



Hymns for  
St. Stephen Martyr, Dec. 26  
St. John the Evangelist, Dec. 27  
Holy Innocents, Dec. 28

Text  
Harry Hagan, OSB

for traditional hymns  
*Unison Voice & Keyboard*



*Saint Meinrad*  
*Liturgical Music*

Hymn for the Feast of St. Stephen  
December 26: Liturgical Hymn

Good King Wenceslas looked out,  
On the Feast of Stephen,  
When the snow lay round about,  
Deep and crisp and even;  
In the cold a serf he spied  
And bestowed his favor,  
Welcomed him that Christmastide  
As his Christ and Savior.

Stephen too by charity  
And his proclamation  
Served his King most faithfully,  
Lord of every nation.  
He embraced his Master's call,  
Faith his only armor,  
Dying at the feet of Saul:  
First of all the martyrs.

Let us like Good Wenceslas  
By this celebration  
Join the mystery of the cross  
To the incarnation.  
Let the earth sing: Hodie!  
Jubilate Deo!  
With the angels: Gloria!  
In excelsis Deo!

lines 1-4 by John Mason Neale  
remainder by Harry Hagan, OSB  
June 25, 2002  
Tune: TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM, 13c,  
from Piae Cantiones, 1582.

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# Good King Wenceslas

A Liturgical Hymn for the Feast of St. Stephen Martyr

lines 1-4 by John Mason Neale  
remainder by Harry Hagan, OSB  
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TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM  
from *Piae Cantiones*, 1582

Good King Wen - ces - las looked out On the Feast of Ste - phen,  
Ste - phen too by char - i - ty And his pro - cla - ma - tion  
Let us like Good Wen - ces - las By this cel - e - bra - tion

5

When the snow lay round a - bout, Deep and crisp and ev - en;  
Served his King most faith - ful - ly, Lord of eve - ry na - tion.  
5 Join the mys - tery of the Cross To the in - car - na - tion.

9

In the cold a serf he spied And be - stowed his fa - vor,  
He em - braced his Mas - ter's call, Faith his on - ly ar - mor,  
9 Let the earth sing: Ho - di - e! Ju - bi - la - te De - o!

13

Wel - comed him that Christ - mas - tide As his Christ and Sav - ior.  
Dy - ing at the feet of Saul: First of all the mar - tyrs.  
13 With the an - gels: Glo - ri - a! In ex - cel - sis De - o!

## **Beloved John**

for Lauds on December 27  
the Feast of St. John the Evangelist

Beloved John the Gospel heard  
and gave himself to Christ the Word,  
the Word made flesh of God's own will,  
the Word that dwells among us still.

Beloved John saw seven signs  
that showed Christ human and divine.  
And all who saw and then believed  
have from his fullness life received.

Beloved John the last meal shared  
when Jesus gathered them in prayer  
that as the Father and the Son  
we with and in him may be one.

Beloved John at Mary's side  
saw his Beloved crucified.  
but Easter Day he saw his Christ:  
the living Way, the Truth, the Life.

*Verse for the Feast of St. John:*

Beloved John, we keep your feast  
to celebrate this time of peace  
when Christ, the Light of truth and grace,  
arose to shine upon our race.

*If not sung on the Feast of St. John,  
the following verse may be sung:*

Beloved John, our guard and guide,  
as you in Christ are glorified  
may we be filled with truth and grace  
that we with you may see his face.

February 27, 2008

Lauds Hymn for the Feast of St. John the Evangelist

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, 15th c. German

adapted by Michael Pretorius, 1609

Chant: A solis ortus cardine, adpt. by Columba Kelly, OSB

# Beloved John

Text by Harry Hagan, OSB  
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The Feast of St. John the Evangelist: Dec. 27

Latin carol, 16th cent.  
adapt., Michael Praetorius, 1609  
harm., George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904

Be - lov - ed John the Gos - pel heard and gave him -  
Be - lov - ed John saw sev - en signs that showed Christ  
Be - lov - ed John the last meal shared when Je - sus  
Be - lov - ed John at Ma - ry's side saw his Be -  
Be - lov - ed John, we keep your feast and cel - e -

6  
self \_\_\_\_\_ to Christ the Word: the Word made flesh of  
hu - man and di - vine. And all who saw and  
made \_\_\_\_\_ his priest - ly prayer: that as the Fa - ther  
lov - ed cru - ci - fied. but Eas - ter Day he  
6  
brate \_\_\_\_\_ this time of peace when Christ, the Light of

11  
God's own will, the Word that dwells a - mong us still.  
then be - lieved have from his full - ness life re - ceived.  
and the Son we with and in him may be one.  
saw his Christ: the liv - ing Way, the Truth, the Life.  
11  
truth and grace, a - rose to shine up - on our race.

