

Phillips Brooks
(1835-1893)

O little town of Bethlehem

Hymnal 1982 no. 79, Melody: St Louis

Lewis H. Redner
(1831-1908)

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 4/4 time. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is primarily in the Soprano part, with the other parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in five systems, each corresponding to a line of music. The first system contains five numbered verses. The subsequent systems contain the main body of the hymn, with some lines having multiple verses or variations. The score includes a final double bar line at the end of the fourth system.

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;

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

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

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