St. Dunstan's Red and White

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"Tidings of Great Joy"

Ah! restless hearts in a restless world,
Dancing as Folly, the piper, plays;
Like flakes of a snow-drift tossed and whirled,
What do you seek through your aimless days?
"Seeking the laughter of life are we,—
The elfin raptures that mock and flee."

Ah! troubled hearts on a troubled earth,
Crushed by the shadowy weight of fears:
Rebels of Sorrow grown tired of Mirth,
What do you seek through the lonely years?
"Peace, we are seeking, apart from pain;
Life does not yield it, our search is vain."

Restless and turbulent,—weak or strong,
Ever the soul-starved, changeless cry:
Have we forgotten the Angel song,—
That promise made in a midnight sky?
In the Christ Child's arms, stretched tenderly,
Are the perfect Joy of a life to be,
And the deathless Peace of Eternity.

-Lucy Gertrude Clarkin