

## Hymns and Carols for the Christmas Season

*It can be hard to ensure a good spread of seasonal material, to balance traditional and newer songs, and try and include less familiar alongside old standards. In this overview I hope to give a range of hymns over the main services for Christmas and Epiphany without repeating. Of course worship leaders may mix and match depending on their resources and needs of their congregations. Where alternate tunes are useful I've mentioned these too.*

| Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December (if gently moving from Advent into Christmas) |     |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|  | RS  | CH4 | StF | MP  |
| O come O Come Emmanuel   | 126 | 273 | 180 | 493 |
| The Angel Gabriel  | 139 | 285 | 187 |     |
| And Art Thou Come With Us To Dwell   | 136 |     |     |     |
| Infant Holy, Infant Lowly  | 149 |     |     | 342 |
| Shepherds Came Their Praises Bringing  | 156 |     |     |     |
| Go Tell It On the Mountain   | 164 |     |     | 179 |

RS – *Rejoice & Sing* | CH4 – *Church Hymnary 4* | StF – *Singing the Faith* | MP – *Mission Praise*

| A Christmas Eve Family Service  |     |     |     |     |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|                                 | RS  | CH4 | StF | MP  |
| The Virgin Mary Had A Baby Boy  |     | 300 |     |     |
| See Him Lying on a Bed of Straw | 151 | 310 | 216 | 589 |
| Away in a Manger                | 146 | 312 | 192 | 47  |
| Once in Royal                   | 167 | 315 | 214 | 539 |
| Come and Join the Celebration   | 166 | 321 | 196 | 83  |
| What Child Is This?             | 170 |     |     | 749 |

RS – *Rejoice & Sing* | CH4 – *Church Hymnary 4* | StF – *Singing the Faith* | MP – *Mission Praise*

| Christmas Eve Midnight                                    |     |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|   | RS  | CH4 | StF | MP  |
| On Christmas Night  | 153 | 294 |     | 537 |
| While Shepherds Watched   While humble shepherds watched§ | 155 | 296 | 221 | 764 |
| It Came Upon the Midnight Clear                           | 144 | 303 | 205 | 345 |
| O Little Town of Bethlehem                                | 145 | 304 | 213 | 503 |
| Silent Night   Still the Night                            | 147 | 309 | 217 | 597 |
| Hark the Herald   | 159 | 301 | 202 | 211 |

RS – *Rejoice & Sing* | CH4 – *Church Hymnary 4* | StF – *Singing the Faith* | MP – *Mission Praise*

§ This can be much loved and dreary at the same time! It works superbly to [On Ilkley Moor Bah Tat](#)

| Christmas Day  |     |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|  | RS  | CH4 | StF | MP  |
| O Come All Ye Faithful                                 | 160 | 306 | 212 | 491 |
| See In Yonder Manger Low   See Amid the Winter's snow§ | 157 | 313 | 215 | 588 |
| Christians Awake Salute The Happy Morn                 | 158 |     | 195 | 80  |
| Good Christians All Rejoice                            | 161 | 322 |     | 196 |
| Who Would Think What Was Needed?                       | 178 | 295 | 222 |     |
| Joy to the World                                       | 135 | 320 | 330 | 393 |

RS – Rejoice & Sing | CH4 – Church Hymnary 4 | StF – Singing the Faith | MP – Mission Praise

§ Annie Lennox has a powerful recording of this which would make a good intro or outro piece.

| Christmas 1   29 <sup>th</sup> December                   |     |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
|   | RS  | CH4 | StF | MP  |
| In the Bleak Midwinter                                    | 162 | 305 | 204 | 337 |
| Child in the Manger ( <i>tune is Morning Has Broken</i> ) | 150 | 314 |     | 71  |
| Before the World Began                                    | 180 | 317 | 101 |     |
| Of the Father's Love Begotten                             | 181 | 319 | 181 |     |
| O Little Love Who Comes Again                             |     | 329 |     |     |
| Ring A Bell for Peace                                     | 152 |     |     |     |
| The Poor and the Humble                                   | 165 |     |     |     |

RS – Rejoice & Sing | CH4 – Church Hymnary 4 | StF – Singing the Faith | MP – Mission Praise

| Epiphany  |      |       |      |     |
|---|------|-------|------|-----|
|   | RS   | CH4   | StF  | MP  |
| The First Nowell                                |      | 323   |      | 644 |
| Angels from the Realms of Glory                 | 163  | 324   | 190  | 35  |
| As With Gladness                                | 184  | 326   | 224  | 39  |
| Brightest and Best are the Stars of the Morning | 183  | 327   | 227  | 65  |
| Unto Us A Boy Is Born                           | 169  | 331   | 218  | 714 |
| We Three Kings                                  |      |       |      | 740 |
| [O] Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness  | 187  | 201   | 34   | 529 |
| Hail To the Lord's Anointed                     | 127§ | 474*§ | 228§ | 204 |

RS – Rejoice & Sing | CH4 – Church Hymnary 4 | StF – Singing the Faith | MP – Mission Praise

§ Hail to the Lord's Anointed goes very well to Ellacombe

\* add the verse about the kings...Kings shall fall down before Him | And gold and incense bring; | All nations shall adore Him, | His praise all people sing; | For He shall have dominion | O'er river, sea, and shore, | Far as the eagle's pinion, | Or dove's light wing can soar.