

Notes from the Music Department:

Today for the Music Meditation and the Postlude, I chose two rather obscure songs to share as we begin Advent in anticipation of the Christmas season. "**Celtic Cradle Song (Baloo Lammy)**" is a lullaby from Scotland, sung by Mary to her newborn baby. If you are in a YouTube mood you can find a very musical guitar and bagpipe duet version of this song. Check out Baloo Lammy & The Nashville Celts.

"**People, Look East**" is also less known but very appropriate for kicking off the Advent Season. Set to an Old French hymn tune from the Besancon region, the song first references the "greening" of our homes. "Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table." Eleanor Farjean's lyrics (also the lyricist for "Morning Has Broken") then leave the warmth of the home and journey to the world preparing despite the dark and cold of the coming winter. While on YouTube, you might want to take a look at a group of young singers from the Ukraine. As my source says, "How often do you get to see a bunch of Ukrainian youth in traditional clothing singing a French carol in English in the middle of a wheat field supported by the organ?" The key words that will give you access are Zozulenka & People, Look East.

The lyrics of "People, Look East:"

People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though you long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled.
Even the hour when wings are frozen God for fledging time has chosen.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the bird, is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the star, is on the way.

Angels, announce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.