bells chime in jingle bell time
Dm7 G7 Dm7 G7
Dancin' and prancin' in Jingle Bell Square
D7 G7
In the frosty air

BRIDGE

C C7 F F#dim7
What a bright time, it's the right time
C/G C
To rock the night a-way
Am7 D9 Am7 D9
Jingle bell time is a swell time
G7 Dm7 G7
To go glidin' in a one-horse sleigh

LAST VERSE

C
Giddy-ap, jingle horse, pick up your feet
Em7b5/Bb A7#5
Jingle a-round the clock
F Fm
Mix and mingle in a jinglin' beat
D7 G7 C C#dim7 Dm7 G7
That's the jingle bell rock

(1st time: back to the bridge)

ENDING *(2nd time)*

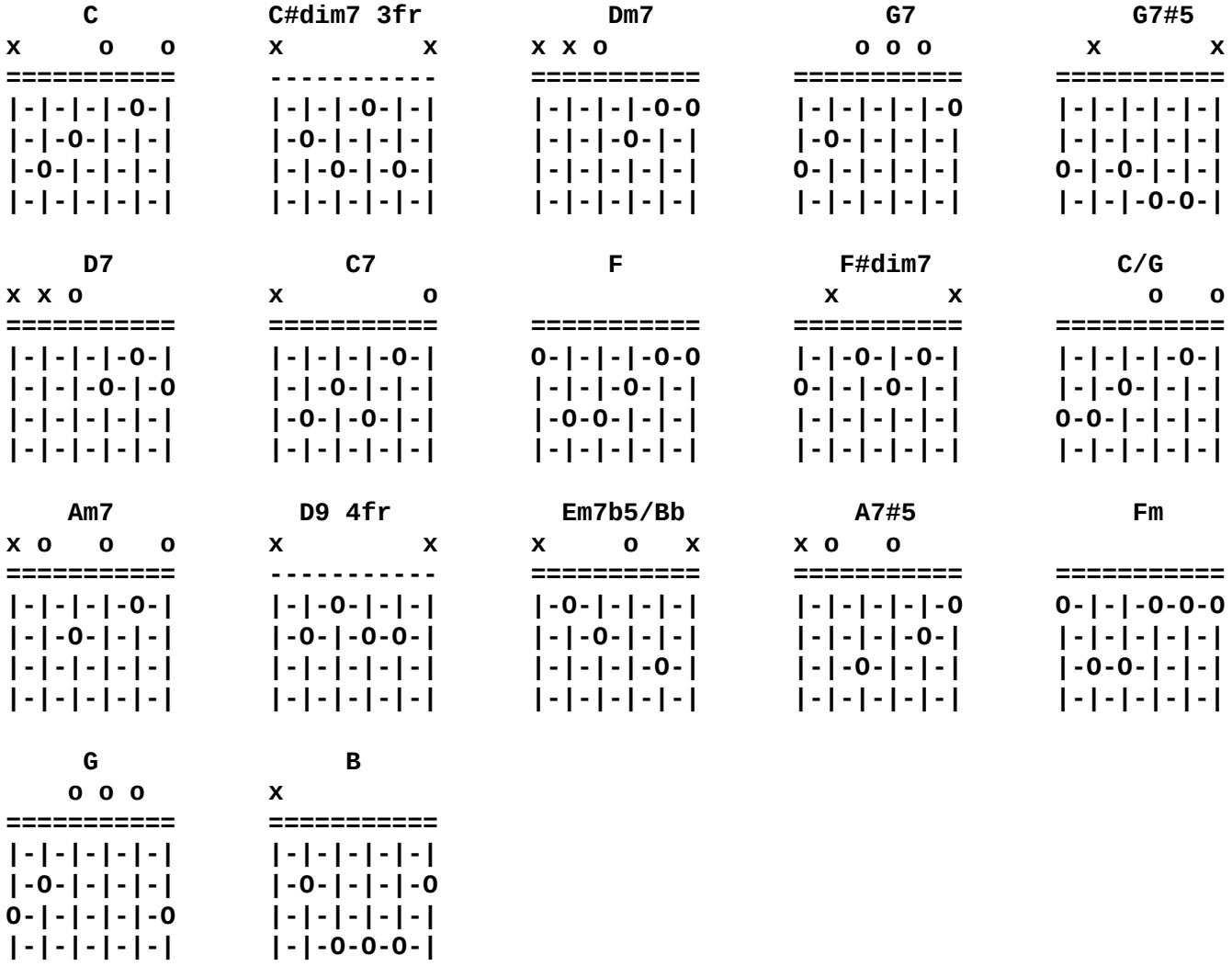
D7 G D7 G7 C Dm7 B C
That's the jingle bell, that's the jingle bell rock

