How Bright Appears the Morning Star 278

1. How bright appears the Morning Star
with mercy beaming from afar;
the host of heav'n rejoices;
O righteous Branch, O Jesse's Rod,
O Son of man, and Son of God,
we too will lift our voices.
Jesus, Jesus, holy, holy,
yet most lowly, now draw near us;
great Immanuel, kindly hear us.
2. Though circled by the hosts on high,
he deigned to cast a loving eye
upon his helpless creature;
the whole creation's Head and Lord,
by highest seraphim adored,
assumed our very nature.
Jesus, grant us through your merit
to inherit your salvation;
hear, O hear our supplication.
3. Rejoice, O heav'ns, and earth reply;
with praise, you sinners, fill the sky,
for this, his incarnation.
Incarnate God, put forth your pow'r;
ride on, ride on, great Conqueror,
till all know your salvation.
Amen, amen! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Praise be given
evermore by earth and heaven.

TEXT: Philipp Nicolai (1599). Tr. John Christian Jacobi (1722); recast by William Mercer (1855-59)

TUNE: Philipp Nicolai (1599). Harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (ca. 1731)

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