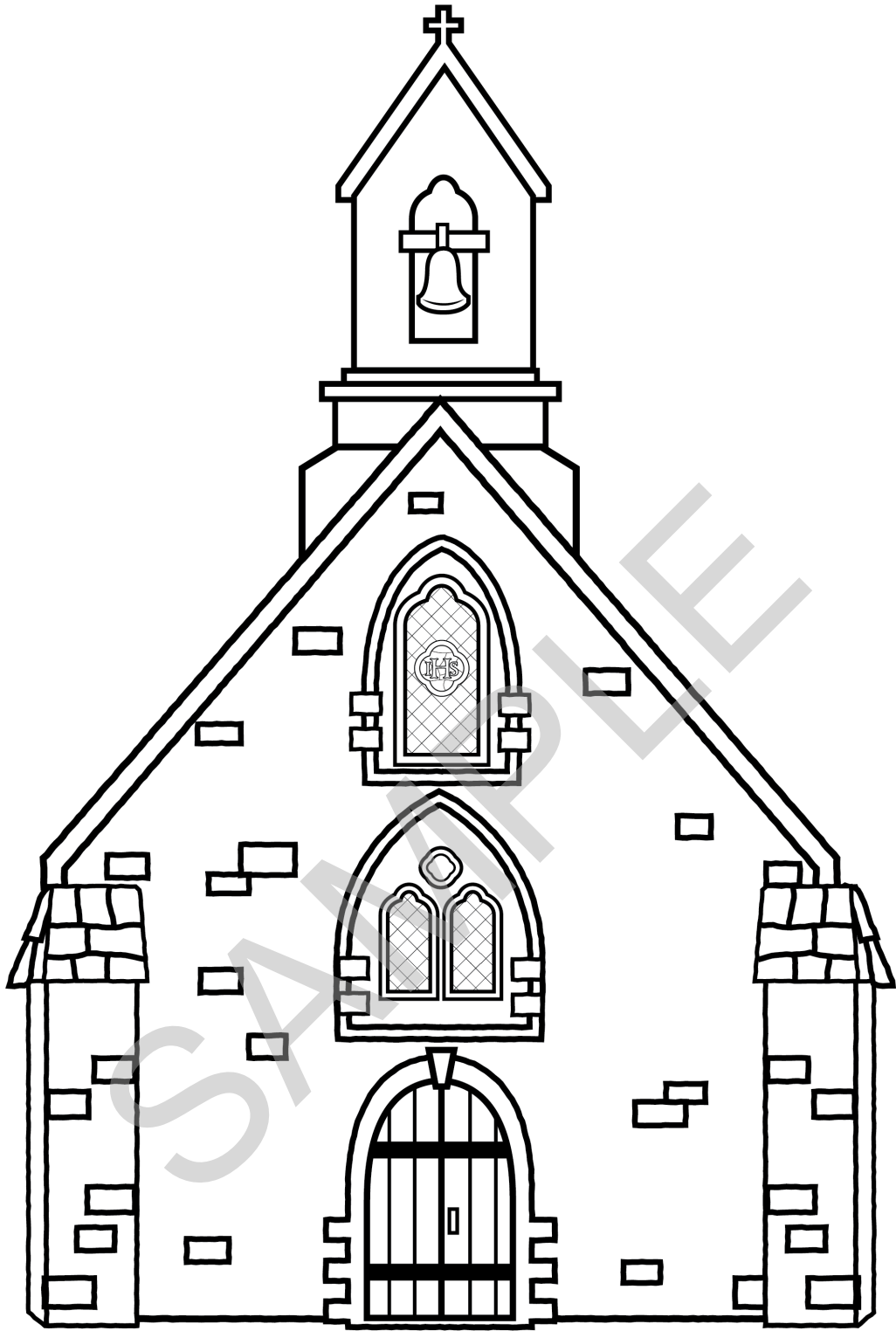


Introduction

Singing Christmas songs is one of my favorite parts of getting ready for Christmas, and I love discovering verses I'm not familiar with in classic carols I've sung for years. This unit includes short excerpts from fifteen popular Christmas carols. Some of the excerpts are well-loved lines while others are from lesser-known portions of the songs. I wish space would have allowed me to include all the lines of these marvelous songs, but that would have led to an extraordinarily long book (not to mention cramping fingers for those doing the copywork). I encourage you to find the full lyrics to these songs and sing them with your children.

The following carols are included. I have listed the authors of the words to the best of my ability to determine (not all sources agree in all cases). The music we commonly sing these words to varies from one version to another.

- "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow
- "O Little Town of Bethlehem" by Phillips Brooks
- "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" by Charles Wesley
- "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" author unknown, translated by John Mason Neale
- "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen" author unknown
- "What Child Is This?" by W. Chatterton Dix
- "Away in a Manger" words attributed to Martin Luther
- "O Holy Night" by Placide Cappeau, translated by John S. Dwight
- "Angels We Have Heard on High" author unknown, translated by James Chadwick
- "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" by Nahum Tate
- "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" by Edmund H. Sears
- "Silent Night! Holy Night!" by Joseph Mohr, translated by J. Freeman Young
- "O Come, All Ye Faithful" by John Francis Wade, translated by Frederick Oakeley
- "Joy to the World" by Isaac Watts
- "The First Noel" author unknown



I Heard the Bells on
Christmas Day

I Heard the Bells on
Christmas Day

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.”



Hark! The Herald

Angels Sing

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hail the heaven-
born Prince of
Peace!

Hail the Son of
Righteousness!

Light and life to all
He brings,
risen with healing in
His wings.

