

Vercelli 5

Ed. Scragg, 2011

980x1000

Christmas (Group 2 b1). To middanwintra. Ostende nobis Domine.

1 Her segð þis halige godspel be þære hean medomnesse þisse halgan tide
2 þe nu onweard is, & us læreð þætte we þas halgan tiid gedefelice & clænlice
3 weorðien, Godes naman to lofe & to wuldre, & ussum sawlum to ecre hælo
4 & to frofre, forþanþe wuldres cyning hine selfne geeaðmedde þætte he of
5 heofonum on eorþan astag, þæt he on menniscum lichoman acenned wære. f.25r.

6 Forþam se arfæsta fæder ne wolde lætan his gesceaft forweorðan þaþe
7 he to his agenre anlicnesse gesceop, ac he hie wolde alysan of þære heardan
8 hæfte & of deofles þeowdome.

9 Swa sanctus Lucas se godspellere be þan wrat & cwæð: In þa tiid wæs
10 mycel gemot gebannen fram Aguste þam casere þætte gewriten wære eall
11 ymbhwyrft middangeardes.

12 þæt gewrit wæs ærest ongunnen fram þære mægðe gerefan þe Syria hatte,
13 þæs mannes nama wæs Cyrinus.

14 & þa eodon ealle, anra gehwylc on his ceastre, þætte hie onfengon þam
15 bebode þe þa gebannen wæs þætte æghwylc mann sceolde þam casere gaful
16 gildan.

17 þa ferde se eadga Ioseph fram Galilea, of þære ceastre þe Nazaret hatte,
18 to Dauides ceastre sio is nemned Bethlem, forþamþe he wæs Dauides cynnes,
19 þætte hie þær sceoldon onfon þam bebode þæs gafoles þe þa gebannen wæs,
20 mid Marian þe him wæs to wife beweddod; & þa wæs hio bearneacenu of
21 þam halgan gaste.

22 þa hie þa to Bethlem comon, wæron þa ða dagas gefylled þæt hio bearn
23 cennan sceolde.

24 & þa cende hio sunu, hire frumbearn, on þas niht þe nu toniht wæs, &
25 hio mid claðum hine bewand & on binne alegde, forþan þær ne wæs oðeru
26 stow on þam gisthuse þæt hio þæt cild mehte onasettan. f.25v.

27 On þam ilcan lande on þa niht wæron hyrdas wæccende & hioldon þa
28 wæccan þære nihte ofer hiora ewede.

29 þa com him to dryhtnes engel & bi him gestod & hie ymbscan godcundes
30 leohtes byrhto.

31 þa wæron þa hyrdas swiðe forhtiende mid mycle egsan & hie him swiðe
32 ondredon.

33 Se engel hie þa frefrede & swa cwæð: Ne forhtiað ge, ne eow ondrædaþ.

34 Forþy ic eow secge mycelne gefean, se bið eallum folcum gefea, forþanþe
35 eow todæg is hælend acenned, þæt is dryhten Crist, on Dauides ceastre.

36 & ic eow secge þætte ge metað þæt cild on claðum bewunden & on binne
37 aseted.

38 ða wæs sona æfter þan wordum mid þam engle heofonlices herges mængeo,
39 hergende God & swa cweðende: Gloria in excelsis Deo. Wuldor sie Gode on
40 heannesse & sybb on eorþan þam mannum þe godes willan sien wyrrende.

41 Nu we gehyrdon on þyssum godspelles segenum þætte Agustus se casere,
42 se wæs nemned oðre naman Octavianus, he ricsode ofer ealne middangeard
43 & anwealda wæs on eorðan on þa tiid þa ure hælend Crist wæs acenned.

44 On þan wæs getacnod þæt he com on menniscum lichoman se ðe be him
45 sylfum ðus cwæð: Data est mihi omnes potestas in celo et in terra. Me is
46 seald nu miht on heofonum & on eorðan. Eft he cwæð be his mihte: Cælum
47 et terram ego impleo. Ic gefylle heofon & eorþan.

48 & þa swa wæs woruldbebod gebannen fram Aguste þam casere swa wæs
49 eft æfter þam Cristes bebod gastlice læded geond ealne middangeard þurh
50 his þa halgan apostolas & þa godan lareowas, þamþe Godes willan wyrceap
51 & Godes bebodu lærað.

f.26r.

