O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him! Matt. 25:6

1. O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you a-right?
   Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!
   O kindle, Lord Most Holy, your lamp within my breast
   to do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

2. Love caused your incarnation, love brought you down to me;
   your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.
   O love beyond all telling, that led you to embrace,
   in love all love excelling, our lost and fallen race!

3. Rejoice, then, you sad-hearted, who sit in deepest gloom,
   who mourn o'er joys departed and tremble at your doom.
   Despair not, he is near you, yea, standing at the door.
   who best can help and cheer you and bids you weep no more.

4. Sin's debt, that fearful burden, let not your souls distress;
   your guilt the Lord will pardon and cover by his grace.
   He comes, for men procuring the peace of sin forgiving,
   for all God's sons securing their heritage in heav'n.

Paul Gerhardt, 1653, cento
Trans. composite; mod.

ST THEODULPH 7.6.7.6.D.
Melchior Teschner, ca. 1615
Hail to the Lord's Anointed

In his days the righteous will flourish; prosperity will abound till the moon is no more.
Ps. 72:7

1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
2. He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong;
3. He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth;
4. O'er ev'ry foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest.

Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth;
from age to age more glorious, all blessing and all blessed;

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free,
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
before him on the mountains shall peace, the herald go;
the tide of time shall never his covenant remove;

...to take away transgression, and rule in equity,
whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight,
and righteousness, in fountains, from hill to valley flow.
his name shall stand forever—that name to us is Love.

Based on Psalm 72
James Montgomery, 1821, 1828, alt. 1990

Trinity Hymnal 311