

# Good King Wenceslas

(1853)

Tuning: D-F#-A

Key of D

Words: John M. Neale (1853)

Music: Tempus Adest Floridum-16th Century

Adapted by Thos. Helmore

Arr: Merv Rowley 2011

The musical score is written for guitar in the key of D major (two sharps) and 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The guitar accompaniment includes chord diagrams and fret numbers for the left hand. The lyrics are arranged in five verses, with some lines of text appearing under multiple measures of music.

**System 1:** Chords: D, D, G, G, D. Verse 1: "Good King Wenceslas looked out on the Feast of Stephen, Hither page and stand by me, if thou know'st it telling, Bring me flesh and bring me wine, bring me pine boughs hither, Sire the night is dark - er now, and the wind blows strong - er, In his mas - ter's step he trod, where the snow lay dint - ed."

**System 2:** Chords: D, D, G, G, D. Verse 2: "When the snow lay 'round a - bout, deep and crisp and ev - en, Yonder peas - ant, who is he? Where and what his dwell - ing?" Thou and I will see him dine, when we bear them thither. Fails my heart, I know not how, I can go no long - er. Heat was in the ver - y sod, which the saint had print - ed."

**System 3:** Chords: D, D, G, G, D. Verse 3: "Bright - ly shone the moon that night, though the frost was cru - el, Sire, he lives a good league hence, un - der - neath the moun - tain, Page and mon - arch, forth they went, forth the went to - geth - er, Mark my foot - steps. my good page, tread thou in them bold - ly, There - fore, Chris - tian men good be sure, wealth or rank pos - sess - ing,"

**System 4:** Chords: D, G, Bm, A, D, G, G, D. Verse 4: "When a poor man came in sight, gath' - ring win - ter fu - el, Right ag - ainst the for - est fence, by Saint Ag - nes foun - tain. Through the rude wind's wild lam - ent, and the win - ter wea - ther. Thou shall find the win - ter's rage freeze thy blood less cold - ly. Ye who now will bless the poor Shall your - selves find bles - sing."