

THE
CAROLS
OF
CHRISTMAS
VOL. 2

A COMMUNITY CAROL CELEBRATION FOR ALL AGES

NARRATION

by Lisa Parker

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Narration

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“Festive Overture”

Narrator 1: Immanuel—God is with us! Immanuel...proof that Christmas is more than a holiday, more than a baby in a manger, and a lot more than gifts and trees and food.

Narrator 2: And that’s why we’re here tonight. We’re here to remember that God IS. He is here, active, right now. His presence points us to the future, when every promise will be complete, for “He who promised is faithful.” (*Hebrews 10:23, CSB*)

Narrator 1: That’s good news! That’s great news! In this world, we need to hear “good news of great joy.” And here it is, for you, tonight!

(music begins for “Celtic Christmas Celebration”)

Narrator 1: *(over intro)* So, with the angels, let us sing “Glory to the newborn King!”

SONG: “Celtic Christmas Celebration”

Narrator 1: In a time when we need meaning in our lives more than ever, many of us either haven’t discovered the deep healing power of Christmas, or we simply overlook it in the stress of trying to get through the season.

Narrator 2: So here we are, listening to “sounds of the season.” Maybe you’ve already wrapped yourself in the joy that comes from reflecting on Jesus’ birth, but I suspect some of us aren’t there yet.

Narrator 1: Maybe you don’t think it’s possible for you. Maybe the last couple of years have just been too hard. Maybe you’ve suffered a tragedy. The last thing you want to think about is celebration.

Narrator 2: Then you’re in the right place! Tonight, we’re going to share gifts Christ brought with Him to the manger—gifts you can open right now! Gifts for the tired, the wounded, the despairing. There’s plenty to go around!

(music begins for “Come, Adore Him”)

Narrator 1: *(over intro)* So come! You have an open invitation. Come and behold Him. Come as you are. Come!

SONG: “Come, Adore Him”

Narrator 2: Few of us would argue that we live in troubled times. There's so much uncertainty...so much unrest in our world. Yet, this isn't a new place. We've been here before.

Narrator 1: In 1863, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow wrote a short poem—one of only a few written in the two years after his wife Alice died when her dress caught fire. The Civil War was raging. The nation was torn apart. Several of his colleagues were accusing him of copying other writers.

(music begins for “Christmastime”)

Narrator 2: *(over intro and through m. 13)* So when he heard the bells ring that Christmas morning... he “thought how, as the day had come, the belfries of all Christendom had rolled along the unbroken song of peace on earth, good will to men.”

Narrator 1: “And in despair [he] bowed [his] head: ‘There is no peace on earth,’ [he] said, for hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men.”

(music only from m. 14–21 here)

Narrator 2: *(m. 22 through 27)* “Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: ‘God is not dead, nor doth He sleep; The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on earth, good will to men.’”

SONG: “Christmastime” *(continues from m. 28 to end)*

SONG: “A Soulful Holy Night”

Narrator 1: We are do-ers by nature. We want to fix, to solve. We want to plan and do. God made us that way for a purpose. But when we stop—when we come before Him—what are we to do? Be still. There will always be things we can do: praise, petition, study His Word, help, serve, go. But what would happen if we just... beheld Him?

(music begins for “Behold Him”)

Narrator 2: *(over intro)* Tonight, be still—and know that He is God. Be still—and behold Him.

SONG: “Behold Him”

Narrator 1: When we come to God, still and quiet, just to behold Him, what will we find? We'll find relief from a harsh, hating world. We'll find rest from the worries of life. We will find ALL that God is—and His Son, Jesus Christ.

Narrator 2: God who put the stars in place! God who sings over us! God who made us in His image and gave us breath! Just God. Only God. We need Him as a child needs

a father. In God we find the hope prophets foretold, the peace of a silent night, the love that redeems us, and joy that never dies—the gifts of Christmas.

(music begins for “Jesu, Joy!”)

Narrator 1: *(over intro)* Priceless gifts—all found in His Son, who “for the joy that lay before him, he endured the cross, despising the shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.” *(Hebrews 12:2, CSB)*

SONG: “Jesu, Joy!”

(music begins for “Lord of Glory”)

Narrator 2: *(over intro)* In the presence of Jesus, every pain, every burden, every lost dream will fade like the fog when sunshine breaks through, because Christ in you is the Hope of Glory.

SONG: “Lord of Glory”

Narrator 1: Jesus is at the center of it all—life, Christmas, eternity. To know Him is to have joy! Not “happiness.” Not “a feeling.” Real joy comes from Christ! It is eternal!

Narrator 2: Joy is a fruit of the Spirit. It walks hand in hand with peace. The power of joy is what lifts us above the circumstances of the world. Even more, joy heals. “The joy of the Lord is your strength.” *(Nehemiah 8:10, CSB)*

Narrator 1: Joy came with His birth, and joy will be complete in us when Jesus returns. In fact, He said, “you also have sorrow now. But I will see you again. Your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy from you.” *(John 16:22, CSB)*

(music begins for “Sing Joy to the World”)

Narrator 2: *(over intro)* “I have told you these things so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.” In His presence there is complete fullness of joy!” *(John 15:11, CSB)*

SONG: “Sing Joy to the World”

Narrator 1: God has given us everything we need! No Christmas would be complete without taking time to worship Jesus, the Lamb of God, who came to take away the sins of the world. The baby in a manger, indeed, became God’s sacrificial Lamb, replacing sacrifices that had been held since the days of Moses.

Narrator 2: Christ’s birth set in motion God’s plan to redeem us by the blood of this child. Our salvation was offered at great sacrifice; but over and over again in the Bible—after tragedy, after defeat, after darkness—came light and healing, restoration, and new life.

Narrator 1: In his Revelation, John saw the four living creatures and 24 elders fall before Christ saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slaughtered to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honour and glory and blessing!” (*Revelation 5:12, CSV*)

Narrator 2: In that great celebration, thousands upon thousands of the redeemed will join the song! Over and over we will praise, “Worthy, worthy, worthy is the Lamb!”

(music begins for “Worthy Is the Lamb”)

Narrator 2: *(over intro)* Let us begin that praise right now! Let us bring honor and glory to the Lamb of God!

SONG: “Worthy Is the Lamb”

Child: *(possibly the child doing solo)* Dear God, help me carry the message of Christmas—that You love us all so much You gave Your only Son. Help me share the love of Christmas with others, because it may be the only light in their world.

(music begins for “Light of Hope”)

Child: *(over intro)* And God? Help me be a light for You. Help me bring hope to our world, because it only takes one flame—one person—to show the way to You. Amen.

SONG: “Light of Hope”

SONG: “Worship His Name Medley”

(music begins for “Lord of All”)

Narrator 2: *(over intro)* So fear not! There is good news of great joy, which is for all people! (*Luke 2:10*)

Narrator 1: Unto us has been born a Savior, who is Christ the Lord! (*Luke 2:11*)

Narrator 2: The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us! (*John 1:14*)

Narrator 1: He ransomed us from the power of the grave! He has redeemed us from death! (*Hosea 13:14*)

Narrator 2: So arise! Shine! For our Light has come! (*Isaiah 60:1*)

Narrator 1: The great and mighty God—the Lord of Hosts is His name! (*Jeremiah 32:18*)

Narrator 2: For His is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever! Amen!
(*Matthew 6:13*)

SONG: “Lord of All”

NOTE: Narrations may be assigned as best fits your program. For longer narrations, it is suggested that at least two or more people are used.