

The cherry-tree carol

Tune traditional

(Verses 7,8) (Verses 5,6,7,8)

1 Jo-seph was an old man, And an old man was he,
2 And as they were walk - ing Through an or - chard so good,

When he mar - ried Ma - ry In the land of Gal - i - lee.
Where were cher - ries and ber - ries As red as any blood

3 O then bespoke Mary,
With words both meek and mild,
"Pluck me one cherry, Joseph;
For that I am with child."

4 "Go to the tree, Mary,
And it shall bow to thee,
And the highest branch of all
Shall bow down to Mary's knee.

5 "Go to the tree, Mary,
And it shall bow to thee,
And you shall gather cherries
By one, by two, by three."

6 Then bowed down the highest tree
Unto his Mother's hand;
"See," Mary cried, "see, Joseph,
I have cherries at command."

7 "O eat your cherries, Mary,
O eat your cherries now;
O eat your cherries, Mary,
That grow upon the bough."

8 As Joseph was a-walking
There did an angel sing;
And Mary's child at midnight
Was born to be our King.