52 & hira lar wæs gesæd geond ealne middangeard to eorðan gemærum,
53 swa him Crist bebed þæt hie mancynn lærden & swa cwæð: Euntes in
54 uniuersum mundum, predicate euangelium omni creature. Gað geond ealne

55 middangeard, secgaþ lifes bebodu eallum þeodum.

56 Swa þæt wæs þæt Agustus se casere he ricsode ær Cristes cyme ofer ealne
57 middangeard, swa ure hælend Crist nu hafað aldordom þissa ondweardra rica
58 & þara toweardra & þara þe ær wæron, forþanþe he is ealles middangeardes
59 cyning & ece wealdend.

60 Manegu wundor gelumpon in Agustes rice. þurh þa wundor wæs getac-
61 nod Cristes cyme on middangeard.

62 þæt wæs sum þara wundra þa se casere com to Rome mid sigefæste gefean
63 & mid blisse, ða æt þære ðriddan tide þæs dæges, þæt wæs æt underne, þa
64 wæs mannum on heofonum gesine gyldnes hringes onlicnes ymbutan þa sun-
65 nan.

66 & on þam hringe wæs getacnod þæt on his rice acenned wolde bion se
67 æðeling se is rihtlice nemned soðfæstnesse sunna/, þæt is þonne ure hælend
68 Crist, þæt he mid his fægernesse gewlitgode þa sunnan þe us nu dæghwamlice
69 lyhteð & hie gesceop & mid his mihte ealne middangeard réceð & styreð.

70 þæt gelomp swa ilce þæt se casere on his rice forgeaf ealle scylda Romwara
71 folce.

72 þa wæs on þan getacnod þæt on his rice wolde cuman on middangeard se
73 ðe mancynne forgifan wolde ealle hira synna & uncysta þurh rihtne geleafan
74 & þurh soðe hreowe. f.26v.

75 Ond on þæs caseres dagum wæron genyðde to rihtum þeowdome & to

76 rihtre hyrnesse ealle þa esnas þe fram hira hlaforde ær gewiton & him hyran
77 noldon; & swa hwylce swa ne woldon hlafordas habban, ða wæron þurh rode
78 deaðe gewitnode.

79 & on þam wæs þa getacnod þæt þurh Cristes lare/ mancynn sceolde bion
80 underþeoded anes Godes hyrnesse & anes Godes willan wyrcean, & swa þaþe
81 ne willað rihtum geleafan onfon, þa bioð geniðrade in helle tintrego.

82 & in Agustes dagum wearð swa mycel sybb geworden on middangearde
83 þæt men wæpn ne wægon, forþanþe he in sybbe wel gesette middangeardes
84 rice, & mid wisdomes cræfte sio sibb wæs geseted geond ealne middangeard.

85 & he eac sende his cempan wide geond manega mægða þætte yfle men ne
86 dorston nanwyht to teonan don for hyra egsan.

87 In þære myclan sybbe wæs getacnod þære soðan sybbe cyme in middan-
88 geard, þæt wæs ure hælend Crist þe us gesybbode wið englum & us geþingode
89 wið Godfæder & us to sybbe gelaðode, & he swa cwæð: Beati pacifici quo-
90 niam filii Dei uocabuntur. Eadige bioð þa sybsuman men forþanþe hie bioð
91 Godes bearn genemnde.

92 ðrim wisum ungelice wæron mannum beboden on þæs caseres dagum,
93 þæt is þonne þæt æghwylc man sceolde gaful gildan, & ealle men sceoldon
94 hit gildan ge rice ge heane, & ðam gafole mon ne onfeng æt ænegum men
95 butan in his swæsum eðle.

96 On þan wæs getacnod þæt we sculon in þrim wisum Gode rihtes geleafan

97 gafol agildan, þæt is on wordum & on gepohtum & on dædum, & God þam
98 gafole ne onfehð butan on ussum swæsum eðle þæt is gehwæðer ge in þam
99 inneran ge in þam utteran, þæt we mid innewardre heortan & mid eaðmodre
100 in God gelyfen, & þone geleafan mid godum weorcum gefyllen & mid muþe
101 ondettan. f.27r.

102 Swa se eadega Paulus be þan cwæð: Corde creditur ad iustitiam ore
103 autem confessio fit in salutem. Mid heortan man sceall gelyfan þæt he mæge
104 to soðfæstnesse becuman, & mid muðe ondettan þæt he hæbbe ece hælo.

