

## 31. ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

Words by  
C. F. ALEXANDER

H. J. GAUNTLETT  
Vv. 1-5 harmonised by A. H. MANN  
Descant and organ part by DAVID WILLCOCKS

**SOPRANO  
ALTO**

**TENOR  
BASS**

$\text{♩} = 63$

\* 1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty Stood a low - ly cat - tle - shed,  
Where a mo - ther laid her ba - by In a man - ger for his bed:  
2. He came down to earth from hea - ven Who is God and Lord of all,  
And his shel - ter was a sta - ble, And his cra - dle was a stall;

Ma - ry - was that mo - ther mild, - Je - sus - Christ - her lit - tle - child.  
With the - poor and mean and low - ly Lived on - earth - our Sa - viour ho - ly.

3. And through all his wondrous childhood  
He would honour and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden,  
In whose gentle arms he lay:  
Christian children all must be  
Mild, obedient, good as he.

4. For he is our childhood's pattern,  
Day by day like us he grew,  
He was little, weak, and helpless,  
Tears and smiles like us he knew:  
And he feeleth for our sadness,  
And he shareth in our gladness.

5. And our eyes at last shall see him,  
Through his own redeeming love,  
For that child so dear and gentle  
Is our Lord in heaven above;  
And he leads his children on  
To the place where he is gone.

**DESCANT  
(SOPRANOS)**

**ALL OTHER  
VOICES**

**ORGAN  
Man.**

**Ped.**

6. Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble, With the

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Also available separately (*Six Christmas Hymns* arr. David Willcocks)

\* The first verse may be sung by a solo treble.



ox - en stand - ing by, We shall see him; but in

ox - en stand - ing by, We shall see him; but in

hea - ven, Set at God's right hand on high; Where like

hea - ven, Set at God's right hand on high; Where like

*cresc.*

*cresc.*

*cresc.*

stars his child - ren crowned All in white shall wait a - round.

stars his child - ren crowned All in white shall wait a - round.

(P)