Dives and Lazarus

Christmas traditional

As it fell out upon a day, Rich Dives made a feast, And

he invited all his friends, And gent-ry of the best.

The following harmonies may also be used
2. Then Lazarus laid him down and down,  
   And down at Dives' door;  
   Some meat, some drink, brother Dives,  
   Bestow upon the poor.

3. Thou'rt none of my brother, Lazarus,  
   That lies begging at my door;  
   Nor meat nor drink will I give to thee,  
   Nor bestow upon the poor.

4. Then Lazarus laid him down and down  
   And down at Dives' wall;  
   Some meat, some drink, brother Dives,  
   Or with hunger starve I shall.

5. Thou'rt none of my brother, Lazarus,  
   That lies begging at my wall;  
   Nor meat nor drink will I give to thee,  
   But with hunger starve you shall.

6. Then Lazarus laid him down and down,  
   And down at Dives' gate;  
   Some meat, some drink, brother Dives,  
   For Jesus Christ His sake.

7. Thou'rt none of my brother, Lazarus,  
   That lies begging at my gate;  
   Nor meat nor drink will I give to thee,  
   For Jesus Christ His sake.

8. Then Dives sent out his merry men,  
   To whip poor Lazarus away;  
   They had no power to strike a stroke,  
   But flung their whips away.

9. Then Dives sent out his hungry dogs,  
   To bite him as he lay;  
   They had no power to bite at all,  
   But licked his sores away.

10. As it fell out upon a day,  
    Poor Lazarus sickened and died;  
    There came two Angels out of Heaven,  
    His soul therein to guide.

11. Rise up, rise up, brother Lazarus,  
    And come along with me;  
    There's a place in Heaven prepared for thee,  
    To sit upon an Angel's knee.

12. As it fell out upon a day,  
    Rich Dives sickened and died;  
    There came two serpents out of Hell,  
    His soul therein to guide.

13. Rise up, rise up, brother Dives,  
    And come along with me;  
    There's a place in Hell prepared for thee,  
    To sit upon a serpent's knee.

14. Then Dives looked with burning eyes,  
    And saw poor Lazarus blest;  
    One drop of water, Lazarus,  
    To quench my flaming thirst!

15. Oh! had I as many years to abide  
    As there are blades of grass,  
    Then there would be an end: but now  
    Hell's pains will never pass

16. Oh! were I but alive again,  
    For the space of one half hour,  
    I would make my peace and so secure  
    That the Devil should have no power!