

December 28, 2025 THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS

Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked.

For You, O Lord, are my hope.

Upon You have I leaned from before my birth;

You are he who took me from my mother's womb.

My mouth is filled with Your praise,

and with Your glory all the day.

OPENING HYMN "What Child Is This" #370

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION Page 151
INTROIT and COLLECT OF THE DAY

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:15-17

PSALM 54

SECOND READING: Revelation 14:1-5

HYMN "Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming" #359

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-18

DECLARATION OF FAITH: Nicene Creed Page 158

HYMN "Sweet Flowerets of the Martyr Band"

SERMON

OFFERTORY "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" #393

OFFERING

PRAYERS of the CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

HYMN "Away in a Manger" #364

CLOSING HYMN "O Little Town of Bethlehem" #361

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The 12 days of Christmas finds the Church remembering people and events shaped by the coming of our Lord Jesus in humility. December 28 is the day the Church remembers the Holy Innocents, the children of Bethlehem slaughtered by the raving of King Herod. In the midst of all the feasting and glad tidings of good joy, the Church draws to our ears, mouths and hearts the fact that this world refused and still does to receive her King and how sin continues to rage against the working and will of God.

Today's service, with our hymns, are seeking to draw us into contemplating on the fact that the One born was given to overcome all sin and sadness.

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Sweet Flowerets of the Martyr Band

273

Rev. 14: 4

Salvete, flores martyrum

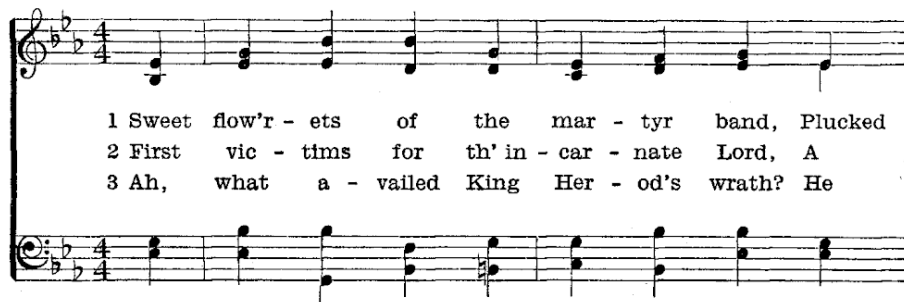
Aurelius C. Prudentius, 1418, cento

Tr., Henry W. Baker, 1875, alt.

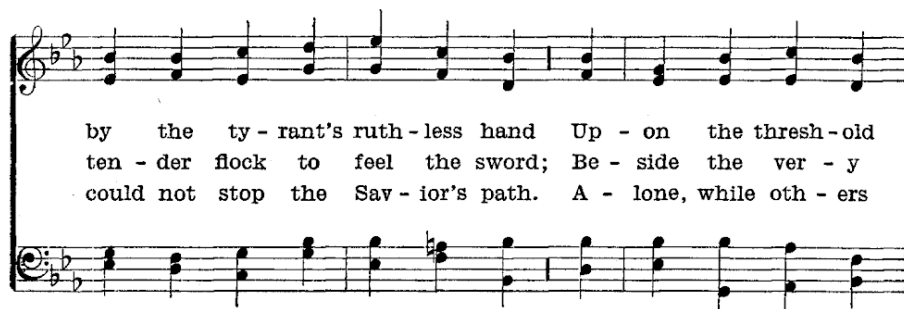
L. M.

