



Christmas Bathed In Sunlight

Tune: SOUTHERN PRAISES

Melody: William L. (Bill) Wallace

Harmony: Francis Dennis (1929-2005)

Lively

1. Christ - mas bathed in sun - light! Eas - ter with no Spring!
 2. Will the blood red Ra - ta, Mat - a - gou - ri's thorns, ⁽¹⁾
 3. Give us eyes that no - tice, Hearts that pon - der well;
 4. Wor - ship is for peo - ple Set with - in the land,

How shall South - ern Christ - ians Fest - ive prai - ses_ sing?
 Cab - bage trees' bright au - ras Point to Eas - ter_ morn?
 Set our faith in con - text, Let our prai - ses_ swell.
 Peo - ple in a cir - cle Danc - ing hand in_ hand.

When we glimpse the sym - bols Placed be - fore our eyes
 Will dry Lent - en land - scapes, Eas - ter's Lace - bark flowers ⁽²⁾
 Then with - in these is - lands Framed by Trea - ty vows
 Praise God in the join - ing! Praise God in the mirth!

Can we sense their mean - ing?_ Will new songs a - rise?
 Give our South - ern spir - its_ Ev - er - green - ing powers?
 We shall see God's beau - ty,_ Make God's jus - tice ours.
 Praise God in the Trea - ty!_ Praise God in the Earth!

Notes: (1) *Matagouri* or *Discaria toumatou* is a thorny much branched rigid shrub characteristic of the drier eastern side of the South Island, and known from a few North Island localities. (2) While some species of *Hoheria*, or *Lacebark* flower in Summer, others flower in Autumn.

Alternative Tunes: EVELYNS (AMR 225 NS 148 MHB249 RCH 178) or CAMBERWELL (WOV 170 ii)