

From the Very Beginning

Mark R. Drews

- 1 From the very beginning the Word was with God.
He has always existed and Himself is God.
So the Word became flesh and came among us to dwell.
Our Light, our Redeemer, Our Emanuel.

- 2 First the prophet Isaiah testified to that Light,
How the people in darkness saw a marvelous sight
Of our wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Prince of Peace
Who from sin, death and Satan has bought our release.

- 3 John the Baptist gave witness to that light, pure and fresh,
Of Christ Jesus our Savior, The Word became flesh.
From the banks of the Jordan, he said, "Behold the Lamb!"
'Twas the Christ, our Salvation, and the great I Am.

- 4 To the blest Virgin Mary the Christ child was born
In Bethlehem's stable on that first Christmas morn.
He's the God man incarnate, come from heaven above
To lighten the Gentiles and to show us His love.

- 5 Praise to God the Creator, from whom all blessings flow,
And the Word, Christ our Savior, all you creatures below.
Praise unto the Lifegiver, all glory shall be
To the Father, Son, Spirit, the blest Trinity.

TUNE: HEBREWS

Text and tune copyright © 2002 Pamela Anne Prevallet memorial Fund, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri.

Christ, the Victor

Justin Rossow

- 1 When the devil came to tempt Him In the lonely wilderness,
Christ, my Champion rose to battle Though yet clothed in humbleness.
 See!—His flesh is tired and hungry.
 See!—Here stands the Father’s Son.
Christ, the Victor! Christ, the Victor! Christ for me the vict’ry won!

- 2 Satan fights with deadly weapons—flaming darts, deceitful sword.
But my Jesus can’t be shaken—see Him wield God’s Holy Word!
 See!—The Tempter tries to question
 What it means to be God’s Son.
Christ, the Victor! Christ, the Victor! Christ for me the vict’ry won!

- 3 Far and wide the battle rages—Temple’s peak and mountain’s height.
And the hope of all creation Hangs in balance in the fight.
 Hear the crafty taunts of Satan!
 Hear the shout of vict’ry won:
“Go, Deceiver! Get behind Me! Still obedient is the Son!”

- 4 Mighty Champion! Glorious Savior! Valiant Victor! Conquering Lord!
In my place you waged the battle, Now forever by adored!
 Hear the praises of Your people!
 We proclaim what you have done:
“Christ, the Victor! Christ, the Victor! Christ for me the vict’ry won!”

TUNE: EBENEZER

Text copyright © 2002 Pamela Anne Prevallet memorial Fund, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri.

With These Two Words Geoffrey A. Wagner

- | | | | |
|---|--|----|--|
| 1 | With these two words did Jesus say
He is our God eternal.
He was, will be, and is today
The Lord of all, supernal.
He came to earth, that he might give
Himself to men, that they might live. | 7 | “You are My sheep—to bring you bliss
I am your gate and portal.
Do not be led to the abyss
By prophets false and mortal.
Oh, come through me and to your rest
That waits for you in pastures blest.” |
| 2 | Insert the appropriate I AM stanza. | 8 | “I know My sheep, My sheep know Me;
All under constant guiding.
My voice they hear, My face they see;
All in My call confiding.
For them have I laid down My life,
That in My flock they fear no strife.” |
| 3 | All praise to God the Father sing,
Praise to the Son, forever,
Let praise to God the Spirit ring,
Our God, Who fails us never.
All hail Creator and the Lamb
And Sanctifier, Great I AM! Amen. | 9 | “Surely you live, though you may die,
My promises believing,
And at the last, be raised to life,
My Sacraments receiving.
Believe in Me and always live;
I have eternal life to give.” |
| 4 | “I am the bread of life, most true;
A kind that has no leaven.
Body and blood given for you:
A Holy Meal from Heaven.
Oh, come to Me, eat of this bread,
For with this food, your soul is fed.” | 10 | “I am the way to Heav’n above.
Know Me, thus know the Father.
I speak the truth and give of love:
To God there is no other.
I am the life, and I proclaim,
I cleanse you of your guilt and shame.” |
| 5 | “Oh, look to Me, I am the light;
Outshining ev’ry other.
I shine on you—restore your sight
To show you God the Father.
Come, follow Me, I light the way;
No more in darkness will you stray.” | 11 | “You show yourselves to be My own
And glorify the Father
To bear the fruit that He has sown
And turn to love no other.
I am the vine, remain in Me;
My branches you will always be!” |
| 6 | “Before the birth of Abraham,
Before the world’s creation
Before he took a breath, I am!
And I am his salvation!
He gazed upon My day with mirth;
Rejoiced, a blessing to the earth.” | 12 | “I am the first; I am the last:
The end and the beginning—
In present, future, and the past:
Almighty God, e’er-living!
I am today; I am before;
I am tomorrow—evermore!” |

TUNE: MACHS MIT MIR GOTT

Text copyright © 2002 Pamela Anne Prevallet memorial Fund, Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri.