

Michaelmas time

A festive song

Michael Rose (*1953)
arr: Matthijs Overmars (*1962)

1. Mi-chael-mas time, Mi-chael-mas time, time is turn-ing

1. Mi-chael-mas time, Mi-chael-mas time, time is turn-ing

14

un - der the plough. Un - der the stars, un - der the signs the

un - der the plough. Un - der the stars, un - der the signs the

21

plough-man toils with deep-fur-rowed brow. He turns his thoughts a -

plough-man toils with deep-fur-rowed brow. He turns his thoughts a -

28

gainst the cold, bur - ies his fears 'neath the earth's deep mould, Frost, like

gainst the cold, bur-ies his fears 'neath the earth's deep mould, Frost, like

35

fire, burns white on the blade of his i - ron share that red fire made.

fire, burns white on the blade of his i - ron share that red fire made.

42

2. Michaelmas time, Michaelmas time, time is bending over the scales. Over the bread, over the wine, the ploughman bows his head at the rail. He turns his thoughts towards the flame, raises his eyes to the thanksgiven grain. Stars, like spears, gleam over the tower of the house of God in Michael's hour.

3. Michaelmas time, Michaelmas time, Time is changing the guard of the world Deep in his heart, dauntless in mind, the ploughman guards against time growing old. He stands and studies the star-patterned sky, fixes each spark in his wishing-well eyes. Stars, like seeds, strewn over the land and under the plough by Michael's hand.