

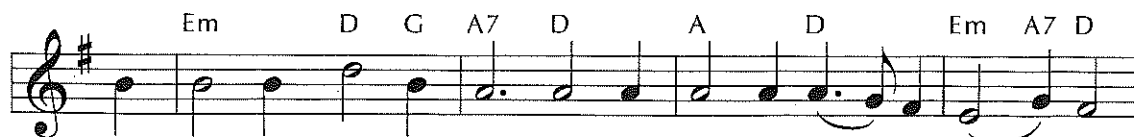
# Prepare the Way, O Zion 106



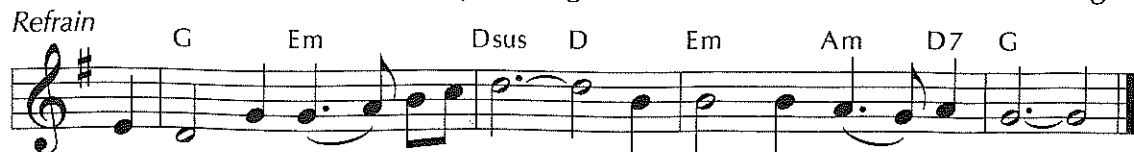
1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!  
 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.  
 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - ior's rule em - brace,



Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.  
 His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.  
 and ti - dings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.



Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.  
 Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.  
 All lands will bow re - joic - ing, their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.



O blest is Christ who came in God's most ho - ly name.

*Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.*

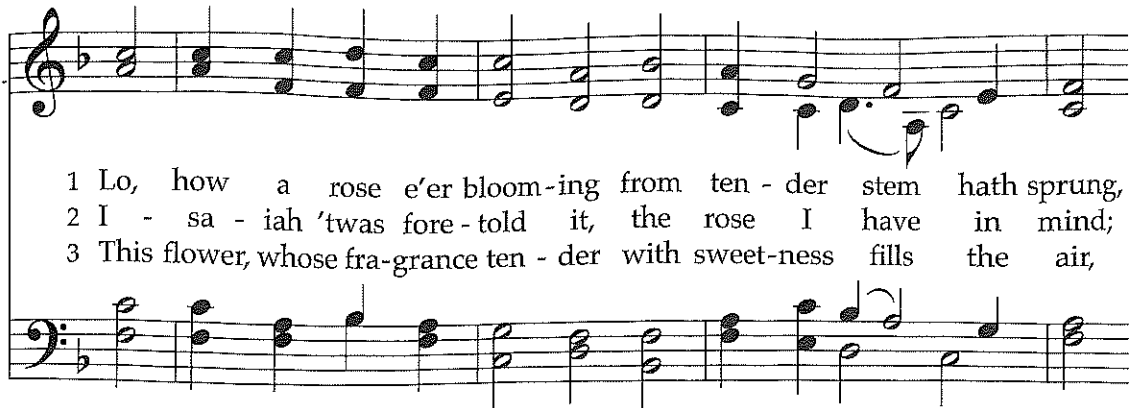
This engaging Advent text based on Isaiah 40:3-5 and Psalm 24:7-10 has been in use in the Church of Sweden for almost two hundred years. It is set to a version of an even older Swedish tune, which in turn seems to be derived from a German folktune that spread to Scandinavia.

TEXT: Frans Mikael Franzen, 1812; rev. 1819; trans. Augustus Nelson, 1958;  
 adapt. Charles P. Price, 1980, alt.

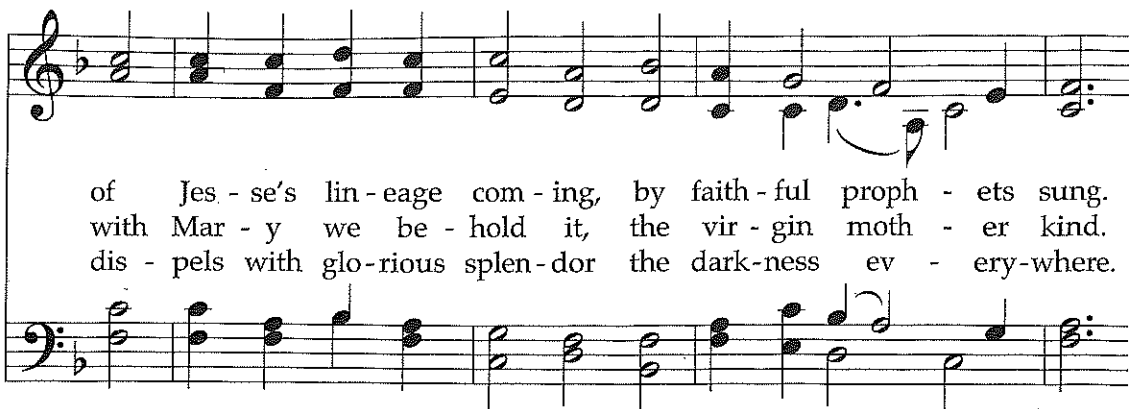
MUSIC: *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697; arr. American Lutheran Hymnal, 1930  
 Text © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN  
 7.6.7.6.7.7 with refrain


## Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming 129



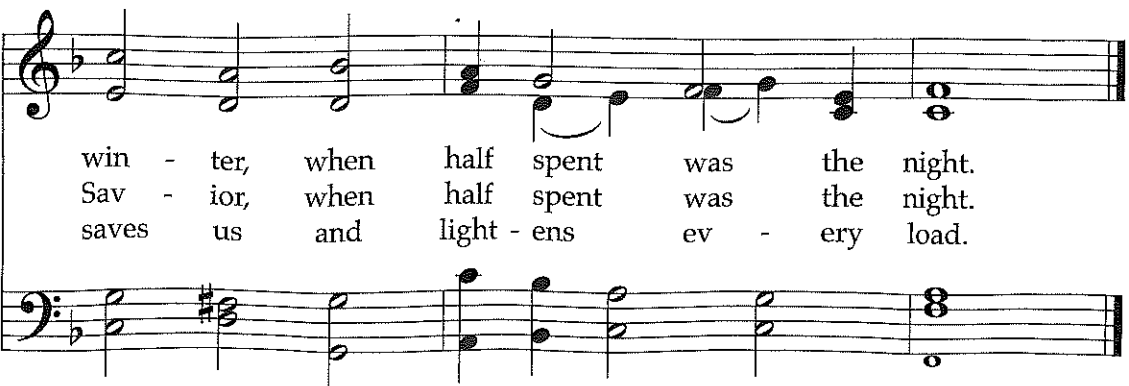
1 Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung,  
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the rose I have in mind;  
 3 This flower, whose fra-grance ten - der with sweet-ness fills the air,



of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing, by faith - ful proph - ets sung.  
 with Mar - y we be - hold it, the vir - gin moth - er kind.  
 dis - pels with glo - rious splen - dor the dark-ness ev - ery - where.



It came, a flower - et bright, a - mid the cold of  
 To show God's love a - right she bore for us a  
 En - fleshed, yet ver - y God, from sin and death he



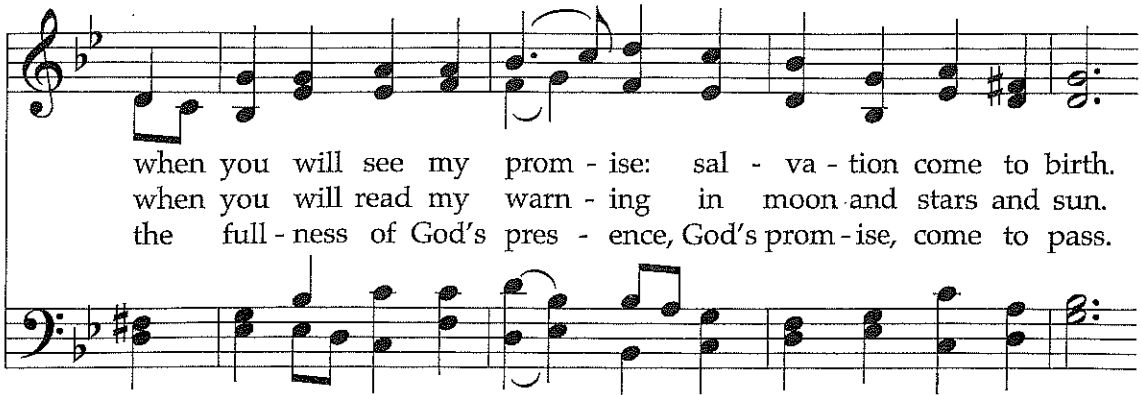
win - ter, when half spent was the night.  
 Sav - ior, when half spent was the night.  
 saves us and light - ens ev - ery load.

Although the early copies of this 15th-century German text include many more stanzas than are printed here, this simpler, shorter form has much to commend it. This early 17th-century harmonization of the traditional chorale melody invites and rewards singing in parts.

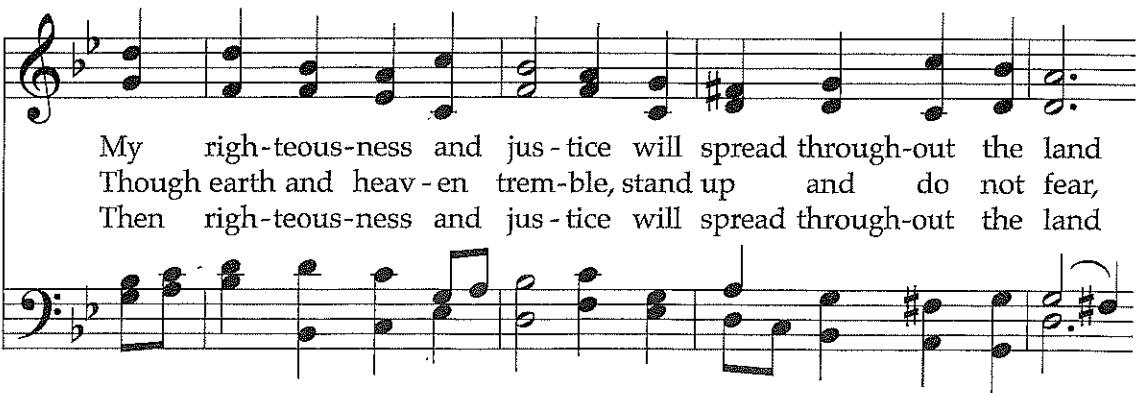
## The Days Are Surely Coming 357



1 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says God to all the earth,  
 2 The days are sure - ly com - ing, says Christ, the prom - ised one,  
 3 The days are sure - ly com - ing when we will know at last



when you will see my prom - ise: sal - va - tion come to birth.  
 when you will read my warn - ing in moon and stars and sun.  
 the full - ness of God's pres - ence, God's prom - ise, come to pass.



My righ - teous - ness and jus - tice will spread through - out the land  
 Though earth and heav - en trem - ble, stand up and do not fear,  
 Then righ - teous - ness and jus - tice will spread through - out the land



and you will be de - liv - ered by my al - might - y hand.  
 for I am your re - deem - er, and I am draw - ing near.  
 and we will be de - liv - ered by God's al - might - y hand.

This text uses imagery from Jeremiah 33:14-16 and Matthew 24:29-36/Mark 13:24-32/Luke 21:25-36. These passages are especially associated with the beginning of Advent, a season that looks forward to Christ's second coming while also preparing us to remember his first coming.