

Anonymous 4 - The Cherry Tree - hmu 807453

Texts and Translations

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1. Prophetarum presignata virgo vaticinio
Super celos exaltata mater es a filio

O benedicta circumamicta varietate
Te veneratur quem imitatur angelis amica

Virginum pudica concio stella pudicie beata
Virgo plena gaudio.

Foretold of the prophets, prophesied virgin
you are exalted above the heavens by your son.

O blessed friend, clothed all about in colors,
you are adored, lady, whom the angels imitate.

A crowd of chaste virgins bless the star of chastity,
virgin filled with joy.

2. Nowel syng we bothe al and som

Now rex pacificus ys ycome.

Exortum est in love and lysse
Now cryst hys grace he gan us gysse
And with hys body us bou3t to blysse
Bothe alle and sum.

Nowel syng we . . .

De fructu ventris of mary bryght
Both god an man in here alight
Owt of dyssese he dyde us dyght
Bothe alle and summe.

Nowel syng we . . .

Puer natus to us was sent
To blysse us bou3t, fro bale us blent
And ellys to wo we hadde y went
Bothe alle and sum.

Nowel syng we . . .

Lux fulgebit with love and ly3t
In mary mylde his pynon py3t
In here toke kinde with manly my3t
Bothe alle and summe.

Nowel syng we . . .

Gloria tibi ay and blysse
God unto his grace he us wysse
The rent of heven that we not mysse
Bothe alle and summe.

Nowel syng we . . .

*Nowel sing we both all and some
Now the peace-bringing King has come*

He has arisen in love and joy:
now Christ has begun to prepare us for his grace
and with his body has brought us to bliss,
both all and some.

Nowel sing we . . .

From the fruit of the womb of Mary bright
both God and man alight in her.
He has brought us out of our affliction,
both all and some.

Nowel sing we . . .

A newborn boy was sent to us;
he brought us to bliss and eased our suffering;
otherwise we would have come to grief,
both all and some.

Nowel sing we . . .

The Light will shine with love and brightness:
in gracious Mary he planted his standard.
In her, he took human form with righteous dominion,
both all and some.

Nowel sing we . . .

Glory be to you, and ay, heavenly bliss:
May God show us the way to his grace,
so that we will not miss heaven's reward,
both all and some.

Nowel sing we . . .

3. Alma redemptoris mater.

As I lay up on a nyth
My thowth was on a berd so brith
That men clepyn marye ful of myth
redemptoris mater.

Alma redemptoris mater.

[L]o here cam gabryel wyth lyth
And seyde heyl be thou blysfyl wyth

To ben clepyd now art thou dyth
redemptoris mater.

Alma redemptoris mater.

At that wurd that lady bryth
Anon consevyd god ful of myth
Than men wyst well that sche hyth
redemptoris mater.

Alma redemptoris mater.

Jhesu that syttyst in hevene lyth
Graunt us to comyn beform thi syth
Wyth that berde that is so brith
redemptoris mater.

Alma redemptoris mater.

Kind mother of the redeemer

As I took my rest one night
my thought was on a maiden so bright
whom men call Mary, full of virtue,
the mother of the redeemer.

Kind mother of the redeemer.

To her came radiant Gabriel
and said: Hail be to you, blessed creature!
Now are you chosen to be called
the mother of the redeemer.

Kind mother of the redeemer.

At that word, the bright lady
conceived God almighty;
then men knew that she was called
the mother of the redeemer.

Kind mother of the redeemer.

Jesus, you who sit in the light of heaven,
grant that we may appear before you
with that maiden who is so bright,
the mother of the redeemer.

Kind mother of the redeemer.

4. The Shepherd's Star

1. Hail the blest morn! See the great Mediator,
Down from the regions of glory descend!
Shepherds, go worship the babe in the manger,
Lo! for his guard, the bright angels attend.

2. Cold on his cradle, the dewdrops are shining;
Low lies his bed with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore him, in slumbers reclining,
Wise men and shepherds before him do fall.

3. Low at his feet we in humble prostration,
Lose all our sorrow and trouble and strife;

There we receive his divine consolation,
Flowing afresh from the fountain of life.

