

**BEHOLD A BRANCH IS GROWING**

1. See now sprout growing  
That beautiful and strong,  
As prophets sang ago;  
That grows from David's family.  
That buds one small flower  
During coldest winter  
Time midnight hour.
2. The prophet told about that  
With words of promise true;  
And Virgin arms now hold HIM,  
That girl humble and pure.  
Through God's always want,  
Holy Spirit gives her baby.  
Time midnight quiet.
3. Shepherds heard that story,  
Announced from angels bright,  
How King and Lord of Glory,  
Born on earth tonight.  
To David's town they hurried,  
And in hay-crib found HIM  
As announcer angels said.
4. That flower sweet and kind,  
Makes all smell sweet,  
And scatters with HIS glory  
Darkness from every place.  
True man and true God;  
From sin and death HE frees us,  
And makes each responsibility light.
5. O Savior, Son of Mary,  
You felt our sorrow on earth;  
O Savior, King of Glory,  
YOU know our weakness.  
We pray, bring us, finally,  
To bright gates of heaven  
And to always day. Amen