

The Ditchling Carol

$\text{♩} = 180$
Chorus



Verse



(Chorus) Be merry all, be merry all, with holly deck the festive hall,
Prepare the song, the feast, the hall, to welcome merry Christmas.

1. But oh remember gentles gay,
For you who bask in fortune's ray
The year is all a holiday,
The poor have only Christmas
2. When you with velvets mantled o'er
Defy December's tempest roar
O spare one garment from your store
To clothe the poor at Christmas
3. From blazing loads of fuel awhile
Your homes are within summer smile
Oh spare one faggot from your pile
To warm the poor at Christmas
4. When you the costly banquet deal
To guests who never famine feel
O spare one morsel from your meal
To feed the poor at Christmas
5. When gen'rous wine your care controls
And gives new joy to happier souls
O spare one goblet from your bowls
To cheer the poor at Christmas
6. So shall each note of mirth appear
More sweet to heaven than praise or prayer
And angels in their carols there
Shall bless the poor at Christmas