

Adapted from
Samuel Stennett, 1787
86. 86. (C. M.)

Joyful Tidings

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D Major
Oliver Holden, 1800

Treble

Tenor

Bass

1. When first the God of boundless might Disclosed His kind de - sign To rescue our unhappy race From death and shame and

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sin, Quick, thru the realms of light and bliss The joyful tidings came; Each heart exulted at the news, That God could dwell with men.

2. Yet midst their joys they paused awhile
And asked with strange surprise,
But how can injured justice smile,
Or look with pitying eyes?

Will the Almighty deign again
To visit yonder world;
And hither bring rebellious men,
Whence rebels once were hurled?

3. Their tears, and groans, and deep distress
Aloud for mercy call;
But ah! must truth and righteousness
To mercy victims fall?

So spake the friends of God and man,
Delighted, yet surprised;
Eager to know the wondrous plan,
That wisdom had devised.

4. The Son of God attentive heard,
And quickly thus replied,
In me let mercy be revered,
And justice satisfied.

Behold! my vital blood I pour,
A sacrifice to God ;
Let angry justice now no more
Demand the sinner's blood.