

SHEPHERDS' AWE

We saw an angel clothed in raiment bright,
And sore afraid, we roused us from our sleep.
We heard the words that soothed our bitter fright:
Glad tidings that a Lamb would save his sheep.

We heard the host of Heaven coming down
And lifting voices high in shouts of praise.
With haste we ran from field into the town
To see the child, and looked on him amazed.

We saw the mother, fair and tender maid
Who gave him life, and wondered at the thing
The angel told, for she had gently laid
Upon the hay her beauteous infant King.

With hearts aglow, we worshipped by his side,
And when the time was come for us to part,
Told all we saw, and loud Hosannas cried,
While Mary kept these things within her heart.

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