Das walt' Gott Vater

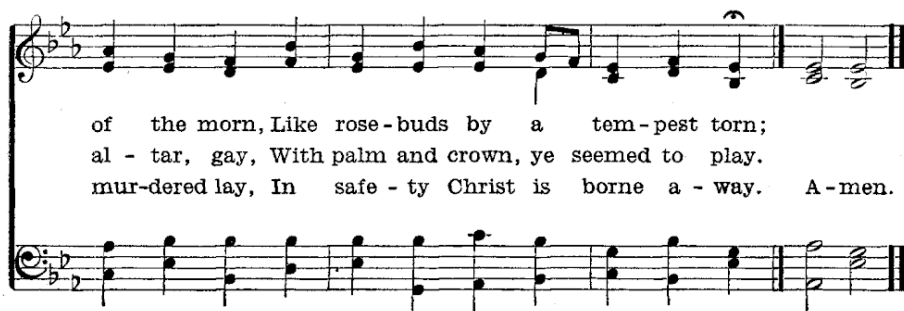
Daniel Vetter, 1718



1 Sweet flow'r - ets of the mar - tyr band, Plucked
2 First vic - tims for th' in - car - nate Lord, A
3 Ah, what a - vailed King Her - od's wrath? He



by the ty - rant's ruth - less hand Up - on the thresh - old
ten - der flock to feel the sword; Be - side the ver - y
could not stop the Sav - ior's path. A - lone, while oth - ers



of the morn, Like rose - buds by a tem - pest torn;
al - tar, gay, With palm and crown, ye seemed to play.
mur - dered lay, In safe - ty Christ is borne a - way. A - men.

4 O Lord, the Virgin-born, to Thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost forevermore.

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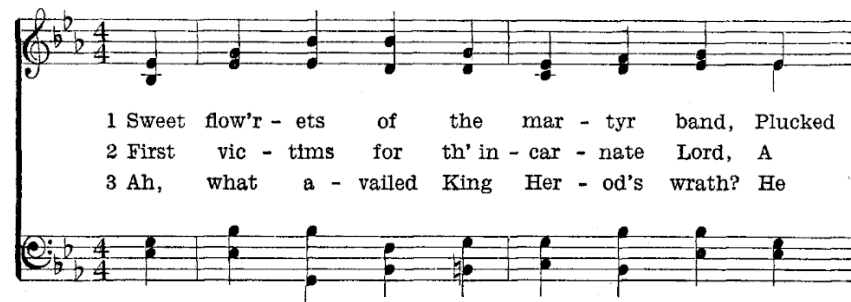
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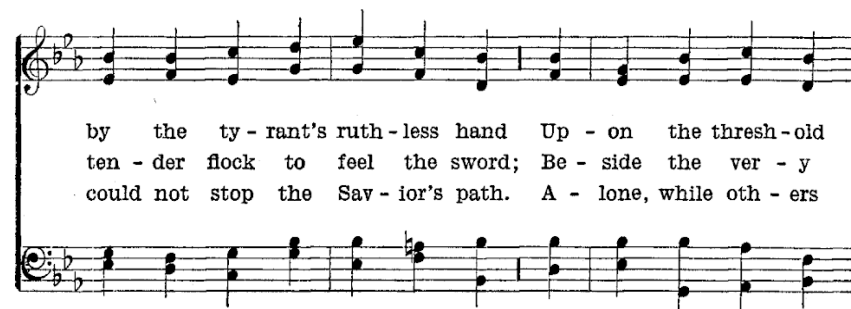
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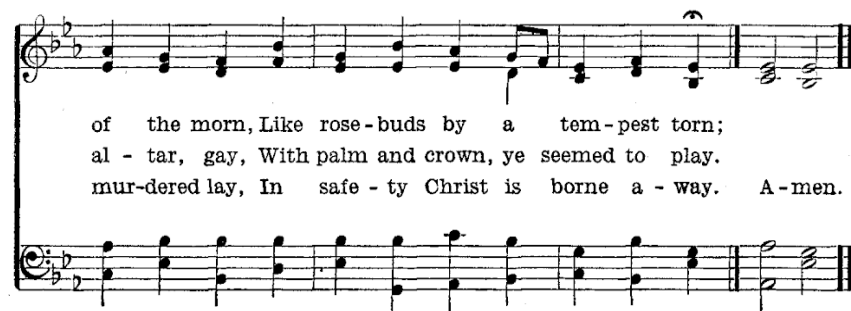
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