

the **WINTER ROSE**

Words and Music by Joseph M. Martin



Cantata

The Winter Rose

by Joseph M. Martin

The First Presbyterian Church Chancel Choir directed by Mark Hornbaker

The Winter Rose

Choir and Marleigh Adkins, soloist

While the world lies frozen beneath the chilling breath of winter, a spotless Rose blooms. Against the harsh surroundings, its beauty unfolds, one petal at a time. The Winter Rose is born so that the Garden might be restored.

Advent Cry

Sara Bender and Collin Nelson

The Holy One of Israel says: The rain and the snow come down from heaven; they water the earth, causing it to bud and flourish. In the cold of winter, you will be like a well-watered garden. Your redeemer, the Rose of Sharon, will come to Zion. Blessed are all who wait for him.

Lullaby to a Rose

Sara Bender and Collin Nelson

The fragile infant entrusted to Mary and Joseph is the Promised One. With wonder, the couple ponders their sacred charge.

The Winter Rose

Jenna Skeen

The Rose continues to blossom, its splendor revealed to all who embrace it. Spotless and perfect, its beauty is beyond compare. But all too soon, its season passes, and the Rose prepares to die. The rose, adorned with thorns, stand in full bloom. One by one the petals fall, blood-red upon the ground. As they are crushed beneath the feet of the crowd, the fragrance of Redemption is released.

Look to the Rose

Nancy Knurek and Mark Hornbaker

Rose of Sharon what a name for the Son of God who came. If you seek God's love today, look to the Rose.

Lo, How a Rose

Kathi and Andrea Elkins

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming as saints of old hath sung. It came a flower bright, amid the cold of winter, when half-spent was the night.

Words of Comfort and Hope

Blessing

Sharing the Light

* Hymn	"Silent Night"	No. 60
* Hymn	"Joy to the World"	No. 40



Merry Christmas!

Thank you for being here to worship the King!

Tonight we kneel before the manger.

Our present is our presence.

Sharon Gearing, *Pastor*

Mark Hornbaker, *Master of Music*

We wish to thank the following people for contributing to this special service:

Video Production:

Sharon Stevens – final worship video producer and editor.

Mark Hornbaker – recording coordination and virtual choir video producer.

Readers:

Mark Hornbaker

Collin Nelson

Sara Bender

Choir:

Marleigh Adkins, soloist

Sara Bender

Andrea Elkins

Kathi Elkins

Amy Goins

Vickie Green

Nancy Knurek

Dave Long

John Melton

Sandy Melton

Collin Nelson

Jenna Skeen