## **That Worried Tyrant Herod Froze**

Hymn for the Feast of the Holy Innocents

That worried tyrant, Herod, froze  
to hear a child in swaddling clothes  
as David's promised prince was born  
to rule and reign as God had sworn.

Enraged, that foolish king decreed:  
"Let every boy in Judah bleed.  
Lest this pretender's shoot should bud,  
make every cradle run with blood."

But evil triumphed not that day,  
for Christ was safely borne away.  
And Herod by his wicked deed  
sowed martyrs for the Church's seed.

As Rachel would not be consoled  
because her own lay dead and cold,  
let us each life as Christ's defend  
for we on him for life depend.

Hail, newborn martyrs of the Prince!  
Hail noble Holy Innocents!  
May all deprived of life as you  
in Christ be born to live anew.

To you, Lord Jesus, far and wide,  
O Mary's child, this Christmastide  
with Father and the Spirit be  
all praise: Most Blessed Trinity.

Audit tyrannus anxius from the Liber Cathemerinon  
Hymn XII:93-100,133-136,125-129;  
by Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 4th century  
stanza 4 added  
July 16, 2009 at Einsiedeln

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# That Worried Tyrant Herod Froze

The Feast of the Holy Innocents: Dec. 28

*Audit tyrannus anxius*, from the *Cathemerion*  
by Prudentius, tr. by Harry Hagan, OSB  
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PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, 16th cent.  
adapt., Michael Praetorius, 1609  
harm., George Ratcliffe Woodward, 1904

That wor - ried ty - rant, Her - od, froze to hear a  
En - raged, that fool - ish king de - creed: "Let eve - ry  
But e - vil tri - umphed not that day, For Christ was  
As Ra - chel would not be con - soled be - cause her  
Hail, new - born mar - tyrs of the Prince! Hail, no - ble  
To you, Lord Je - sus, far and wide, O Ma - ry's

6  
child — in swad - dling clothes as David - 's pro - mised  
boy — in Ju - dah bleed. Lest this pre - tend - er's  
safe - ly borne a - way. And Her - od by his  
own — lay dead and cold, let we each life as  
Ho - ly In - no - cents! May all de - prived of  
6 child, — this Christ - mas - tide with Fa - ther and the

11  
prince was born to rule and reign as God had sworn.  
shoot should bud, make eve - ry cra - dle run with blood."  
wick - ed deed sowed mar - tyrs for the Church - 's seed.  
Christ's de - fend for we on him for life de - pend.  
life as you in Christ be born to live a - new.  
11 Spir - it be all praise: Most Bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

## Beloved John

for Lauds on December 27

Beloved John the Gospel heard  
and gave himself to Christ the Word,  
the Word made flesh of God's own will,  
the Word that dwells among us still.

Beloved John saw seven signs  
that showed Christ human and divine.  
And all who saw and then believed  
have from his fullness life received.

Beloved John the last meal shared  
when Jesus gathered them in prayer  
that as the Father and the Son  
we with and in him may be one.

Beloved John at Mary's side  
saw his Beloved crucified.  
but Easter Day he saw his Christ:  
the living Way, the Truth, the Life.

*Versé for the Feast of St. John:*

Beloved John, we keep your feast  
to celebrate this time of peace  
when Christ, the Light of truth and grace,  
arose to shine upon our race.

If not sung on the Feast, the following verse may be sung:

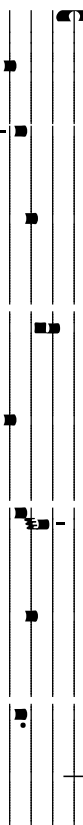
Beloved John, our guard and guide,  
as you in Christ are glorified  
may we be filled with truth and grace  
that we with you may see his face.

