

Key: Any

Genre: General

Harp Type: Diatonic

Skill: Beginner

Good King Wenceslas_v3

7 7 7 -8 7 7 6

Good King Wenceslas looked out

-6 6 -6 -7 7 7

On the feast of Stephen

7 7 7 -8 7 7 6

When the snow lay round about

-6 6 -6 -7 7 7

Deep and crisp and even

9 -9 8 -8 8 -8 7

Brightly shone the moon that night

-6 6 -6 -7 7 7

Though the frost was cruel

6 6 -6 -7 7 7 -8

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When a poor man came in sight

9 -9 8 -8 7 -9 7


Gath'ring winter fu-uueel

Other lyrics:

"Hither, page, and stand by me
If thou know'st it, telling
Yonder peasant, who is he?
Where and what his dwelling?"
"Sire, he lives a good league hence
Underneath the mountain
Right against the forest fence
By Saint Agnes' fountain."

"Bring me flesh and bring me wine
Bring me pine logs hither
Thou and I will see him dine
When we bear him thither."
Page and monarch forth they went
Forth they went together
Through the rude wind's wild lament
And the bitter weather


"Sire, the night is darker now
And the wind blows stronger
Fails my heart, I know not how,
I can go no longer."

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"Mark my footsteps, my good page
Tread thou in them boldly
Thou shalt find the winter's rage
Freeze thy blood less coldly."


In his master's steps he trod
Where the snow lay dented
Heat was in the very sod
Which the Saint had printed
Therefore, Christian men, be sure
Wealth or rank possessing
Ye who now will bless the poor
Shall yourselves find blessing

The words to the carol "Good King Wenceslas" were written by John Mason Neale and published in 1853, the music originates in Finland 300 years earlier. This Christmas carol is unusual as there is no reference in the lyrics to the nativity. Good King Wenceslas was the king of Bohemia in the 10th century. Good King Wenceslas was a Catholic and was martyred following his assassination by his brother Boleslaw and his supporters, his Saint's Day is September 28th, and he is the Patron Saint of the Czech Republic. St. Stephen's feast day was

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celebrated on 26th December which is why this song is sung as a Christmas carol.

Lyrics

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