



Pastoral Update—December 18, 2020

“Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.” Philippians 4:1



The gift of love in Jesus is the focus of worship this coming Sunday. We learn about God’s unconditional love for us through Luke’s story of the Annunciation: the impending birth announcement of Jesus to Mary and the world! This gift of love in Jesus is the focus of our faith and our mission every day! The hymn, *Lo How A Rose E’er Blooming*, tells the love story of promise elegantly and succinctly. May it’s words of beholding and listening for the promise of love for you in Jesus bless you this day. Listen to the Bainbridge Chorale as you savor the beauty of lovely images of roses which are a symbol of promise and love:

[Lo How A Rose E’er Blooming video](#)

Love,

Pastor Andrea

Lo How A Rose E’er Blooming

*Lo, how a Rose e’er blooming
From tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse’s lineage coming,
As men of old have sung.
It came, a flower bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.*

*Isaiah ’twas foretold it,
The Rose I have in mind;
With Mary we behold it,
The virgin mother kind.
To show God’s love aright,
She bore to men a Savior,
When half spent was the night.*

*This Flower, whose fragrance tender
With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor
The darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God,
From sin and death He saves us,
And lightens every load*