

Phillips Brooks
(1835-1893)

○ little town of Bethlehem

Hymnal 1982 no. 79, Melody: St Louis

Lewis H. Redner
(1831-1908)

The musical score consists of four systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats), and the time signature is common time (indicated by '4'). The music is divided into four stanzas, each with five lines of lyrics. The first stanza is by Phillips Brooks, the second by Lewis H. Redner, the third by Phillips Brooks, and the fourth by Lewis H. Redner. The lyrics are as follows:

Stanza 1 (Phillips Brooks):

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!
2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,
3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is giv'n!
4. Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,
5. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;

Stanza 2 (Lewis H. Redner):

1. A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
2. while mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of wond'ring love.
3. So God im-parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heav'n.
4. where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;
5. cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

Stanza 3 (Phillips Brooks):

1. yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the e - ver - last - ing Light;
2. O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
3. No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
4. where cha - ri - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,
5. We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad ti - dings tell;

Stanza 4 (Lewis H. Redner):

1. the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
2. and prai - ses sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
3. where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
4. the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.
5. O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - ma - nu - el!