

O little town of Bethlehem

Josiah Booth

Sweetly and softly

1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee lie, A -
2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry; And gath - ered all a - bove, While

- bove thy deep and dream - less sleep The si - lent stars go by; Yet
mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep Their watch of won - d'ring love. O

with animation *cresc.* *ff*
in thy dark streets shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing light; The
morn - ing stars, to - geth - er Pro - claim the ho - ly birth, And

cresc. *ff*
hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to - night.
prais - es 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 blessing of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still,
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!

(Source: Carols old and carols new, Boston, 1916)