February 27, 2008

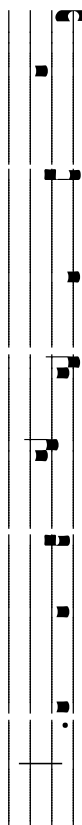
Lauds Hymn for the Feast of St. John the Evangelist

Metric Tune: Puer nobis nascitur, 15th c. German  
adapted by Michael Pretorius, 1609

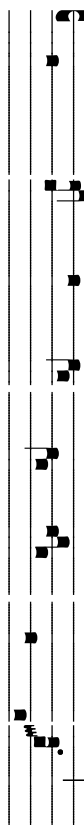
## Beloved John



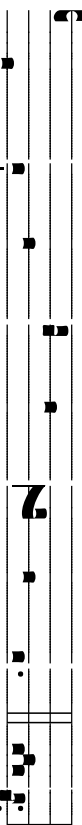
1. Be- lov- ed John the Gos- pel heard  
2. Be- lov- ed John saw sev- en signs  
3. Be- lov- ed John the last meal shared  
4. Be- lov- ed John at Mar- y's side  
5. Be- lov- ed John, we keep your feast



1. and gave him- self to Christ the Word:  
2. that showed Christ hu- man and di- vine.  
3. saw his Be- lov- ed cru- ci- fied.  
4. when Jes- us made his priest- ly prayer  
5. to cel- e- brate this time of peace



1. the Word made flesh of God's own will,  
2. And all who saw and then be- lieved  
3. that as the Fa- ther and the Son  
4. But Eas- ter Day he saw his Christ:  
5. when Christ, the Light of truth and grace,



1. the Word that dwells a- mong us still.  
2. have from his full- ness life re- ceived.  
3. we with and in Him may be one.  
4. the liv- ing Way, the Truth, the Life.  
5. a- rose to shine up- on our race. Amen

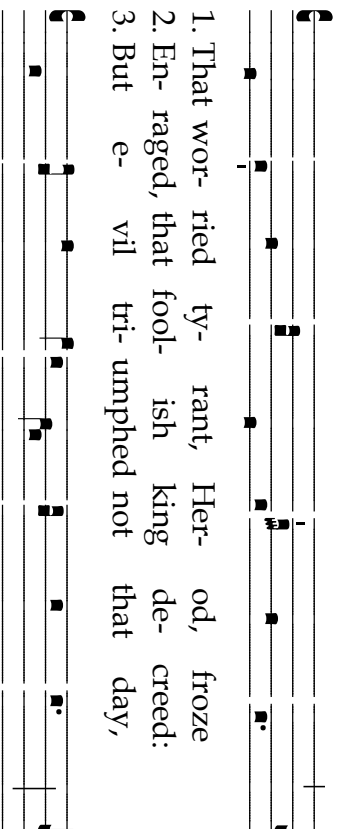
Lauds Hymns for John the Evangelist, HH, 2008

Tune: *A solis ortus cardine*, adpt. CK

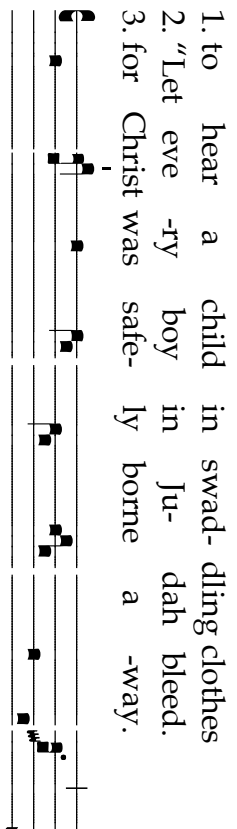


# That Worried Tyrant Herod Froze

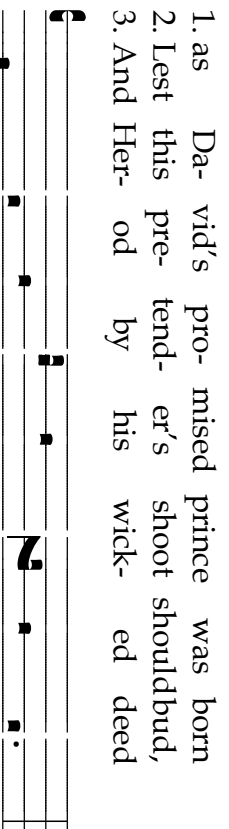
Hymn for the Feast of the Holy Innocents



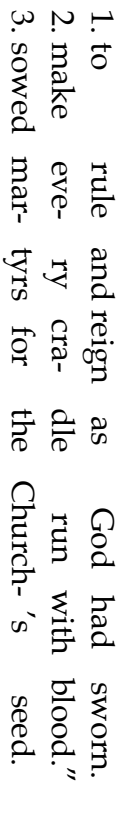
1. That wor-ried ty-rant, Her-od, froze  
2. En-raged, that fool-ish king de-creed:  
3. But e-vil tri-umphed not that day,



