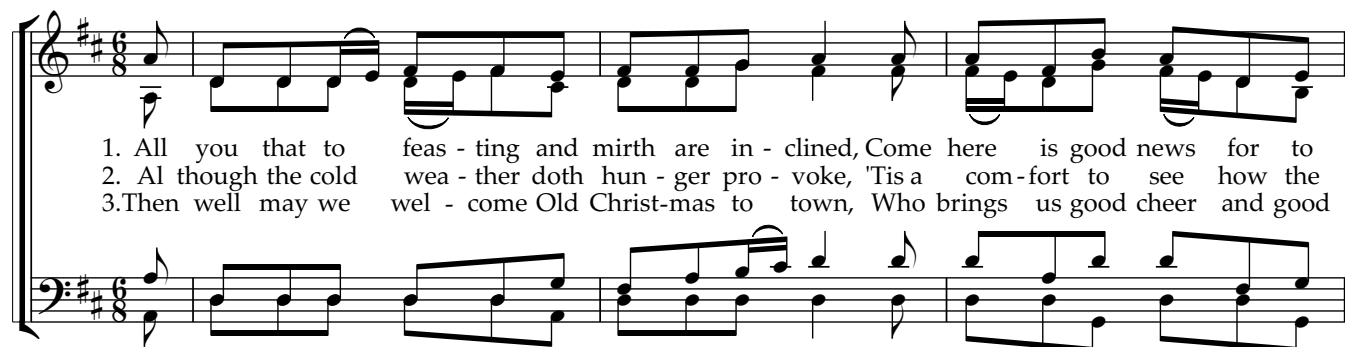


Old Christmas Is Come

Christmas Letter 2023

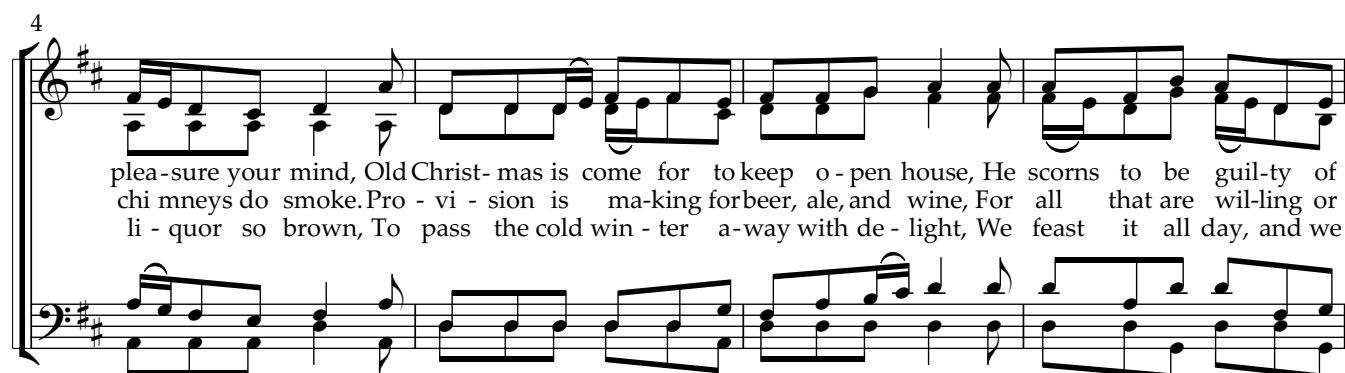
Lyrics collected by William Sandys (1792-1874)

Music by Matt Wheeler (b. 1988)



1. All you that to fea - ting and mirth are in - clined, Come here is good news for to
2. Al though the cold wea - ther doth hun - ger pro - voke, 'Tis a com - fort to see how the
3. Then well may we wel - come Old Christ - mas to town, Who brings us good cheer and good

