

remember Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas Day,  
to save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray,

*O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

In Bethlehem, in Judah, this blessed Babe was born,  
and laid within a manger, upon this blessed morn;  
the which his Mother Mary did nothing take in scorn.

From God our heavenly Father, a blessed angel came;  
and unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same;  
how that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name:

"Fear not then", said the angel, "Let nothing you affright,  
this day is born a Saviour of a pure virgin bright,  
to free all those who trust in him from Satan's power and might."

The shepherds at those tidings rejoiced much in mind,  
and left their flocks a-feeding in tempest, storm and wind;  
and went to Bethlehem straightway the Son of God to find.

And when they came to Bethlehem where our dear Saviour lay,  
they found him in a manger, where oxen feed on hay;  
his mother Mary kneeling down unto the Lord did pray.

Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,  
and with true love and friendship each other now embrace;  
this holy tide of Christmas all other doth deface.

#### **OFFERTORY – Hail to the Lord's anointed** *(Book no 241)*

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 shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,