**WHICH ON THIS DAY TO BE SERVED IS…**

I think this is our first time to have an *a capella* song in this space. No chords. This great tune has always been one of my favorite holiday carols. The tradition of the boar’s head feast goes back to Anglo-Saxon times. Like many songs from that period, where a large number of literate people read Latin, the song is *macaronic*, meaning in multiple languages. Translation of the Latin lines are given in the footnotes. It is an easy tune to learn. You can hear the song here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8-b6NrfZ8E>, or on the HFMS Audio Archive page at http://www.houstonfolkmusic.org/HFS\_Audio\_Archive.html

The boar's head in hand bear I,   
Bedeck'd with bay and rosemary.  
And I pray you, my masters, be merry   
*Quot estis in convivio1*   
  
*CHORUS*

*Caput apri defero2*   
*Reddens laudes Domino3*   
  
The boar's head, as I understand,  
Is the rarest dish in all this land,  
Which thus bedeck'd with a gay garland  
Let us *servire cantico4.*  
  
*CHORUS*  
  
Our steward hath provided this  
In honour of the King of Bliss;  
Which on this day to be servèd is  
*In Regimensi atrio5.*

1 As many as are at the feast

2 The boar’s head I bear

3Rendering praises to the Lord  
4Let us serve with a song

5In the Queen’s hall