Text: James Montgomery, 1821

Hail to the Lord's Anointed, Great David's greater Son! Hail, in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun! He comes to break oppression, To set the captive free, To take away transgression, And rule in equity.

He comes with succor speedy, To those who suffer wrong; To help the poor and needy, And bid the weak be strong; To give them songs for sighing, Their darkness turn to light, Whose souls, condemned and dying, Were precious in His sight.

He shall descend like showers Upon the fruitful earth, And love, joy, hope, like flowers, Spring in His path to birth; Before Him, on the mountains, Shall peace, the herald, go; And righteousness, like fountains, From hill to valley flow.

Arabia's desert-ranger To Him shall bow the knee; The Ethiopian stranger His glory come to see; With offerings of devotion Ships from the isles shall meet, To pour the wealth of ocean In tribute at his feet.

Kings shall fall down before Him, And gold and incense bring; All nations shall adore Him, His praise all people sing; To Him shall prayer unceasing And daily vows ascend, His kingdom still increasing, A kingdom without end.

O'er every foe victorious, He on His throne shall rest; From age to age more glorious, All-blessing and all-blest. The tide of time shall never His covenant remove; His name shall stand for ever, His name – what is it? Love!