The Lord at first did Adam make

1. The Lord at first did Adam make Out of the dust and clay, And
   in his nostrils breathed life, E'en as the Scriptures say. And
   then in Eden's Paradise He placed him to dwell, That
   he within it should remain, To dress and keep it well:

Words traditional

Tune traditional

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2. And thus within the garden he was set, therein to stay:
   And in commandment unto him these words the Lord did say:
   "The fruit which in the garden grows to thee shall be for meat,
   Except the tree in midst thereof, of which thou shalt not eat:
   Now let good Christians all begin a holier life to live,
   And to rejoice and merry be,
   For this is Christmas Eve.

3. "For in the day thou shalt it touch,
   Or do it then come nigh,
   And if that thou dost eat thereof,
   Then thou shalt surely die."
   But Adam he did take no heed
   Unto that only thing,
   But did transgress God's holy law, and so was wrapt in sin:
   Now let good Christians all begin
   A holier life to live,
   And to rejoice and merry be,
   For this is Christmas Eve.

4. Now mark the goodness of the Lord which he to mankind bore;
   His mercy soon he did extend,
   Lost man for to restore:
   And therefore to redeem our souls
   From death and hellish thrall,
   He said his own dear Son should be
   The Saviour of us all:
   Now let good Christians all begin
   A holier life to live,
   And to rejoice and merry be,
   For this is Christmas Eve.

5. And now the tide is nigh at hand,
   In which our Saviour came;
   Let us rejoice and merry be
   In keeping of the same:
   Let's feed the poor and hungry souls,
   And such as do it crave;
   And when we die, in heaven we
   Our sure reward shall have:
   Now let good Christians all begin
   A holier life to live,
   And to rejoice and merry be,
   For this is Christmas Eve.