Up on the Housetop

B.R. Honby
Adeste Fideles

(anonymous)
This is a traditional French melody which can be traced back to a tune written by Charpentier in 1666. The English sing the carol as "Come with torches, Jeanette Isabella".
Good King Wenceslas refers to Vaclav the Good, who reigned in Bohemia from 922 to 929. J. M. Neale took the tune from a spring song found in Piae Cantiones (1582) and wrote a new text in 1853. The carol is not based on a specific event from Vaclav’s life. In this arrangement, drone open D and A strings have been added to the melody. They may be omitted, or further embellishment added.
The First Noel

old French carol
We Three Kings
Charles Wesley titled the text to this tune *Hymn for Christmas Day* when he first published it in 1739. Felix Mendelssohn wrote the tune in 1840 for the Gutenberg Festival held in Leipzig as part of a piece for male chorus and brass. William Cummings adapted Wesley's text to Mendelssohn's melody in 1856 and *Hark! The Herald* became one of the classic carols.
The original title of this tune is "Nos Galan", which is Welsh for New Year’s Eve. It first appeared in 1784 in Musical and Poetical Relicks of the Welsh Bards by harpist, Edward Jones. In 1881 the tune was published as "Deck the Halls" in The FranklinSuare Song Collection. It has been a very popular carol ever since.
Jingle Bells

This very famous seasonal favorite was written by J. Pierpont. A few grace notes and embellishments have been added to the simple melody. More embellishments and use of "shuffle" bowing can be added to make it sound more like a fiddle tune.
Franz Gruber wrote one of the most popular of all carols in 1818 for the Christmas Eve midnight mass at Oberndorf. It was originally written for voice with guitar accompaniment.
JOLLY OLD SAINT NICHOLAS

Brightly

Traditional

G D7 Em G7
Jolly Old Saint Nicholas. Lean your ear this way!
When the clock is striking twelve, When I'm fast asleep,

C G A7 D7
Don't you tell a single soul what I'm going to say;
Down the chimney broad and black with your pack you'll creep;

G D7 Em G7
Christmas Eve is coming soon, Now, you dear old man,
All the stockings you will find hanging in a row,

C G A7 D7 G
Whisper what you'll bring to me, Tell me if you can.
Mine will be the shortest one, You'll be sure to know.

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