

O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

H. WALFORD DAVIES

The musical score is arranged in four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, while the bass clef provides a harmonic accompaniment. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for church services.

1. O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee to-night.

2. For Christ is born of Mary
And, gathered all above
While mortals sleep, and angels keep
Their watch of wondering love;
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth.
And praises sing to God the King
And peace to men on earth.

3. How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him,
The dear Christ enters in.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in,
Be born in us to-day.
We hear the Christmas Angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Emmanuel.

Bishop Phillips Brookes