4. Star of the morning, thy brightness declining,
Shortly must fade when the sun doth arise;
Beaming refulgent, his glory eternal
Shines on the children of love in the skies.

5. *Newell: Tydings trew*

Newell Newell Newell Newell
This is the song of angel gabryel.

Tydings trew ther be cum new sent ffrome the trynyte
Be gabryel to nazaret cite of gallilye
A clene maydyn and pure virgin thorow hyr humylyte
Conseyvyd the second person in divynyte.

Wan he ferst presentyd was be for hyr fayir vyssag
with most demuere and godly wysse to hyr he ded omag
And sayd lady of hevyn so high that lordys heritag
The wych of the born wyll be i am sent of messag.

Sodenly abashyd trwly but not all thing dessmayd
with mynd dyscret and meke speryt to the angel sche sayd
Be wat maner shuld y child ber the wych ever a mayd
Have levyd chast al of my lyve and never man assayd.

Than a geyn to owre lady thus answered the angell
O lady der be of good chaire [and dred the] nev'r'a dell
Thow shalt [receve] in thy body mayd godes very selle
In whos berth both hevyn and erth shall joye emanuel.

Yt ys not vi monthys past thi cossyn Elyzabell
That was barene consseyvyd a chyld trewth yt ys [y] the tell
Sythe she in age why not in yought ye may conseve [as well]
Yff god wyl whome ys possybyl to have don every dell.

Than a geyn to the angell she aunswerd womanly
Wat so ev'r my lord comand me do I wyll obey meekly
Ecce sum umilima ancilla domini
Secundum tuum verbum fiat mychi.

Newell: Tydings trew

Nowel, nowel, nowel, nowel,
This is the song of angel Gabriel.

True tidings have just arrived, sent from the Trinity
[brought] by Gabriel to Nazareth, city of Galilee.
A clean maiden and pure virgin, through her humility,
has born the second person in divinity [in the trinity].

When he first presented himself before her fair face,
in the most dignified manner, he paid homage to her and said:
lady of heaven so high, the [rightful] inheritance of the Lord

who will be born of you. I am sent with this message.

Suddenly, truly surprised, but not at all dismayed,
with good sense and humble spirit, she asked the angel:
by what manner shall I bear a child,
when I have been chaste all my life and have no experience of
[man?

Then, the angel replied to our lady:
O lady, be glad! You need have no fear at all.
You shall carry in your virgin body God himself
at whose birth both heaven and earth shall praise Emmanuel.

Not even six months ago, your cousin Elizabeth,
who was barren, conceived a child, truly, I tell you.
Since she [conceived] in [old] age, why not you, in youth,
if it is the will of God, who can do anything?

Then, again she answered the angel in a womanly manner:
whatsoever my lord commands me to do, I will humbly obey.
Behold the most humble handmaiden of the lord:
be it done unto me according to your word.

6. Carol: Mervele nocht Iosep

Mervele nocht Iosep on mary mylde
Forsake hyr not tho she be wit childe.

I iosep wonder how hit may be,
That mary wex gret when y and she
ever have leyvyd in chastite
Iff she be wit chylde hit ys not by me.
Mervell not iosep.

The holy gost wit mercifull distens,
In here hathe entryd witowte offens
God and man conceyved by his presens
An she virgin pure witowte violens.
Mervell not iosep.

What the angell of god to me dothe say
I ioseph must and will umble obay
Ellys prively y wolde have stole away
But now will y serve here tillle that y day.
Mervell not iosep.

Iosep thow shalt here mayde & moder fynde,
Here sone redemptor of all mankynde
Thy forefaderes of paynes to unbynde
Therefor muse not this mater in thy mynde.
Mervell not iosep.

Do not marvel, Joseph, about virtuous Mary;
do not forsake her, although she is with child

I Joseph wonder how this can be
that Mary grows large, when she and I

have always lived in chastity.
If she is with child, it is not by me.
Do not marvel, Joseph . . .

The holy ghost, with merciful condescension
has entered into her body without wrongdoing,
God-and-man is conceived by his presence
and she remains a pure, undefiled virgin.
Do not marvel, Joseph . . .

