

The great forerunner of the morn

1. The great fore - run - ner of the morn, the her - ald
 2. Withheaven-ly mes - sage Ga - briel came, that John should
 3. John, still un - born, yet gave a - right his wit - ness
 4. Of wo - man born shall nev - er be a great - er
 5. To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the

of the Word, is born: and faith - ful hearts shall
 be that her - ald's name, and with pro - phet - ic
 to the com - ing Light; and Christ, the Sun of
 pro - phet than was he, whose might - y deeds ex -
 Spi - rit, Three in One, all hon - or, praise and

nev - er fail with thanks and praise his light to hail.
 ut - terance told his ac - tions great and man - i - fold.
 all the earth, ful - filled that wit - ness at his birth.
 alt his fame to great - er than a pro - phet's name;
 glo - ry be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: The Venerable Bede (673-735); tr. J. M. Neale (1818-1866), alt.
 Music: *Gardiner*, from *Sacred Melodies*, 1815; arr. William Gardiner (1770-1853)

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