When Christ's appearing was made known





When Christ's appearing was made known, King Herod trembled for his throne; But He Who offers heavenly birth Sought not the kingdom of this earth.

The eastern sages saw from far And followed on His guiding star; By light their way to Light they trod, And by their gifts confessed their God.

Within the Jordan's sacred flood The heavenly Lamb in meekness stood, That He, to Whom no sin was known, Might cleanse His people from their own. And O what miracle divine, When water reddened into wine! He spake the word, and forth it flowed In streams that nature ne'er bestowed.

All glory, Jesus, be to Thee For this Thy glad epiphany: Whom with the Father we adore And Holy Ghost forevermore.

Caelius Sedulius (5th Cent)