What the angel of God says to me
I, Joseph, must and will humbly obey,
else I might have secretly stolen away;
but now I will serve her until I die.
Do not marvel, Joseph . . .

Joseph, you shall find her both a maiden and mother.
Her son, redeemer of all mankind
will release your forefathers from their sins' punishment;
therefore do not ponder about this matter in your mind,
Do not marvel, Joseph . . .

7. *Synge we to 9is mery cumpane*

Synge we to 9is mery cumpane
Regina celi letare.

Holy maide blessyd 9u be
Godys sone is born of 9e
9e fader of heven thus lyve we
Regina celi letare.
Synge we . . .

Thou art emperesse of heven fre
Now art thou moder in mageste
Y knytte in the blessyd trinite
Regina celi letare.
Synge we . . .

Lo this curteys kynge of degre
Wole be thy sone with solempnite
Mylde Mary this ys thy fee
Regina celi letare
Synge we . . .

Ther fore knele we on oure kne
Thy blysfyl berthe now worshyppe we
With this songe of melode
Regina celi letare
Synge we . . .

Let us sing to this merry company:
Rejoice, O queen of heaven!

Holy maiden, you are blessed:
you bore God's son.

We therefore profess him to be the father of heaven.
Rejoice, O queen of heaven!
Let us sing . . .

You are empress of precious heaven.
Now you are mother in majesty,
pregnant with the Holy Trinity.
Rejoice, O queen of heaven!
Let us sing . . .

Behold, this courteous king of high degree
Will be your son, [crowned] with solemnity.
Gracious Mary, this is your due.
Rejoice, O queen of heaven!
Let us sing . . .

Therefore we kneel down upon our knees.
We honor your blissful childbirth
with this melodious song:
Rejoice, O queen of heaven!
Let us sing . . .

8. Qui creavit celum lully lully lu

Nascitur in stabulo by by by by by
Rex qui regit seculum lully lully lu.

Joseph emit panniculum by by by by by
Mater involvit puerum lully lully lu
Et ponit in presepio by by by by by.

Inter animalia lully lully lu
Jacent mundi gaudia by by by by by
Dulcis super omnia lully lully lu.

Lactat mater domini by by by by by
osculatur parvulum lully lully lu
et adorat dominum by by by by by.

Roga mater filium lully lully lu
ut det nobis gaudium by by by by by
in perenni gloria lully lully lu.

In sempiterna secula by by by by by
In eternum et ultra lully lully lu
Det nobis sua gaudia by by by by by.

He who created heaven, lully lully lu,
is born in a stable, by by by by by,
the king who rules the ages, lully lully lu.

Joseph bought a little cloth;
the mother swaddled her baby boy
and placed him in a manger.

Among the animals,
the world's joys are laid,

sweet above all things.

The mother nurses the lord;
she kisses her little child
and thus adores her lord.

Mother, pray your son
that he may give us joy
in eternal glory.

Through everlasting ages,
through eternity and beyond,
may he grant us to rejoice in him.

9. A Virgin Unspotted

1. A virgin unspotted the prophets foretold,
Should bring forth a Savior which now we behold;
To be our Redeemer from death, hell & sin,
Which Adam's transgression involved us in.

2. Through Bethlehem city in Jewry it was,
That Joseph and Mary together did pass;
And for to be taxed when thither they came,
Since Caesar Augustus commanded the same.

3. But Mary's full time being come, as we find,
She brought forth her first born to serve all mankind.
The inn being full for this heavenly guest,
No place there was found for to lay him to rest.
may he grant us to rejoice in him.

4. But Mary, blest Mary, so meek and so mild,
Soon wrapped in swaddlings this heavenly child.
Contented she laid him where oxen did feed,
The great God of nature approv'd of the deed.

5. Then presently after, the shepherds did spy
Vast numbers of angels to stand in the sky;
So merrily talking so sweet they did sing:
All glory and praise to our heavenly king.

10. Now may we syngen as it is *quod puer natus est nobis.*

This babe to us that now is bore
Wundryful werkys he hath y wrowt
He wil not lese that was y lore
but boldly a3en it bowth
And thus it is ffor sothe y wys
He asketh nouth but that is hys.
Now may we syngen . . .

