You can use ‘The Magic Wood’ by Henry Treece as the starting point for a Christmassy poem.

Try to keep the line length and rhythm the same but don’t worry about making it rhyme. If a rhyme naturally appears then that’s fine but don’t let it determine the meaning.

1. Firstly take the chorus and adapt it to make it festive:

   The wood is full of shining eyes,
   The wood is full of creeping feet,
   The wood is full of tiny cries:
   You must not go to the wood at night!

   You could start with something like:

   The night is full of **pounding hooves**
   The night is full of **warm mince pies**
   The **house** is full of **relatives / gifts to wrap / unsent cards**

   Make sure that you keep the mood festive and exciting throughout.

2. Now have a go at changing one of the verses.

   I met a man with eyes of glass
   And a finger as curled as the wriggling worm,
   And hair all red with roting leaves,
   And a stick that hissed like a summer snake.

   could become:

   I met a man with eyes of **blue**
   And fingers **clad in gloves of red**
   His hair was **white** as …
   And his steeds were …