

27. O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

Words by BISHOP PHILLIPS BROOKS

English traditional tune
arranged by R. VAUGHN WILLIAMS.
Descant by THOMAS ARMSTRONG

SOPRANO ALTO

(ORGAN or PIANO)

TENOR BASS

1. O lit - tle town of Beth- le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
 2. O morn-ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the_ ho-ly birth,
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, The won-drous gift is giv'n!

A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep The si - lent stars go by.
 And prais-es sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth;
 So God im-parts to hu - man hearts The bless - ings of his heav'n.

Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light;
 For Christ is born of Ma - - ry; And, gath-ered all a - bove,
 No ear may hear his com - - ing; But in this world of sin,

The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
 While mor-tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of wond'ring love.
 Where meek souls will re - ceive him, still The dear Christ en - ters in.

DESCANT

4. O ho - ly Child of Beth-le - hem, Des - cend to us, we pray;

UNISON VOICES

ORGAN
or
PIANO

Cast out our sin, and en - ter in, Be born in us to - day.

We hear the Christ-mas an - gels The great glad ti - dings tell:

O come to us, a - bide with us, Our Lord Em - man - u - el.