The praise of Christmas

Words Old English

Tune 17th Century

1. All hail to the days that merit more praise Than all the rest of the year, And
   welcome the nights that double delights As well for poor as for peer, Good
   for-tune attend each mer-ry man's friend That doth but the best that he may, For-
   get-ting old wrongs in car-ols and songs, To drive the cold win-ter a-way.

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2. This time of the year is spent in good cheer,
   And neighbours together to meet,
   To sit by the fire, with friendly desire,
   Each other in love for to greet.
   Old grudges forgot, as put in the pot,
   And sorrows aside they all lay;
   The old and the young do carol this song,
   To drive the cold winter away.

3. When old Christmas-tide comes in like a bride,
   With ivy and green holly clad,
   Twelve days in the year much mirth and good cheer
   In every household is had.
   The countryman's guise is then to devise
   Some gambols of Christmas play,
   Where every young man does the best that he can
   To drive the cold winter away.