



Line Drawing by Tim Rice 2006

Stable Womb

Stable womb so full of life
Even in the depth of night.
God's creation churns within you
Piercing dark with holy light.

Oxen, sheep, and ass there slumber
Nestling in the stringy hay
Waiting for the bright new morrow
Bringing dawn to God's new day.

As they sleep within the silence
Rusty hinge swings door ajar,
Letting in a humble couple
And the light of brilliant star.

Now awakened, beasts are stirring
Looking at the curious sight
Watching as the dusty couple
Beds down for the birthing night.

Eyes gaze upon the maiden
With her girth so big and round,
As her strong and able husband
Makes a bed upon the ground.

Gently now he tends unto her
Helping her into the bed.
There in straw arranged to meet her
Lays she down her weary head.

Not too long for rest or slumber!
Soon the birthing pangs begin.
Short, intense her labor pushes
God's atonement for our sin.

In the night of sin and darkness
Now shines forth a radiant light.
As the babe draws forth his first breath
Evil shudders at the sight.

Little babe so small, so frail
Cradled now in mother's arm
Come to earth from God's good grace
To save us all from evil's harm.

Stable womb so full of life
In the bleak of darkest hour
Deep within your humble setting
Comes for us God's mighty power...

Power to save us from the darkness
Evil weaves within our life...
Source of life in death's dark shadow
Freeing us from evil's strife.

In the joy of Christmas morning
As I greet the Christ-child's birth,
My heart sings an Alleluia
For this joy of all the earth.

Lowly stable with your manger
From within your humble womb
Comes the gift of God's salvation
That shall open up the tomb.

From your depths to us is given
God's most precious, holy Son
Who by his blest incarnation
Has for us salvation won.

C. Handlee Vige
Christmas 1996

Lynne, Beth, Tim and I wish you and your loved ones a Christmas filled with life, filled with grace, filled with love. May your celebration of the birth of our Lord fill your heart with joy.

The Vige Family
Handlee, Lynne, Beth and Tim

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