1 Ah, ho-ly Je-sus, how hast thou of-fend-ed,
that we to judge thee have in hate pre-tend-ed? By foes de-
rid-ed, by thine own re-jec-ted, O most af-flict-ed!
Je-sus, I it was de-nied thee; I cru-ci-fied thee.

2 Who was the guilt-y? Who brought this up-on thee?
A-las, my trea-son, Je-sus, hath un-done thee. 'Twas I, Lord
tone-ment, while we noth-ing heed-ed, God in-ter-ced-ed.
an-guish and thy bit-ter pas-sion, for my sal-va-tion.
pit-y and thy love un-swerv-ing, not my de-serv-ing.

3 Lo, the Good Shep-herd for the sheep is of-fered;
the slave hath sin-ned, and the Son hath suf-fered; for our a-

4 For me, kind Je-sus, was thine in-car-na-tion,
thy mor-tal sor-row, and thy life's o bla-tion, thy death of

5 There-fore, kind Je-sus, since I can-not pay thee,
I do a-dore thee, and will ev-er pray thee, think on thy

This beautiful English paraphrase of a German meditation on Christ’s Passion bears testimony to the unobtrusive poetic skill and musical sensitivity of a future Poet Laureate of England. The associated chorale is no less carefully crafted and rewards singing in parts.