

Hymnal 1982 no. 81

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung. It came, a blossom bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind, with Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind. To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior, when half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air, dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere; true man, yet very God, from sin and death now save us, and share our every load.

Words: vv. I-2 German, 15th century, translated by Theodore Baker (1851-1934); v. 3 Friedrich Layritz (1808-1859), translated by Harriet Reynolds Krauth Spaeth (1845-1925) Music: Melody from Alte Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesang, 1599, harmonised by Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)