

Silent Nights

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Note: *The following content is a raw transcript and has not been edited for grammar, punctuation, or word usage.*

Well, today at all of our churches and online, we begin our journey together toward Christmas. And as we do, I just want to let you know, I love Christmas. I get so excited when I see Christmas lights going up, I get sad when I see Christmas lights being taken down. But not only that. I love Christmas TV shows and movies. I love 'A Charlie Brown Christmas'. I love 'Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer'. I love 'Miracle on 34th Street', both versions. I love 'Elf' and the discovery of the world's best cup of coffee.

[laughter]

00:27 S1: And I especially love 24 hours of Ralphie on TBS.

[laughter]

[applause]

00:33 S1: Yeah. Love that. But not only that. I love Christmas food. I love Christmas blend coffee, I love the red holiday cups at Starbucks and I especially love peppermint chocolate-chip milkshakes.

[laughter]

00:47 S1: Can I get an "Amen" in the house of the Lord today? Yeah, that's right. But when it comes to Christmas there's nothing quite like Christmas music to get us into Christmas spirit. And when it comes to Christmas music, I've discovered, or observed, that there's two types of people. The first group of people, they believe that you should only listen to Christmas music from Thanksgiving nights to Christmas day. In fact, how many of you would say that to you right now? Yeah. There we are, there we are. That's right. That's right. Now there's another group of people, they believe that it's okay to start listening to Christmas music the day that Christmas decorations go up in Cracker Barrel.

[laughter]

01:19 S1: Which, I think, is around July 15th. Right? I'm not sure about that. So all that said, here is what I wanna do, since we are beginning our journey together toward Christmas, I wanna play a couple of Christmas songs. I recently came across a list of the top 100 Christmas songs of all times. I wanna play a couple of those, that'll get us all in the Christmas spirit and actually one of these is actually gonna lead us to where we need to go today. So I've asked my friends Mary Beth, Ryan and John to help me. Would you do me a favor? Just give them a round of applause for being out here.

[applause]

01:52 S1: So they're just gonna play a couple of these songs and the first song they're gonna play is number 64 on the list. First recorded in 1944 but made most popular in 1945 by the legendary Dean Martin.

[music]

02:57 S1: That was good!

[applause]