105 Se godspellere sæde þæt middangeard wære gewriten þa Crist wæs acenned.

106 On þan wæs getacnod þæt he com on menniscum lichoman se wolde his
107 þara gecorenra naman awritan in ecre gemynde eadges lifes, swa he him gehet
108 & swa cwæð: Gaudete et exultate quia nomina uestra scripta sunt in celis.
109 Geblissiað & gefægnað forðanðe eowre/ naman synt awritene on heofonum.

110 Cyrinus wæs þæs caseres gerefa in þære mægðe sio is nemned Syria.

111 ærest manna he lærde þone casere & wið him geþeahode þæt ealle men
112 him sceoldon gafol gyldan, & he sylf ærest & syðþan eall folc æfter þan.

113 In ðam he getacnode þone eadegan Petrus, Cristes aldorþegn, forþam þe
114 fram him com sio æreste andetnes ær Cristes naman, & he Gode ageaf þæs
115 rihtan geleafan gafol in þam worde þe he to Criste cwæð: Tu es Christus,
116 filius Dei uiui. ðu eart Crist, lifiendes Godes sunu.

117 Swa þonne nu anra gehwylc eadiglice Gode agifeð rihtne geleafan þonne

118 he andetteð fæder & suna & þam halgan gaste mid geleafan & mid hyhte &
119 mid Godes lufan.

120 Us is to witonne þætte þæt wæs geleaflice gestihtod þæt Ioseph for to
121 Bethlem fram Galilea þætte þær wære Crist acenned, forðonþe Betlem is
122 genemned Domus panis Hlafes hus.

123 Ryhtlice sio stow wæs swa gelice naman genemned forþanþe on hire wæs
124 acenned lifes hlaf se ðe middangearde lif brohte, swa he be him sylfum cwæð:
125 Ego sum panis uiuus qui de célo descendit. Ic eom se lifigenda hlaf se ðe of
126 heofonumastah. f.27v.

127 Soðlice he is se cwica hlaf forþanþe ælmihtig God he gefylleð þa clænan
128 heortan & his þara gecorenra mod mid ecre wynsumnesse gastlices lifes
129 gefean.

130 Ða Ioseph & Maria comon to Bethlem, ða wæs sancta Maria bearneacenu,
131 nalæs fram Iosephe ac of þæs halgan gastes gestihtum, swa se engel hire ær
132 sægde & swa cwæð: Spiritus sanctus superueniet in te. Se halga gast cymeð
133 ufon on þe, & þæs hyhstan mægen þe utan ymbstyleð & innan gefylleð, forþan
134 þæt/ of þe bið acenned, þæt bið halig nemned, Godes bearn.

135 Ure hælend Crist is nemned in þam godspelle þæt he wære sancta Marian
136 frumbearn, nales þæt hio ænig oðer bearn æfre hæfde butan Criste, ac he
137 is frumbearn nemned forþan he is fruma eallra gesceafta, ond he ealle gesceop.

138 Nænig ær him of helle astah, ne ænig ær him of deaðe aras, þæt he eft

139 ne sceolde deaðes byrgan.

140 Pæt mon leornað on gewritum þæt monige arison of deaðe, hie sceoldon
141 hwæðre eft deaðes byrgan butan Criste sylfum, & eft sculon arisan þy nehstan
142 dæge.

143 We gehyrdon þæt ure hælend wæs on binne aseted þa he wæs acenned.

144 þæt wæs sio stow þær man nytenum hira andlifan sealde.

145 Sio binne getacnode Godes wiofod, þær bið þam halgum nytenum, þæt is
146 þam geleaffulum mannum, bið seald þæt gastlice gereord Cristes lichoman,
147 ðe he us to wedde forlet þætte we sien dælnimende Godes rices, swa he sylfa
148 be ðam cwæð: Qui manducat carnem meam et bibit sanguinem meum, in
149 me manet et ego in illo. Se ðe eteð minne lichoman & min blod drinceð, he
150 wunaþ on me & ic on him.

151 Pas word us syndon swiðe to ongitanne þætte we unclænlice ne onfon
152 þam halgan geryne Cristes lichoman & his blodes, ac we sculon us sylfe ær
153 clænsian & gedafenlice libban & þonne/ clænlice ðicgan þæt halige geryne,
154 þæt God on us wunige & we on him.

f.28r.

155 & we hyrdon ær on þam godspelle þæt hyrdas wæron on þam ilcan lande
156 wæccende, & bi him stod dryhtnes engel & hie ymbscan heofonlices leohtes
157 byrhto.

158 þa hyrdas getacnodan þa godan lareowas & gedefe aldoras ða þe geornlice
159 healdað þæt Cristes yrfe þæt wæron þa geleaffullan menn.

