

21 First Tune

FOREST GREEN

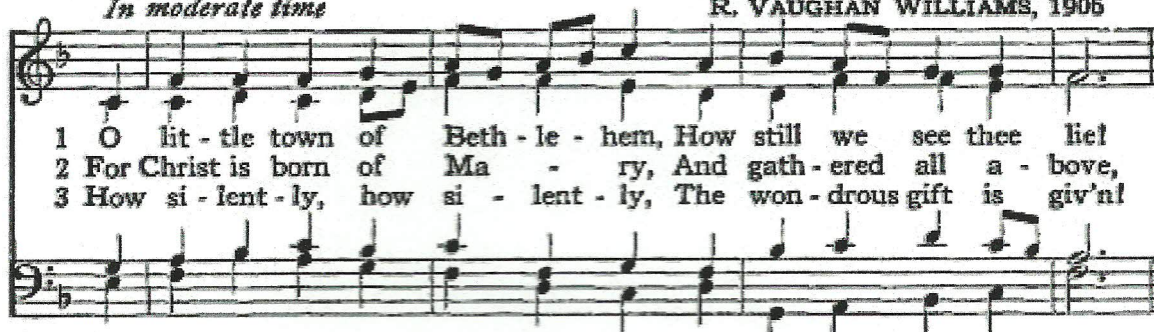
In moderate time

Christmas

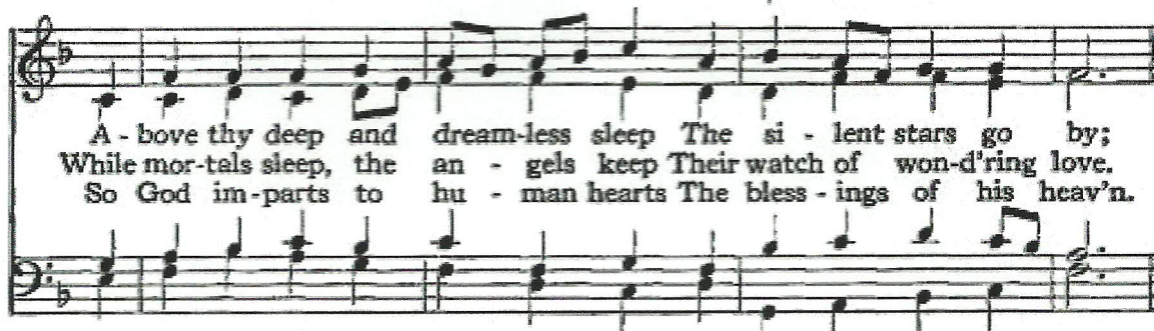
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English Melody arr. by

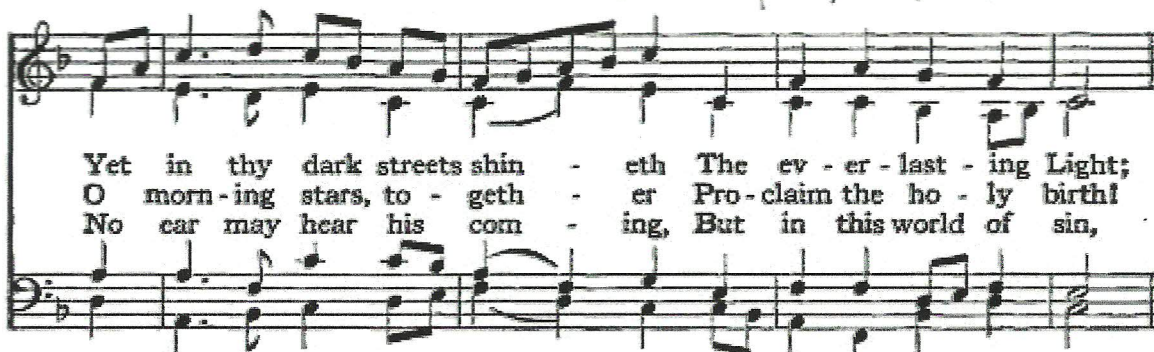
R. VAUGHAN WILLIAMS, 1906



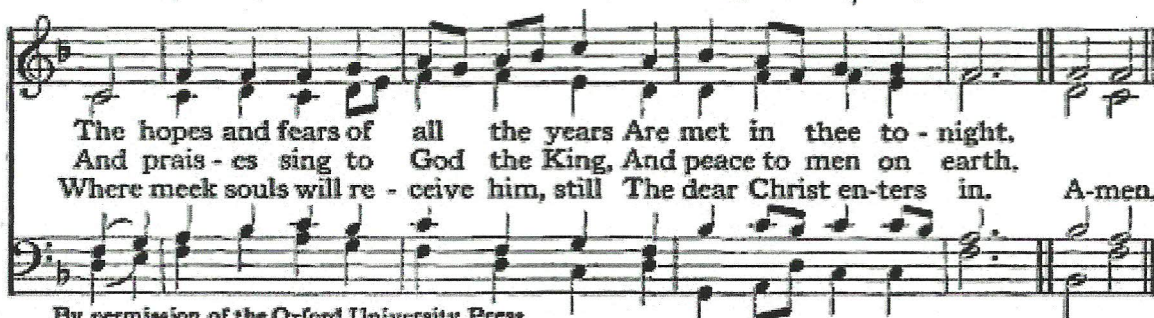
1 O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie!
 2 For Christ is born of Ma - ry, And gath - ered all a - bove,
 3 How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, The won - drous gift is giv'n!



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 won - d'ring love.
 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;
 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,



The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
 And prais - es 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. A - men.

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*4 Where children pure and happy
 Pray to the blessed Child,
 Where misery cries out to thee,
 Son of the mother mild;
 Where charity stands watching
 And faith holds wide the door,
 The dark night wakes, the glory breaks,
 And Christmas comes once more.

5 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! Amen.

PHILLIPS BROOKS, 1867