

# Pagan Covers

## Popular songs with adapted Pagan lyrics



- For Mothers' Night
  - Tune of Silent Night
- Gods rest you Merry Pagan folk
  - Tune of God's rest you merry gentlemen
- Solar Carol -
  - Tune of Angels we have Heard on High
- White Solstice
  - Tune White Christmas
- The Holly and the Ivy
  - Adapted version
- We wish you a Happy Solstic
  - Tune of We wish you a Merry Christmas



- The Little Swallow (Shchedryk)
  - The original folk song that inspired Carol of the bells and some of the history

By Rev. Marie Durkan

# FOR MOTHER'S NIGHT

Tune of Silent Night

Peaceful night, Mothers Night  
Beloved women, shining bright  
Heartbeat to heartbeat, an unbroken song  
Wisdom given and love passed on  
Guide our way, help us grow  
Guide our way, help us grow.

Wonderous night, Mothers Night  
Seen and unseen, guiding lights  
Mortal, immortal we honor you here  
For your journeys, your laughter, your tears  
Praise our blessed Disir  
Praise our blessed Disir.

Silent Night Holy Night  
All is calm, all is bright  
Lives made beautiful through your deeds,  
Hands that worked to fulfil others' needs  
Mothers Dear fill this space  
And bless us all with your grace.



From Green Egg Magazine

# Gods Rest ye Merry, Paganfolk

Tune of God Rest ye Merry Gentlemen

Gods rest ye merry Pagan folk  
Let nothing you dismay  
Remember that the Sun returns  
Upon this Solstice Day!  
The growing dark is ended now  
And Spring is on its way

*O, tidings of comfort and joy!*

*Comfort and joy!*

*O, tidings of comfort and joy!*

The winter's worst still lies ahead  
Fierce tempest, snow and rain!  
Beneath the blanket on the ground  
The spark of life remains!  
The Sun's warm rays caress the seeds  
To raise Life's songs again!

*O, tidings of comfort and joy!*

*Comfort and joy!*

*O, tidings of comfort and joy!*

Within the blessed apple lies  
The promise of the Queen  
For from this pentacle shall rise  
The orchards fresh and green  
The Earth shall blossom once again  
The air be sweet and clean!

*O, tidings of comfort and joy!*

*Comfort and joy!*

*O, tidings of comfort and joy!*

By Adam Austill, Court Dorsey, Charlie King, Marcia Taylor

# SOLAR CAROL

Tune of Angels we have Heard on High

See the sun how bright it shines, on the nations of the earth  
All who share this thing called life celebrate each day's rebirth

(chorus)

So-o-o-o-lar power, inexpensive energy

So-o-o-o-lar power, inexpensive energy

Brother river so your hear how the valley calls you down  
Send your rushing waters near, let the joyful hills resound

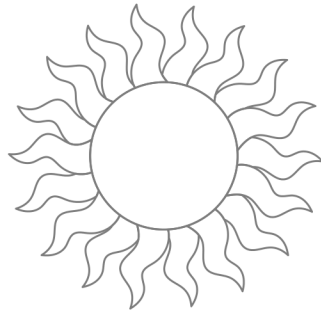
(chorus)

So-o-o-o-lar power, inexpensive energy

So-o-o-o-lar power, inexpensive energy

Sister wind we've heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plain  
And the windmills in reply echoing their glad refrain

How we love complexity when the answer's rather plain  
Join the sun in jubilee, sing with us this joyous strain



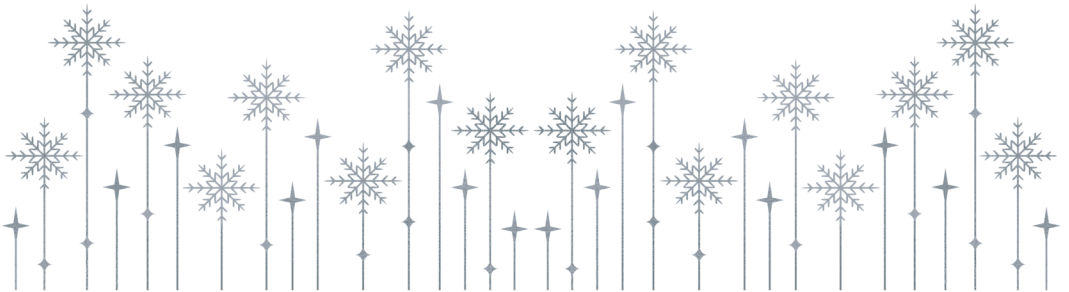
Adaptation by Cori Greyhawk

# WHITE SOLSTICE

Tune of White Christmas

I'm dreaming of a white Solstice  
Just like the ones I used to know  
Where the tree bough glisten  
And children listen  
To hear sleigh bells in the snow,

I said, I'm dreaming of a clear Solstice  
With every Yuletide fire I light  
May your days be merry and bright  
And may all your Solstice be white



# The Holly and the Ivy

Adapted by Karen Deal Robinson

Oh the holly and the ivy,  
Now they are both full grown,  
Of all the trees that are in the wood  
The holly bears the crown.

*Oh the rising of the sun,  
The running of the deer.  
All merry folk arise and sing  
To greet the dawning year.*

Oh the holly bears a berry  
As red as any blood,  
And the ivy grows beneath the snows  
That blanket all the wood.

