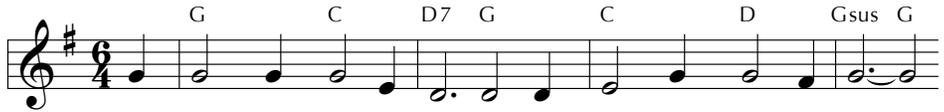


# Prepare the Way, O Zion 106



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!  
2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.  
3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - ior's rule em - brace,

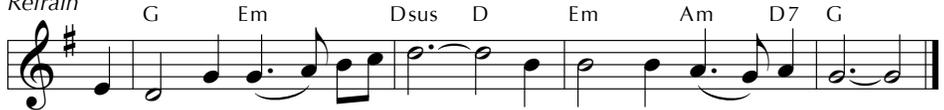


Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.  
His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.  
and ti - dings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.  
Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.  
All lands will bow re - joic - ing, their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.

## Refrain

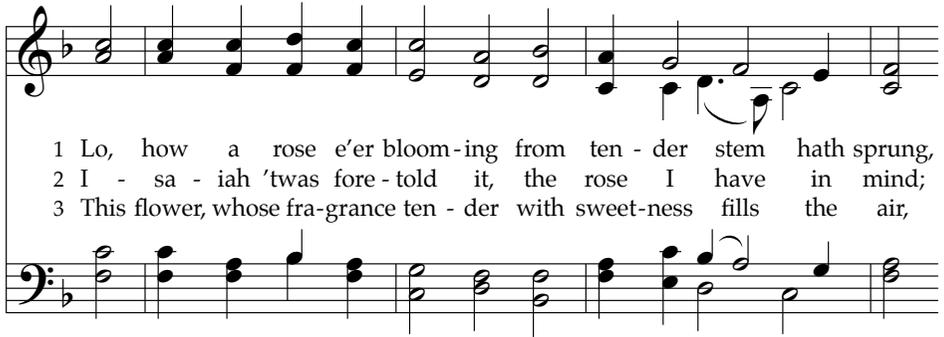


O blest is Christ who came in God's most ho - ly name.

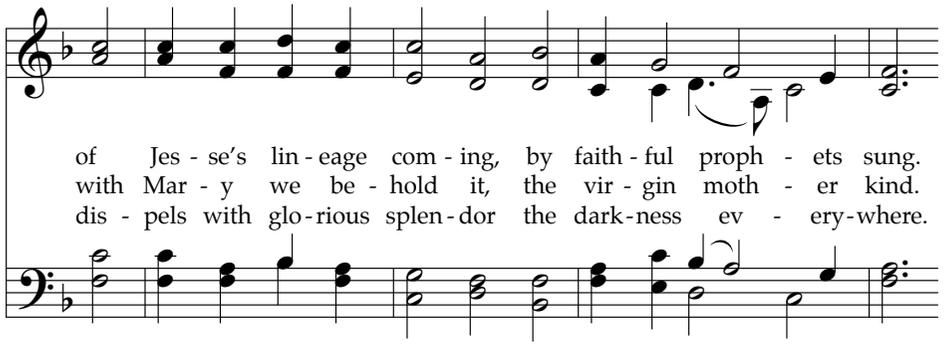
*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

This engaging Advent text based on Isaiah 40:3–5 and Psalm 24:7–10 has been in use in the Church of Sweden for almost two hundred years. It is set to a version of an even older Swedish tune, which in turn seems to be derived from a German folktune that spread to Scandinavia.

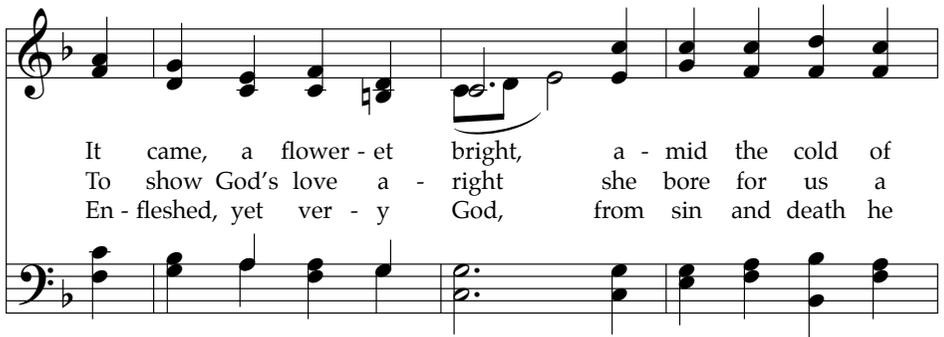
## Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 129



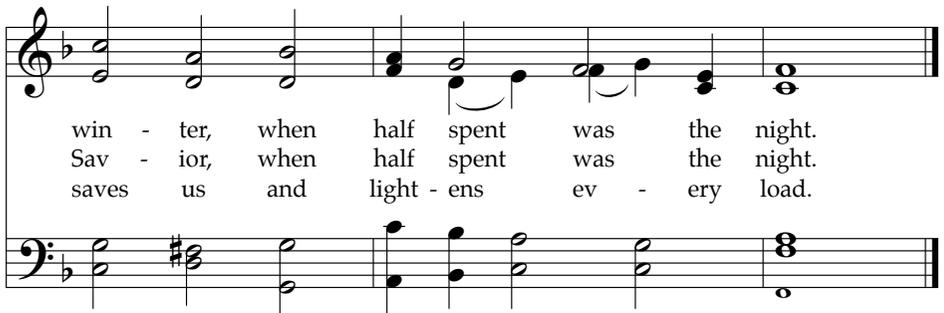
1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung,  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in mind;  
 3 This flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,



of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing, by faith - ful proph - ets sung,  
 with Mar - y we be - hold it, the vir - gin moth - er kind.  
 dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where.



It came, a flower - et bright, a - mid the cold of  
 To show God's love a - right she bore for us a  
 En - fleshed, yet ver - y God, from sin and death he



win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
 Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.  
 saves us and light - ens ev - ery load.

Although the early copies of this 15th-century German text include many more stanzas than are printed here, this simpler, shorter form has much to commend it. This early 17th-century harmonization of the traditional chorale melody invites and rewards singing in parts.

## 362 Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice! Re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;  
 2 See that your lamps are burn - ing; re - plen-ish them with oil;  
 3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing and dark - er night is near.  
 look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.  
 a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this shad - owed sphere!



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon he will draw nigh.  
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand;  
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, watch with ex - pec - ta - tion; at mid - night comes the cry.  
 a - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the Bride - groom is at hand!  
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!



The Latin original of this text based on the parable of the wise and foolish maidens (Matthew 25:1-13) consisted of ten stanzas, but this briefer version is more appropriate for its message of urgency. It is set to a spirited minor Welsh tune named for a Pembrokeshire village.