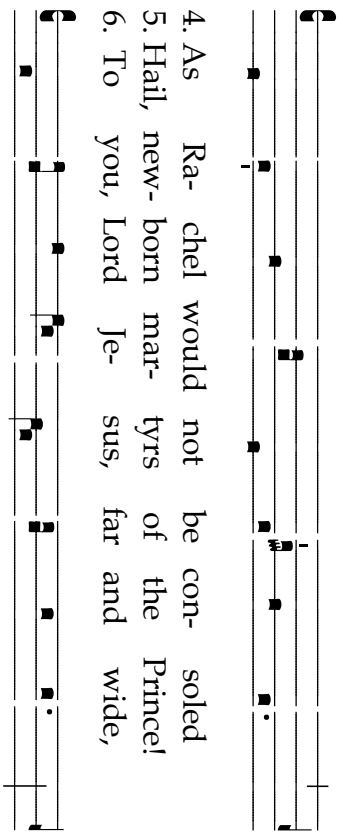
1. to hear a child in swad-dling clothes  
2. "Let eve-ry boy in Ju-dah bleed.  
3. for Christ was safe-ly borne a -way.



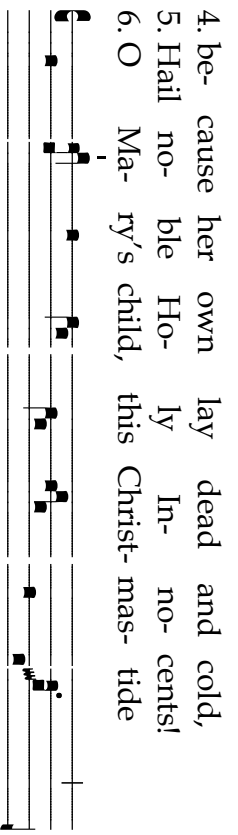
1. as Da-vid's pro-mised prince was born  
2. Lest this pre-tend-er's shoot shouldbud,  
3. And Her-od by his wick-ed deed



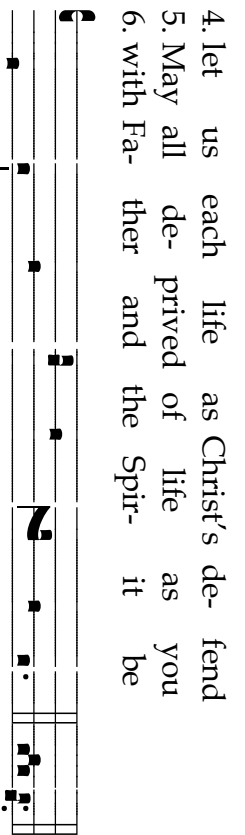
1. to rule and reign as God had sworn.  
2. make eve-ry cra-dle run with blood."  
3. sowed mar-tyrs for the Church-'s seed.



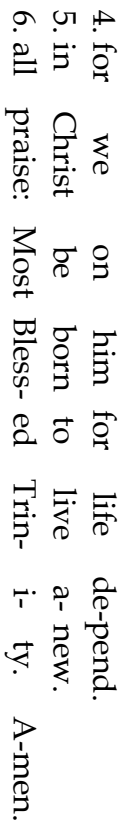
4. As Ra-chel would not be con-soled  
5. Hail, new-born mar-tyrs of the Prince!  
6. To you, Lord Je-sus, far and wide,



4. be-cause her own lay dead and cold,  
5. Hail no-ble Ho-ly In-no-cents!  
6. O Ma-ry's child, this Christ-mas-tide



4. let us each life as Christ's de-fend  
5. May all de-priv'd of life as you  
6. with Fa-ther and the Spir-it be



4. for we on him for life de-pend.  
5. in Christ be born to live a-new.  
6. all praise: Most Bless-ed Trin-i-ty. A-men.

*Audite tyrannus anxius* from the *Liber Cathemerinon*  
Hymn XII:93-100,133-136,125-129;  
by Aurelius Prudentius Clemens, 4th century  
stanza 4 added  
July 16, 2009 at Emsiedeln







*Saint Meinrad*  
*Liturgical Music*

Saint Meinrad Archabbey  
100 Hill Drive  
Saint Meinrad, IN 47577-1010  
Fax: 812-357-6837  
[www.saintmeinradmusic.org](http://www.saintmeinradmusic.org)