

Our music today is truly eclectic. Santa Claus on his way to town would be proud of us! "Pat-a-Pan", "The Coventry Carol," and "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" are all four or five hundred years old while "Santa Claus is Coming to Town" and "The Little Drummer Boy" are relative new-comers, showing up in 1930's and 1940's respectively. "The Little Drummer Boy" was actually inspired by the French carol, "Pat-a-Pan," a historical nugget that I did not know when I picked "The Christmas Drummer" for today's Prelude. Serendipitously, my Floridian son-in-law and fellow drummer, Kevin Dolan, sent me this Internet tidbit last night. It had to be included today!

"Mary, exhausted, having just gotten Jesus to sleep, is approached
by a young man who thinks to himself: What this girl needs is a drum solo!"

The Coventry Carol

Lulay, thou little tiny child, Bye, bye, lully, lullay.
Lulay, thou little tiny child, Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

O sisters, too, how may we do, for to preserve this day?
This poor youngling for whom we sing,
Bye, bye, lully, lullay. Lullay, thou little tiny child,
Bye, bye, lully, lullay.

What a treat it is to have special musicians for our service today. Ingrid and Maddie recorded their middle 1800's German piece, "O Come, Little Children," during their lessons at the Wausau Conservatory. A little about the girls:

Ingrid Bennett is a 3rd grader at the Wausau Area Montessori Charter School. She has been taking lessons with Ann Johnson at the Conservatory starting in kindergarten on Maddie Busig's original cello. Ingrid loves to stay busy. She enjoys creating art with any sort of medium she can get her hands on, friends, playing cello, gymnastics, ballet and cross country skiing. She misses her friends at church!

Maddie Busig is a full IB Senior at Wausau East. This is her 13th year of playing the cello with Ann Johnson. She is also involved in Cross Country running and Nordic skiing, student council, and Dude. Be Nice. She is unsure where she will be attending college in the fall.

Our own Louis Pradt needs no introduction! Danika recorded the two of us well distanced from each other in the empty sanctuary, using all precautions. It will be so wonderful when we feel safe enough to return to our regular in-person live music making!