

En clara vox redarguit

Hear the Herald Voice Resounding

Edward Caswall

1. Hear the herald voice resounding:
"Christ is near", it seems to say;
"Cast away the dreams of darkness,
welcome Christ, the light of day!"
2. Wakened by this solemn warning,
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ her sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.
3. See the Lamb so long expected,
comes with pardon down from heav'n;
hasten now with tears of sorrow,
one and all to be forgiv'n.
4. So when next he comes with glory,
shrouding all the earth in fear,
may he then as our defender
on the clouds of heav'n appear.
5. Honour, glory, virtue, merit,
to the Father and the Son,
with the co-eternal Spirit
while eternal ages run.

Inspiration: "Vox clara ecce intonat", Latin, 5th or 6th century; altered by Pope Urban VIII to "En clara vox redarguit" in 1631.

Lyrics: 87.87; Edward Caswall, 1814-1878, in his "Lyra Catholica", 1849, as "Hark! An Awful Voice Is Calling"; this version from "New Catholic Hymnal", 1971.