

## Prayer for the Winter Solstice

In this the darkest season of the year  
Shadows fall across the hemisphere;  
But on this blackest winter night is  
    when the stars all shine their brightest,  
And in their light our blessings shall appear.

For so we find our faith in times of fear,  
In this the darkest season of the year;  
We see the multitude of starlight  
    only in the depths of midnight,  
And when the sky is moonless, cold, and clear.

December evenings lengthen one by one;  
December days grow shorter in the sun;  
Once more in this the darkest season  
    of the year we need no reason  
To tell us that the circle's nearly done.

So may the distant beams of hope draw near;  
In deepest night may doubts all disappear;  
The light of peace within our souls is  
    shining strongest at the solstice,  
In this the darkest season of the year.

B.A.B. 12/3/95