



Child of the stable's secret birth,
the Lord by right of the lords of earth,
let angels sing of a King new born,
the world is weaving a crown of thorn:
a crown of thorn for that infant head
cradled soft in the manger bed.

Eyes that shine in the lantern's ray;
a face so small in its nest of hay,
face of a child who is born to scan
the world he made through the eyes of man:
and from that face in the final day
earth and heaven shall flee away.

Voice that rang through the courts on high,
contracted now to a wordless cry,
a voice to master the wind and wave,
the human heart and the hungry grave:
the voice of God through the cedar trees
rolling forth as the sound of seas.

Infant hands in a mother's hand,
for none but Mary may understand
whose are the hands and the fingers curled
but his who fashioned and made the world;
and through these hands in the hour of death
nails shall strike to the wood beneath.

Child of the stable's secret birth,
the Father's gift to a wayward earth,
to drain the cup in a few short years
of all our sorrows, our sins, and tears--
ours the prize for the road he trod:
risen with Christ; at peace with God.

Timothy Dudley-Smith

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS FROM TISCA

We trust that you too will, this Christmas, hear ‘the voice of God through the cedar trees rolling forth as the sound of seas’: also that you will know the joy of being ‘risen with Christ, at peace with God’.

A reminder of two dates for your 2019 Diary:

4-6 March 2019 –TISCA Chaplains’ Conference at West Malvern.

Booking form available on the TISCA website.

**11 June 2019 – TISCA London Meeting at the Royal Over-Seas League. Topic:
"Artificial Intelligence and Human Dignity: how the current debate affects Schools".**

Main speaker: Prof. John Wyatt. *Full details available in February.*

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