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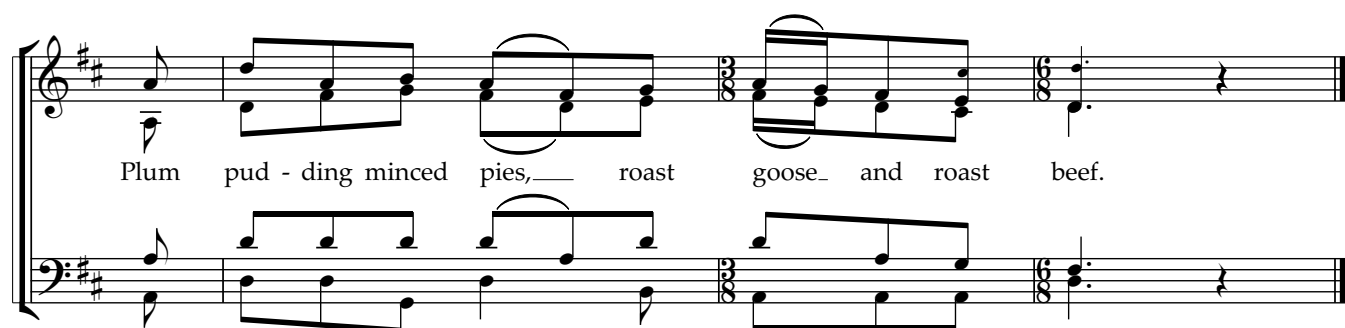


plea - sure your mind, Old Christ - mas is come for to keep o - pen house, He scorns to be guil - ty of
chi mneys do smoke. Pro - vi - sion is ma - king for beer, ale, and wine, For all that are wil - ling or
li - quor so brown, To pass the cold win - ter a - way with de - light, We feast it all day, and we

8



star - ving a mouse. Then come, boys, and wel - come for di - et the chief,
rea - dy to dine. Then haste to the kit - chen, for di - et the chief,
fro - lic all night. Both hun - ger and cold we keep out with re - lief,



Plum pud - ding minced pies, — roast goose and roast beef.

1. All you that to feasting and mirth are inclined,
Come here is good news for to pleasure your mind,
Old Christmas is come for to keep open house,
He scorns to be guilty of starving a mouse!
Then come, boys, and welcome for diet the chief,
Plum-pudding, minced pies, roast goose and roast beef.

2. Although the cold weather doth hunger provoke,
'Tis a comfort to see how the chimneys do smoke.
Provision is making for beer, ale, and wine,
For all that are willing or ready to dine.
Then haste to the kitchen, for diet the chief –
Plum-pudding, minced pies, roast goose and roast beef.

3. The holly and ivy about the walls wind,
And show that we ought to our neighbours be kind,
Inviting each other for pastime and sport,
And where we best fare, there we most do resort,
We fail not for victuals, and that of the chief,
Plum-pudding, minced pies, roast goose and roast beef.

4. All travellers, as they do pass on their way,
At gentlemen's halls are invited to stay,
Themselves to refresh, and their horses to rest,
Since that he must be Dear Old Christmas's guest.
The poor shall not wait, but have, for relief,
Plum-pudding, minced pies, roast goose and roast beef.

5. The butler and baker, they now may be glad,
The times they are mended, though they have been bad.
The brewer, he likewise may be of good cheer,
He shall have good trading for ale and strong beer.
All trades shall be jolly, and have, for relief,
Plum-pudding, minced pies, roast goose and roast beef.

6. The cooks shall be busied, by day and by night,
In roasting and boiling, for taste and delight.
Their senses in liquor that's nappy they'll steep,
Though they be afforded to have little sleep.
They still are employed for to dress us, in brief,
Plum-pudding, minced pies, roast goose and roast beef.

7. Young gallants and ladies shall foot it along,
Each room in the house to the music shall throng,
Whilst jolly carouses about they shall pass,
And each country swain trip about with his lass.
Meantime goes the caterer to fetch in the chief
Plum-pudding, minced pies, roast goose and roast beef.

8. Then well may we welcome Old Christmas to town,
Who brings us good cheer and liquor so brown,
To pass the cold winter away with delight,
We feast it all day, and we frolic all night.
Both hunger and cold we keep out with relief,
Plum-pudding, minced pies, roast goose and roast beef.