

The veil of sense hangs dark be-tween Thy bless-ed face and mine.
 And earth has ne'er so dear a spot As where I meet with Thee.
 Thine im-age ev-er fills my thought, And charms my rav-ished soul.
 I love Thee, dear-est Lord, and will, Un-seen, but not un-known.

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Shepherd of Tender Youth

Kirby Bedon. 6.6.4.6.6.6.4.

CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA, (?) c. 200
 Tr. by HENRY M. DEXTER, 1846

EDWARD BUNNETT, 1887

1. Shep-herd of ten-der youth, Guid-ing in love and truth,
 2. Thou art our ho-ly Lord, The all-sub-du-ing Word,
 3. Thou art the great High Priest; Thou hast pre-pared the feast
 4. Ev-er be Thou our Guide, Our Shepherd and our pride,

Through de-vious ways; Christ our tri-um-phant King,
 Heal-er of strife; Thou didst Thy-self a-base,
 Of heaven-ly love; While in our mor-tal pain
 Our staff and song; Je-sus, Thou Christ of God,

We come Thy name to sing, Hith-er our chil-dren bring To shout Thy praise.
 That from sin's deep dis-grace Thou mightest save our race, And give us life.
 None calls on Thee in vain; Help Thou dost not dis-dain, Help from a-bove.
 By Thy per-en-nial word, Lead us where Thou hast trod, Make our faith strong.

The earliest Christian hymn extant.