*Oh the rising of the sun,  
The running of the deer.  
All merry folk arise and sing  
To greet the dawning year.*

Oh the holly bears a blossom  
As white as any flower,  
And the ivy turns the winter wood  
To a green and leafy bower.

*Oh the rising of the sun,  
The running of the deer.  
All merry folk arise and sing  
To greet the dawning year.*

Oh the holly bears a bark  
Bitter as any gall,  
And the ivy leaves are shaped like stars  
In the skies above us all.

*Oh the rising of the sun,  
The running of the deer.  
All merry folk arise and sing  
To greet the dawning year.*

Oh the holly bears a prickle  
As sharp as any thorn,  
And the ivy climbs on hills and towers  
To greet the Yuletide morn.

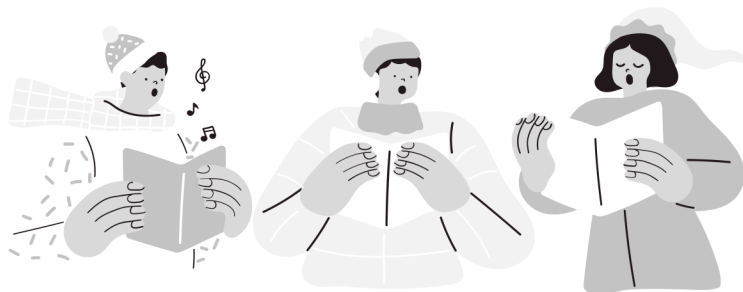
*Oh the rising of the sun,  
The running of the deer.  
All merry folk arise and sing  
To greet the dawning year.*



# WE WISH YOU A HAPPY SOLSTICE

Tune of "We Wish You A Merry Christmas!"

We wish you a happy Solstice  
We wish you a happy Solstice  
We wish you a happy Solstice  
And a night of Good Cheer  
Season's Greetings we bring  
To all far and near  
We wish you a happy Solstice  
And a night of Good Cheer!!!











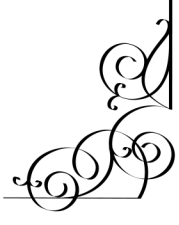
# THE LITTLE SWALLOW (SHCHEDRYK)

The origin story for Carol of the Bells  
“Shchedryk” was arranged by Ukrainian  
composer Mykola Leontovych at the  
beginning of the 20th century.  
The song is based on the traditional  
Ukrainian folk chant welcoming the  
New Year (“shchedrivka”).



In 1921, the Ukrainian National Chorus  
sung the song in the United States to a  
sold-out audience at Carnegie Hall.  
Later, Peter J. Wilhousky rearranged the  
melody for orchestra and wrote the new  
lyrics in English thus creating “Carol of  
the Bells”.

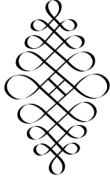
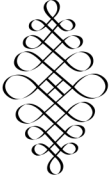
The original “Shchedryk” by Leontovych  
was intended to be sung a cappella by  
mixed four-voice choir.





# THE LITTLE SWALLOW (SHCHEDRYK)

Shchedryk, shchedryk, shchedrivochka  
Here flew the swallow from afar  
Started to sing lively and loud  
Asking the master to come out  
Come here, oh come, master – it's time  
In the sheepfold wonders to find  
Your lovely sheep have given birth  
To little lambs of great worth  
All of your wares are very fine  
Coin you will have in a big pile  
All of your wares are very fine  
Coin you will have in a big pile  
You have a wife Fair as a dove  
If not the coin, then the chaff  
You have a wife fair as a dove



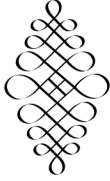
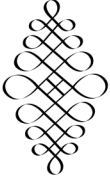


# THE LITTLE SWALLOW (SHCHEDRYK)

This is a poetic translation of the **original** lyrics for Carol of the Bells  
Translation by Bob Chilcott



Happy New Year, season of cheer  
High in the sky, swallows fly  
Out of the blue, one of them flew

Down from the sky, calling to you  
"Master come out, come out and be  
Thankful for all you can see



Ewes in the field rolling away  
Lambs at their side happy at play  
All that is good, all that is health  
Brings you your joy, brings you your wealth  
All that is good, all that is health  
Brings you your joy, brings you your wealth

But, most of all, standing there  
Your wife with the raven hair  
But, most of all, standing there  
Your wife with the raven hair





# CAROL OF THE BELLS

(SOLSTICE VERSION)

Hark! how the bells  
Sweet silver bells  
All seem to say  
'throw cares away.'  
Solstics is here  
Bringing good cheer  
To young and old  
Meek and the bold  
Ding, dong, ding, dong  
That is their song  
With joyful ring  
All caroling  
One seems to hear  
Words of good cheer  
From ev'rywhere  
Filling the air  
Oh how they pound  
Raising the sound  
O'er hill and dale  
Telling their tale  
Gaily they ring  
While people sing  
Songs of good cheer  
Solstice is here  
Merry, merry, merry, merry Solstice  
Merry, merry, merry, merry Solstice  
On, on they send  
On without end  
Their joyful tone  
To ev'ry home

