

THE
CAROLS
OF
CHRISTMAS

NARRATION

by Rebecca J. Peck and Daniel Morris

The Carols of Christmas

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Narrator 1: middle-aged man (or woman)

Narrator 2: middle-aged woman (or man)

Narrator 3: older child or teen

Narrator 4: older child or teen

Narrator 5: older grandfatherly gentleman (or lady)

The narrators can appear as a family or group of individuals.

Song: “Ringing in the Season” *with* “Ring All the Bells”

Narrator 1: *(with anticipation)* Can you feel it? Are you ready? The joy and hope of Christmas awaits, and the journey has begun! The most meaningful and memorable times in our lives are captured in *moments*. We enjoy the journey, but we remember the *moments*.

Narrator 2: Christmas is not just a holiday; it is a *moment*. The sights, the sounds, the anticipation of this season all point to *the* moment when God became flesh and made a way for us to know Him.

Narrator 1: No wonder the angels gathered in multitudes to herald the good news! They knew this was the *moment* that we would never forget.

Narrator 2: *(with joyful warmth)* So we come. We come together from all walks of life, occupations, and backgrounds. Like the shepherds and wise men long ago, who were so different from each other, except in the way that mattered most of all. Their joyful and triumphant hearts were ready and willing to leave everything behind to adore Him.

Narrator 1: As we celebrate these meaningful moments together, we invite you to worship with us. At selected times during the celebration, you will be invited to sing familiar carols of the season with the choir. Let’s begin with one of the most recognizable carols of all ... “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”!

Song: “Christmas Carol Celebration”

Narrator 2: (*gently*) Like a melody ringing through the ages, the love of our Emmanuel is proclaimed through His redemptive plan. We hear the resounding echo of mercy and grace in the song of the ancient prophets, the song of Bethlehem, the song of Calvary, the song of the empty tomb, and, ultimately, the song of eternity. How could we ever comprehend that immortal God made Himself of no reputation, took on the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men ... that He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even death on the cross, becoming sin for us? What love ... what deep, abiding, saving love!

Song: "Sing a Song of Bethlehem"

Narrator 1: Can you imagine the anticipation of the heavenly host of angels who would be the first to announce the birth of the Savior, the hope of all mankind?

Narrator 2: Could it be those angels lined the streets of heaven for the ultimate send-off as Jesus began His journey to earth to dwell with us?

Narrator 1: Then, wrapped in the glory of God, they took their places to joyfully announce His arrival. This was a moment they would never forget!

Narrator 2: Like the angels, our hearts are positively bursting with excitement to tell the whole world about it! Over and over again, repeat the sounding joy!

Narrator 1: Let's sing and proclaim it together ... "Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come"!

Song: "Christmas Swing-a-long"

Narrator 3: All at once, a blanket of peace covered the earth with that one incredible moment of the birth of the Savior of the world. The prophets had foretold of this coming, the angels trumpeted the news. Mary and Joseph made their long journey, and Jesus left His throne in heaven to come to earth. Now it was as if all the earth could finally breathe. This was it. The waiting was over.

Song: "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

Narrator 1: (*with joy*) God Himself came to us. Not with the pageantry worthy of a King—the fanfare of trumpets, the pomp and royal protocol. He did it in a most peculiar way. He came as a tiny, fragile baby to a young, unassuming girl named Mary. It is a story that will never grow old, and it grows so much sweeter with the telling!

Narrator 2: *(with excitement)* Because our Savior came, we are forgiven. We are restored. We are loved.

Narrator 1: *(with excitement)* Because our Savior came, we are favored, redeemed, and blessed “with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places” (*Ephesians 1:3, KJV*).

Narrator 2: Because our Savior came, we are accepted. We are at rest in our souls and confident of eternity. Yes, we are all of these things because our Savior came.

Song: “Mary Had a Baby” *with* “Tell It!”

Narrator 5: *(spoken slowly with tender warmth)* Oh how we love to praise Him! And at Christmas, nothing could be better than an old-fashioned carol sing. Ah ... those beloved carols of Christmas! They draw us to marvel at the birth of our Lord, and they also bring to mind the most cherished of our Christmas memories. Our emotions are stirred with even the briefest refrain of “O Little Town of Bethlehem” or “Silent Night, Holy Night,” and once more we are back in time as Dad reaches to place the star on the highest branch. Or we are walking through the door at Grandma’s just as her homemade pumpkin pie comes out of the oven. It doesn’t matter how old you get. Everyone is a kid at Christmas!