Hys raunsum for us hath y paid
Of resoun than we owyn to ben hys

Be mercy asked and he be prayd
We may be rith kalange blys.
And thus it is . . .
Now may we syngen . . .

Almythy god in trynyte
Thy mercy we pray with hool herte
Thy mercy may all woo make fle
And daungerous dreed fro us do sterte.
And thus it is . . .
Now may we syngen . . .

*Now may we sing as it is:
for unto us a child is born*

This baby, who has been born for us,
has done miraculous deeds;
he will not forsake those who are lost,
but will boldly redeem them.
And thus it is, certainly:
he asks for nothing but what is his.
Now may we sing . . .

The ransom for us has been paid,
and for this reason, we are in his debt.
By asking mercy and by praying to him
we may claim heavenly bliss as our due.
And thus it is . . .
Now may we sing . . .

Almighty God in Trinity,
we pray for your mercy wholeheartedly.
Your mercy will dispel all affliction
and keep from us the most perilous danger.
And thus it is . . .
Now may we sing . . .

11. Lullay my child and wepe no more
Sclepe and be now styll
Kynge of blis thi fader he es
And thus it es his wyll.

This ender nithgt I sauy ha sithgt
Ha may ha credill kepe
Hand ever schuy sang
Hande sayde in mang
Lullay my child ande slepe.

I may nocht slepe I may bot wepe
I ham so wobegony.
Slepe I wolde
But me hes colde
Hande clothse hauf I nony.

The chylde was swet
Hand sor he wepe

Hande ever me thoht he sayde
Moder dere
Way doy I here
In crache wy ham I layde

Adam gilt
That man has spilde
That syn rues me fole sore
Man for the
Here sal I be
xxx [Thyrty] yere ande mor.

Dolles to dreye
And I sale dye,
Ande hyng I sale on the rode
Wondys to wete
My bals to bethe
Ande gif my fleches to blode.

A spere so charpe
Sale thirll my hert
For the dede that man has done
Fadere ofe blys, Wartu thu has
Forsakin me thi sone.

*Lullay my child and weep no more,
sleep and be still now.
Your father is the king of heavenly bliss
and thus it is all as he wishes it to be.*

The other night, I saw a sight,
a maiden watched by a cradle,
and ever she sang
and all the while said:
lullay my child and sleep.

I cannot sleep, I can only weep:
I am so woebegone.
I would sleep,
but I am cold,
and I have no clothing.

The child was sweet,
but he wept sorely,
and ever I thought he said:
Mother dear,
what am I doing here?
Why am I lying in a manger?

Adam's transgression
that condemned humankind to perdition,
that sin grieves me sorely.
Mankind, for you
will I stay here
for thirty years and more.

I will endure suffering,

and I will die,
and I will be hung on the cross.
To wash away sin
and to redeem mankind
I will give my body to be bloodied.

A spear so sharp
will pierce my heart
because of the sins of man.
Father of heavenly bliss, why have you
forsaken me, your son?

12. Star in the East

1. Hail the blest morn, see the great Mediator
Down from the regions of glory descend!
Shepherds, go worship the babe in the manger,
Lo, for his guard the bright angels attend.

Chorus:
Brightest and best of the sons of the morning!
Dawn on our darkness, and lend us thine aid;
Star in the east, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer was laid.

2. Cold on his cradle the dew-drops are shining:
Low lies his bed, with the beasts of the stall;
Angels adore him, in slumbers reclining,
Wise men and shepherds before him do fall.

3. Say, shall we yield him, in costly devotion,
Odours of Eden, and offerings divine,
Gems from the mountain, and pearls from the ocean,
Myrrh from the forest, and gold from the mine?

13. *Veni redemptor gentium.*

This worle wondreth of all thyng
Howe a maide conceyved a kynge
To 3eve us al ther of shewyng.
Veni redemptor gentium.

Whan gabriel come with his gretynge
To mary moder that swete thyng
He graunted and saide with grete lykynge.
Veni redemptor gentium.

Ambrose saide in his writynge
Cryst sholde be in a maide dwellyng
To make sothe alle that syngynge,
Veni redemptor gentium.