160 & gif hie arfæstlice healdað & wel læraþ þæt geleaffulle Godes folc, þonne
161 bioð hie rumlice onlyhte mid godcundre gife, & þa gastlican gerynu him bioð
162 leohtlicor ontyned þonne oðrum mannum, forþanðe hie mid Godes lufan heal-
163 dað ða getreowan gesomnunge Godes folces.

164 Ða hyrdas him þa ondredon swiðe, ac se engel hie frefrede & swa cwæð:
165 Nolite timere. Ne ðurfon ge eow ondrædan, forðonþe ic eow secge micelne
166 gefean.

167 & Efne swa he cwæde: Micel is gefea, swa he næfre ne bið geendod, ne he
168 ne bið Iudeum anum seald, ac he bið eallum þeodum þam ðe on God gelyfan
169 willað.

170 Forðan is gedafenlic þæt swa hwylc man swa wille gefean habban þæt he
171 hine ðyde to ðam gefean se is ece gefea, þe læs him gefea aspringe.

172 For þam gefean englas heredon dryhten & swa cwædon: Gloria in excelsis
173 Deo. Wuldor sie on heanessum Gode & sibb on eorðan þam mannum þe
174 godne willan habbað.

175 Ær þæt wære, þæt ure hælend wære on menniscum lichoman acenned,
176 ær we hæfdon æfre wonisse & unsybbe wið englum, & we wæron aworpene
177 & ascadene fram hiora beorhte & fram hiora clænnisse þurh earnunge þære
178 ærestan scylde & þurh oðre synna dæghwamlice, & æfter ðam þe heofones
179 cyning underhnað ures lichoman tyddernesse, ne forsawan þa englas usse
180 untrumnesse ne usse tiedernesse, ac hie sona cyrdon to ure sibbe & ure lufan,
181 forþanþe hie gesawon þæt ðurh Cristes acennednesse heofona rices eðel scolde
182 gefylled bion.

f.28v.

183 Forþan hie mannum budon sybbe & swa cwædon: Pax hominibus bone
184 uoluntatis. Sibb sie mid mannum þe godne willan hæbben.

185 Þæt is se goda willa þæt man oðrum þæs unne þe he wille þæt him ge-
186 limpe, & þæt he on oðres gesyntum blissie & gefeo swa he on him sylfum wille.

187 Hæbben we for þam godne willan on ure heortan, forþanþe we ne bioð
188 æfre idele godra weorca for Godes eagum gif usse heortan bioð gefyllede mid
189 godum willan.

190 We gehyrdon þætte ure hælend hæfde mycle eaðmodnesse.

191 For ure lufan he astah of heofonum on eorðan, þæt we astigan fram eorðan
192 to heofonum.

193 He wæs þearfendlice mid claðum bewunden þæt he us of synna bendum
194 alysde.

195 He wæs on binne aseted on nearwe stowe & on medmicle þæt he us forgife
196 wundoreardunge on heofona rice.

197 Forþan us gedafenað þæt we geornlice tiligen ær se bitra deað cyme, þæt
198 we sien dælnimende þære godcundan gife, forþanþe we syndon on Godes
199 forestihtunge énglum gelice.

200 Ne geunclænsie us ænig fyrenlust, ne us to Gode wrege scandlic geþoht,
201 ne ure mod gedrefan mæge grim wea, ne us æfest gewundian/ mæge, ne ofer-
202 hygd, ne gitsung eorðlicra lusta.

203 Ac hergen we & wuldrien urne dryhten on clænum geðohtum & on halgum
204 wordum & on soðfæstum weorcum & on rihtum geleafan, forþan þe his miht
205 is ufor þonne heofon & bradre þonne eorðe & deopre þonne sæ & leohtre
206 þonne heofones tungel. f.29r.

207 Ne genealæceð him nænig ylðo ne sorh ne sar ne deað, ne his rices bið
208 æfre ænig ende.

209 Ac he us eallum gifeð, gif we geearnian willað, rice butan ende & blisse
210 butan gnornunge & smyltnesse butan gedrefednesse & leoht butan þeostrum
211 & lif butan deaðe & hælo butan sare & ecnesse butan ende, & we bioð butan
212 synna wommum & bliðe butan unrotnesse, & we bioð lifgende butan deaðe.

213 Gastlice herigen we ures dryhtnes naman, hælendes Cristes; he leofað &
214 ricsað aa butan ende.