**Carols for Palestine 2019**

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| **In the Bleak Midwinter** |
| In the bleak midwinterRefugees made moanNetanyahu stood like ironTrump was like a stoneTanks were rolling, tank on tank,Tank on tankThrough the camps of Gaza and the West Bank | How can we stop itIsrael’s cruelty?Silence of the nationsAllows it to be.Where is there a wise manWho could do his part?Tell the world to stop it With its heart |

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| **Once in Royal David’s City** |
| Once in royal David’s cityStood a big apartheid wall:People entering and leavingHad to pass a checkpoint hall.Bethlehem is strangulated,And her children segregated. | Though this City is a symbolTo the world of peace and love,Concrete walls have closed around her,Settlements expand above.And apartheid Israel standsAll around on stolen lands. |
| David’s people once instructed All the world in righteousness:Once they spoke of truth and justice,Israel’s leaders now oppress.All who look at Bethlehem, Must speak out the truth to them. |  |

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| **O Broken town of Bethlehem** |
| O broken town of Bethlehem your people long for peace,But curfews, raids and barricades have brought them to their kneesYet still they long for justice, and still they make their stand.Their hopes and fears still echo down the yearsCome heal this holy land. | O holy child of Bethlehem, a royal refugee.Your place of birth, now hell on earth, through our complicity.The innocents still suffer, their backs against the wall.We see the crime, the pain and deathAnd choose to ignore it all. |
| O holy streets of Bethlehem, where watch towers block our view.With armoured cars and tanks and guns so no one can go through.The market place stands empty. The fruit rots on the tree.While loving families strive to buildA life of dignity. | O hopeful town of Bethlehem quite soon your day will comeWhen tanks go back to Israel and prison walls are gone.Go tell it on the mountain and spread it o’er the plainThe ancient land of PalestineA nation once again. |

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| **O come all ye faithful** |
| O come all ye faithfulThose who care for justice,O look ye, o look ye at Bethlehem. | Come and behold it,Under occupation.O come let’s not ignore it (3), Tell the world. |
| Sing all ye peopleSing in indignationBe with the citizens of Bethlehem. | Sing out for justice, Freedom from oppression.O come let’s not ignore it (3), Tell the world. |
| O come all ye faithfulThose who care for justice,O look ye, o look ye at Bethlehem. | Come and behold it,Under occupation.O come let’s not ignore it (3), Tell the world. |

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| **While Shepherds Watched** |
| While shepherds watched their flocks by night,All seated on the ground,Some occupying soldiers cameAnd bulldozed all around. | "Fear not", said one, for mighty dreadHad seized their troubled mind;"We will not do you any harm,For we are good and kind. |
| We're forced to confiscate your landTo build ourselves a fenceTo keep our people safe from allYour people's violence. | Some fields will stay, although cut off,But access won't be banned;Yes, permits we will give to youTo visit your own land. |
| For in the middle of this fenceWe will construct a gate,And open it at certain times,Though you may have to wait. | However, to your flocks of sheepThis access is denied;We don't give permits out to sheep,So they must stay inside. |
| You say that sheep need pasturelandTo feed or they will die;I'm just obeying orders here;Not mine to reason why." |  |

**The Twelve Days of Christmas.**

On the twelfth day of Christmas,

Netanyahu sent to me

Twelve assassinations,

Eleven homes demolished,

Ten wells obstructed,

Nine sniper towers,

Eight gunships firing,

Seven checkpoints blocking,

Six tanks a-rolling,

Five settlement rings.

Four falling bombs,

Three trench guns,

Two trampled doves,

**An uprooted olive tree.**

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| **The Olive and the Army** |
| The olive and the armyWhen they are both full-grown,Every olive tree on the West BankThe IDF cuts down. | O the rampaging of settlersAnd the rolling of the tanks;The grinding of the bulldozersAs the olives fall in ranks. |
| The olive bears a berryAs green as any grass;When the owners go to pick the fruitThey're not allowed to pass. | O the rampaging of settlersAnd the rolling of the tanks;The grinding of the bulldozersAs the olives fall in ranks. |

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| **Hark the Herald Angels Sing** |
| Hark, the herald angels sing,"Look what's really happening,While you sing of peace on earth,Eat and drink with festive mirth.Nations, open up your eyes,Stop the silence and the lies,And throughout the world proclaim:There's a Wall round Bethlehem!"Hark, the herald angels sing:"Look what's really happening!" | Symbol of our lack of peace,Symbol that our woes increase,Symbol of the hate and fearFilling places far and near.If peace comes to Bethlehem,It will radiate to them;Nations, join with us to callFor the downfall of the Wall!Hark, the herald angels sing:"Look what's really happening!"(repeat first verse) |

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| **AWAY IN RAMALLAH** |
| Away in Ramallah, no books on the shelfThe young Palestinian tries to learn by herselfImprisoned by curfew, they’ve closed all the schoolsHow can children grow up under Israeli rule | Prevented from harvesting crops from their landthe olives and dates left to rot in the sandSettlers take to the hilltops, take the water suppliesFarmer can’t feed his livestock so his livelihood dies |
| Each mother awakes, wondring who will be goneNeighbour or friend, maybe a daughter or sonThe pressure of curfews, on the mind takes its tollThis cruel occupation eats away at the soul |