Call it nostalgia or sentimentality, if you will, but like the crackle of a cheery fire on Christmas Eve, these melodies warm our spirits and delight our hearts. So, for a few precious moments, let’s all imagine we are gathered around the old upright piano as we hear the Christmas story and sing familiar carols celebrating our Savior. They are just as timeless as the story they tell.

Song: “Nativity Celebration”

Narrator 1: The gifts that lie beautifully wrapped underneath our Christmas trees remind us of the joy that comes from giving gifts to the ones we love. It is the sharing of the gifts with our family and friends that make those moments so special!

Narrator 2: On that first Christmas Day, God gathered the angels, the shepherds, and even some animals to share the joy of the greatest gift given to all of us—the birth of His Son, Jesus! Now God invites *us* to share in this amazing moment with Him.

Song: “Glory to God”

Narrator 2: *(with excitement)* The greatest announcement of all time was made in a most *extraordinary* way. The mystery and dazzling brilliance of heavenly angels brought the good news against the backdrop of an ebony sky to unsuspecting shepherds. But the breathtaking drama was outshone by the very message the angels proclaimed: “Glory to God! A Savior has come!” And every time we proclaim that same message, the majesty of that moment lives on.

Song: “Christmas Classics”

Narrator 5: *(with excitement)* Hallelujah! Praise the Lord for His provision of salvation through His Son, our Emmanuel! Every promise written by the ancient prophets about the Messiah was fulfilled in His birth, death, and resurrection. That is something to celebrate! Joy to the world!

Narrator 3: *(thoughtfully)* Yes, joy to the world! Every one of us longs for it. It is something God puts within us—a desire for pure, unhindered joy. You can see it in the eyes of strangers walking down the street. You can hear it in the voices of those who tell their stories on the news. We can try to fill that void with everything under the sun: entertainment, status, wealth, relationships, knowledge, or whatever we think will give us lasting satisfaction.

Narrator 5: But just like those Judean shepherds discovered on that night so long ago, joy is only found in the One who left all of heaven because of His love for us, so that we might have life and have it more abundantly. I am sure if they could tell us their story tonight, they would simply tell us to run to Jesus. For He alone is the source of our eternal redemption, our continuous blessing, and our life’s purpose. Emmanuel has come. We rejoice with exceeding great joy!

Song: “How Great Our Joy!”

Narrator 1: Isn’t it amazing how the whole world pauses once a year to think of the birth of a baby? Even those who do not yet know the gift of a living relationship with Jesus are reminded every time Christmas rolls around that God sent His Son, and His arrival into our midst so altered our world that it split time in two.

Narrator 2: Wouldn’t it be a tragedy if we celebrated His coming but did not honor His sacrifice for us by giving Him what He wants from us the most ... our worship?

Narrator 1: Let’s take the journey back to Bethlehem.

Narrator 2: Pass through the darkened streets and find the rugged stable. The God of the ages lies in a rough-hewn feeding trough. Can you see Him? Kneel there in the dust.

Narrator 1: To think this tiny one is the Lord of all. Feel the wonder!

Narrator 2: To think this sleeping child is the hope of all mankind. Praise Him from a grateful heart!

Narrator 1: To think He left it all because He loves you. Worship! With everything you are and all that is within you, worship.

Song: “Worship the King”

Narrator 1: (*dramatically*) How? How was it possible for the Light Himself to be born into darkness—the darkness of Bethlehem’s midnight, the darkness of the womb, the darkness of our sin-filled world?

Narrator 2: (*with passion*) But the greater question is *why ... why did He do it?*

Narrator 1: It was all for love ... love that required no merit on our part. Love that defies all logic and baffles human reasoning. It was to prove that nothing can separate us from that love. Not a dirty stable, not rejection by his fellow man, not a bloody cross, not a stone-cold grave.

Narrator 2: “God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us” (*Romans 5:8, KJV*). What else could be our response to that kind of love but to place our faith in Him and trust His grace to redeem us? “We love him, because he first loved us” (*1 John 4:19, KJV*). And once we know the wonder of the salvation provided through His mercy, we cannot remain silent. Our hearts and our lips proclaim forever the everlasting glory of His matchless name.

Narrator 1: We honor Him! We cherish Him! Oh praise Him, all the earth! Hallelujah to the holy Lord of the ages! Joy to the world! The Lord is come!

Song: “My Soul Will Sing”