

# A Song for the Shepherd Boy

by Rev. Andrew P. Carrozza

*Note: to understand this poem, one needs to understand that, in Jesus' day, shepherds were treated by some as sinners who were rejected by God and without hope.*

Oh, shepherd boy out in the field  
tending lovingly your sheep,  
By others you have been rejected;  
distance you must keep.  
They somehow see you as but rubbish,  
one who has no worth.  
You're just a boy, but they think you're  
the lowest scum on earth.  
Too young to have begun to form  
true values in your heart,  
They've branded you an unclean sinner,  
evil from the start.  
They've crushed your spirit, called you useless,  
robbed your dignity.  
Upon your dreams they've cruelly trod  
and showed no sympathy.  
And why, because they think that shepherds  
by God have been scorned.  
No rhyme, no reason, just a view  
their haughtiness has formed.  
How could they see a child as evil  
and beyond repair?  
But do they question their ill logic?  
No. They just don't care!

But fear not, soul by men rejected,  
for your prayer was heard!  
To you God sent the host of angels  
with the glorious word  
That Christ your Savior has been born;  
your ears first heard their song.  
God's glorious news was brought to you,  
not those who did you wrong.  
And you'll be first to view the manger  
with the Holy Birth;  
Long before the magi come  
from farthest bounds of earth,  
Your eyes will see your Glorious Lord  
asleep at Mary's breast.  
And you will speak of Christ to thousands.  
See! by God you're blest!

And He will use your image  
once rejected by the rest  
To teach the masses of His love:  
"Good Shepherd" he's addressed.  
But like you, they will hate their Lord,  
Him too they'll call accursed.  
And throughout time they'll replicate  
this pattern well rehearsed.

So turn to Christ when scorned as evil;  
trust Him, do not fear.  
For God loves those the world rejects;  
your soul to Him is dear.  
You too will hear the angels' chorus  
sing within your soul.  
Christ will shine His face upon you,  
cleanse you, make you whole.  
And when you do, your heart will soar;  
you'll share Christ's victory.  
You'll triumph over those who spurned you;  
God will set you free!  
You'll be a sign to all the world  
that God has made you strong.  
Then when they see your mighty works,  
perhaps they'll see their wrong.  
And so, proclaim His glory broadly,  
sharer in Christ's cross.  
For like a shepherd, Christ will raise you,  
banish all your loss.  
He'll sanctify you, right your wrongs  
and take away your shame.  
In Him you'll find great dignity,  
so bless His Holy Name!

