

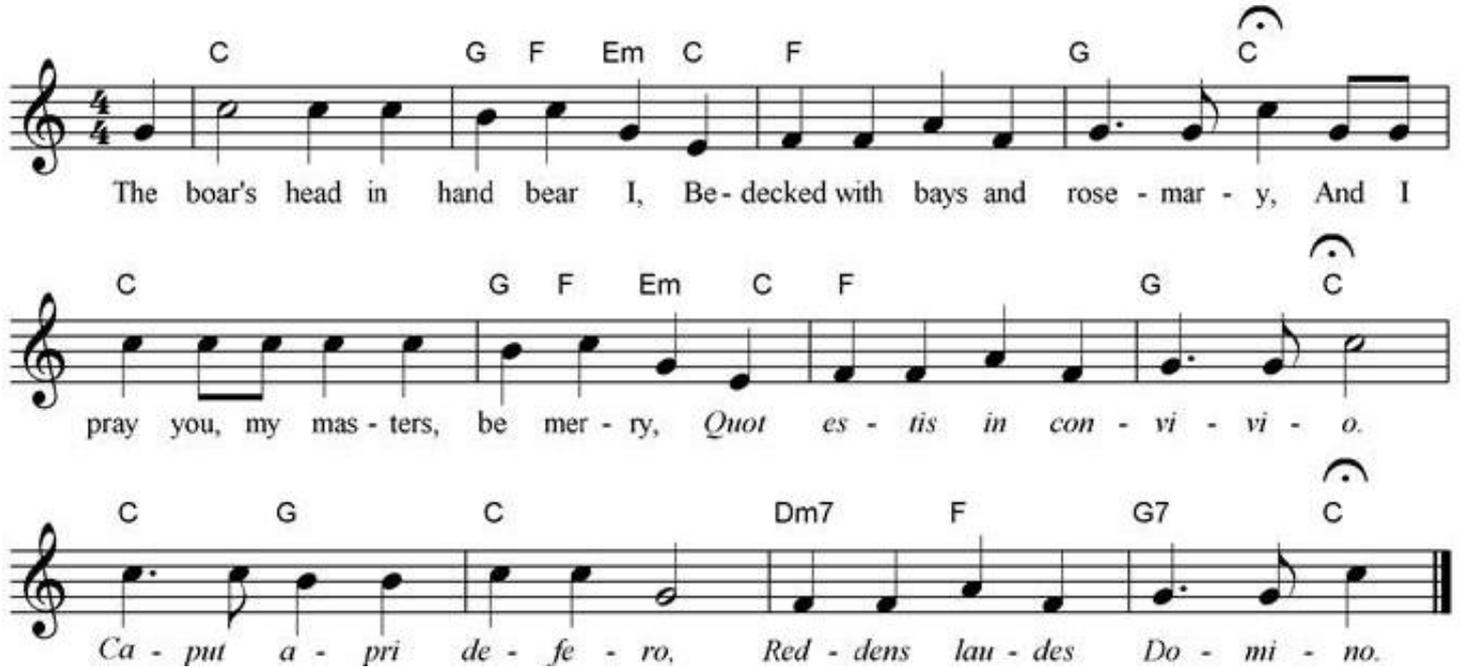
The boar's head carol

<https://riverofsong.uk/>



A Christmas song to sing with stately grace.

The versions you hear nowadays are based on the one published in 1521 by [Wynkyn de Worde](#).



The boar's head in hand bear I, Be-decked with bays and rose-mar-y, And I
pray you, my mas-ters, be mer-ry, *Quot es-tis in con-vi-vi-o.*
Ca-put a-pri de-fe-ro, Red-dens lau-des Do-mi-no.

The boar's head in hand bear I,
Bedecked with bays and rosemary;
And I pray you, my masters, be merry,
Quot estis in convivio (As many as are in the feast)
CHORUS



Caput apri defero (The boar's head I bear)
Reddens laudes Domino (Giving praises to the Lord)

The boar's head, as I understand,
Is the rarest dish in all this land.
When thus bedecked with a gay garland,
Let us *servire cantico*. (Let us serve with a song) CHORUS



Our steward hath provided this
In honour of the King of Bliss;
Which on this day to be served is
In Reginensi atrio. (In the hall of Queen's College)