Words and chords from the published piano/vocal/guitar sheet (Chappell & Co.).
Chord key: dim7 = diminished seventh, 7#5 = seventh with sharp five,
m7b5 = half-diminished, 9 = dominant ninth, /Bb = Bb in the bass

Jingle-Bell Rock (continued)

FINGERINGS

Strings low E to high e; O = fret, o = open, x = skip. The first row is fret 1 unless a fret number is shown.



Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow!

Music by Jule Styne, words by Sammy Cahn (1945)

Key of C (capo 1 to play in Db, as Dean Martin recorded it). Medium swing, 4/4.

INTRO

C C/E D#dim7 G/D G7

VERSE 1

C
Oh, the weather outside is frightful
C/E D#dim7 G/D G7
But the fire is so de- lightful
Dm7 A7 Dm7
And since we've no place to go
Dm G6 C
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow
C
Man, it doesn't show signs of stoppin'
C/E D#dim7 G/D G7
And I brought me some corn for pop-pin'
Dm7 A7 Dm7
The lights are turned way down low
Dm7 D#dim7 Dm7 G7 C G C
Let it snow, let it snow

CHORUS

G G#dim
When we finally kiss good-night
Am7 D7 G
How I'll hate going out in the storm
Bm7 E7
But if you really hold me tight
A7 D7 G7
All the way home I'll be warm

VERSE 2

C
And the fire is slowly dying
C/E D#dim7 G/D G7
And, my dear, we're still good-byeing
Dm7 A7 Dm7
But as long as you love me so
Dm G6 C
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow

INSTRUMENTAL

C C/E D#dim7 G/D G7 Dm7 A7 Dm7 G7 C

CHORUS

G G#dim
When we finally kiss good-night
Am7 D7 G
How I'll hate going out in the storm
Bm7 E7
But if you really grab me tight
A7 D7 G7 Ab7
All the way home I'll be warm

LAST VERSE *(up a half step, in Db)*

Db
Oh, the fire is slowly dying
Db/F Edim7 Ab/Eb Ab7
And, my dear, we're still good-byeing
Ebm7 Bb7 Ebm7
But as long as you love me so
Ebm Ab6 Db
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow

ENDING

Db Ebm7 Ab/Eb Db

Chords from the Ultimate Guitar chart of the Dean Martin recording.

Chord key: dim7 = diminished seventh, C/E = C with E in the bass, 6 = major sixth

Santa Claus Is Comin’ to Town

Music by J. Fred Coots, words by Haven Gillespie (1934)

Key of G. Medium swing, 4/4. Intro: | G Em7 | Am7 D7 | G | D7 |

VERSE 1

G **C**
You better watch out, you better not cry
G **C**
You better not pout, I’m telling you why
G **Em** **Am7** **D7** **G**
Santa Claus is com-ing to town

VERSE 2

G **C**
He’s making a list, and checking it twice
G **C**
Gonna find out who’s naughty and nice
G **Em** **Am7** **D7** **G**
Santa Claus is com-ing to town

BRIDGE

G7 **C**
He sees you when you’re sleeping
G7 **C**
He knows when you’re a-wake
A7 **D**
He knows if you’ve been bad or good
A7 **D**
So be good for goodness sake

LAST VERSE

G **C**
You better watch out, you better not cry
G **C**
You better not pout, I’m telling you why
G **Em** **Am7** **D7** **G**
Santa Claus is com-ing to town
G **Em** **Am7** **D7** **G**
Santa Claus is com-ing to town

Chords from the Ultimate Guitar chart.