

St. Dunstan's Red and White

Ex eodem fonte fides et scientia

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How, how bring gladness to this time of sorrow,
Or close our hearts to hate?
How glimpse through darkeness a triumphant morrow,
Today so desolate?

How, in this hour of love and of forgiving
When stars and planets sing,
May we of earth, all bruised and hurt with living,
Delight or laughter bring?

Our souls may yield in generous surrender
Courage, and faith, and prayer.
We may, in ways of giving be more tender,
In love be more aware.

And we shall win, though all the world be shaken
By bitterness and fear—
Though all the beauty of our days be taken,
To peace and Christmas cheer.

—*Lucy Gertrude Clarkin*