

The vision of the shepherds

Nahum Tate (1652 - 1715)

Alonzo Potter Howard (1838 - 1902)

1. While shep-herds watched their flocks by night, All seat-ed on the ground, The an-gel of the

7 Lord came down, And glo-ry shone a-round. "Fear not," said he,— for migh-ty dread Had

12 seized their troub-led mind,— "Glad ti-dings of great joy I bring To you and all man-kind.

2. "To you, in David's town this day,
Is born of David's line
A Saviour, who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign,—
The heavenly Babe you there shall find,
To human view displayed,
All meanly wrapt in swaddling bands,
And in a manger laid."

3. Thus spake the seraph, and forthwith
Appeared a shining throng
Of angels praising God, and thus
Addressed their joyful song,—
"All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace;
God-will henceforth, from heaven to men,
Begin and never cease."