

8th Day of Christmas

January 1st, 2021

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Hugo Distler

Lo, how a Rose E'er Blooming

Michael Burkhardt

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Johannes Brahms

The Old Year Now Has Passed Away

J.S Bach

In Dir ist Freude

Marcel Dupre

In Dir ist Freude

J.S. Bach

The wonderful and beloved carol *Es ist ein Ros entsprungen* has roots dating back to the 8th century. The rose in the text is a symbolic reference to the Virgin Mary, and the hymn makes reference to the prophecies of Isaiah and the Tree of Jesse, a traditional symbol of the lineage of Jesus (about which Pastor preached during our midweek Advent services this year.) In the lovely Brahms setting the tune is so highly ornamented that it can be hard to recognize, but it is definitely there!

Since today is the first day of the calendar year, I have also include setting of two hymns that are often associated with the New Year. The first is not found in our hymnal so the text is listed below. The second is found at LSB 818.

The old year now hath passed away; we thank Thee, O our God, today
That Thou hast kept us through the year when danger and distress were near.

We pray Thee, O eternal Son, Who with the Father reign'st as One,
To guard and rule Thy Christendom through all the ages yet to come.

Take not Thy saving Word away, our souls' true comfort, staff, and stay.
Abide with us and keep us free from errors, following only Thee.

Oh. Help us to forsake all sin, a new and holier course begin!
Mark not what once was done amiss; a happier, better year be this,

Wherein as Christians we may live, or die in peace that Thou canst give,
To rise again when Thou shalt come and enter Thine eternal home.