

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM.

Twelfth Century Plainsong, Mode V.

To be sung in unison.

I Of the Father's love be-got - ten, Ere the world be - gan to be,

He is Al-pha and O - me - ga, He the source, the end - ing He,

Of the things that are, that have been, And that fu - ture

Christmas.

years shall see, Ev-er-more and ev-er-more! A - men.

- 2 O that Birth for ever blessèd,
When the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bare the Saviour of our race;
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face,
Evermore and evermore!
- 3 O ye heights of heaven adore Him; ·
Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Powers, Dominions, bow before Him,
And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore!
- 4 Thee let old men, Thee let young men,
Thee let boys in chorus sing;
Matrons, virgins, little maidens,
With glad voices answering:
Let their guileless songs re-echo,
And the heart its music bring,
Evermore and evermore!
- 5 Christ, to Thee with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be:
Honour, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore! Amen.

AURELIUS CLEMENS PRUDENTIUS, 348-413;

Tr. JOHN MASON NEALE, 1854, and HENRY W. BAKER, 1859.