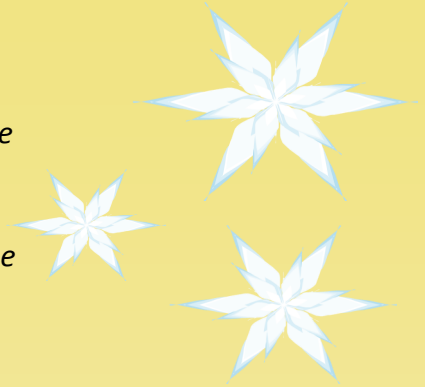


*The Huron Carol is considered the first Canadian Christmas carol. It was originally written in the Huron language by St. Jean de Brebeuf, a Jesuit missionary in Quebec and Ontario from 1625 to 1649, and was meant to teach the Huron people about the birth of Jesus in a way that would be culturally relevant.*

*The carol was preserved by the Huron after Father de Brebeuf was martyred by the Iroquois in 1649. It was later translated into English by Jesse Edgar Middleton and is still sung over the holidays.*



'Twas in the moon of wintertime when all the birds had fled,  
that mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angel choirs instead;  
Before their light the stars grew dim and wandering  
hunters heard the hymn,  
Iesus Ahattonnia, Ahattonnia, Iesus Ahattonnia.

Within a lodge of broken bark the tender babe was found;  
A ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round.  
But as the hunter braves drew nigh,  
the angel song rang loud and high,  
Iesus Ahattonnia, Ahattonnia, Iesus Ahattonnia.

The earliest moon of wintertime is not so round and fair,  
as was the ring of glory on the helpless infant there.  
The chiefs from far before him knelt  
with gifts of fox and beaver pelt.  
Iesus Ahattonnia, Ahattonnia, Iesus Ahattonnia.

O children of the forest free, O sons of Manitou,  
the Holy child of earth and heaven is born today for you.  
Come kneel before the radiant boy,  
who brings you beauty, peace and joy.  
Iesus Ahattonnia, Ahattonnia, Iesus Ahattonnia.  
Iesus Ahattonnia, Ahattonnia, Iesus Ahattonnia.

# Huron Carol

(Jean de Brébeuf, Jesse Edgar Middleton)