And davyd saide in his spellyng
That truthe sholde be in erthe growyng
To us byer of alle thyng.
Veni redemptor gentium.

Cryst y crowned at oure begynnyng
Be with us at oure endyng
Us to that ioye for to bryng.
Veni redemptor gencium.

Come, redeemer of the peoples.

The entire world wonders how, of all things,
a virgin conceived a king
to bestow on all of us that divine manifestation.
Come, redeemer of the peoples.

When Gabriel came with his greeting
to Mary, mother, that sweet thing,
he acknowledged her and called, with great delight:
Come, redeemer of the peoples.

Ambrose proclaimed in his hymn
that Christ should be made incarnate through a virgin,
to make true every word in that hymn
Come, redeemer of the peoples.

And David said in his psalm
that truth would spring out of the earth
for us: the redeemer of all people.
Come, redeemer of the peoples.

Christ, who is crowned at our beginning,
be with us at our ending
to bring us to heavenly bliss.
Come, redeemer of the peoples.

14. The Cherry-Tree Carol

1. When Joseph was a young man,
A young man was he,
He courted Virgin Mary,
The Queen of Galilee.

2. As Joseph and Mary
Were walking one day,
Here is apples and cherries
Enough to behold.

3. Then Mary spoke to Joseph
So meek and so mild:
Joseph, gather me some cherries,
For I am with child.

4. Then Joseph flew in angry,
In angry he flew:
Let the father of the baby
Gather cherries for you.

5. Lord Jesus spoke a few words
All down unto them:

Bow low down, low down, cherry tree,
Let the mother have some.

6. The cherry tree bowed low down,
Low down to the ground,
And Mary gathered cherries
While Joseph stood around.

7. Then Joseph took Mary
All on his right knee.
He cried: O Lord, have mercy
For what have I done.

15. Salve mater misericordie
mundi salus et datrix venie

Porta vite celestis curie
stella maris decus ecclesie.

Que portasti regem iusticie
miro modo non nostra serie

Miserere huius familie
et a malis salva nos hodie.

Maria ave plena graciae.

Hail mother of mercy
the world's welfare and giver of grace,

gate of life in heaven's court,
star of the sea and jewel of the church,

you who bore the king of justice
by miraculous means, not of our [human] seed:

have mercy on your servants
and save us from evil today.

Hail Mary, full of grace!

16. Hail mary ful of grace
Modyn in virgynytee.

The holy gost is to the sent
ffro the fadyr omnipotent
Now is god wyth in the went
[Whan] the aungel seyde ave.
Hail mary . . .

Qwan the aungel ave began
fflesch & blood to gedyr ran
Marye bar bothe god and man
Thorw vertu & pour dyngnyte.
Hail mary . . .

So seyth the gospel of seynt ion
Gode & man is mad but on
In flesch & blode body and bon
o[n] god in personys thre.

Hail mary . . .

Meche ioye to us was graunth
And in erthe pees [y] plaunth
Qwan that born was this faunth
In the lond of galyle.

Hail mary . . .

Mary graunth us the blys
Ther thi sonys wonyng is
Of that we han don amys
Prey for us pur charyte.

Hail mary . . .

*Hail, Mary, full of grace,
mother in virginity.*

The holy ghost has been sent to you
by the omnipotent father;
now did god go within you
when the angel said "Ave."

Hail Mary . . .

When the angel began his greeting,
flesh and blood ran together;
Mary bore both God and man
through virtue and through dignity.

Hail Mary . . .

So says the gospel of Saint John,
God and man are made one,
in flesh and blood, body and bone:
one God in persons three.

Hail Mary . . .

Much joy was granted to us
and peace on earth was established
when this infant was born
in the land of Galilee.

Hail Mary . . .

Mary grant us heavenly bliss
where your son's dwelling place is.
Since we have done wrong,
be merciful and intercede for us.

Hail Mary . . .

17. Bethlehem

1. While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
All seated on the ground,
The angel of the Lord came down,
And glory shone around.

2. Fear not, said he, for mighty dread
Had seiz'd their troubled mind,
Glad tidings of great joy I bring
To you and all mankind.