

Majesty in the Midst of the Mundane

NARRATOR

(music begins) "The noise and the bustle began earlier than usual in the village. As night gave way to dawn, people were already on the streets. Vendors were positioning themselves on the corners of the most heavily traveled avenues. Store owners were unlocking the doors to their shops. Children were awakened by the excited barking of the street dogs and the complaints of donkeys pulling carts....

"One's imagination is kindled thinking about the conversation of the innkeeper and his family at the breakfast table. Did anyone mention the arrival of the young couple the night before? Did anyone ask about their welfare? Did anyone comment on the pregnancy of the girl on the donkey?...

"Who had time to talk about them when there was so much excitement in the air? Augustus did the economy of Bethlehem a favor when he decreed that a census should be taken. Who could remember when such commerce had hit the village?

"No, it was doubtful that anyone mentioned the couple's arrival or wondered about the condition of the girl. They were too busy. The day was upon them. The day's bread had to be made. The morning's chores had to be done. There was too much to do to imagine that the impossible had occurred.

"God had entered the world as a baby."

Arranged by Tom Fettke

$\text{♩} = 84$

10 N.C. † "The Arrival"

mf

4 Narrator begins

mp

7

10

13

"One's imagination..."

16

19

22

11

"Who had time..."
† "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

rit.

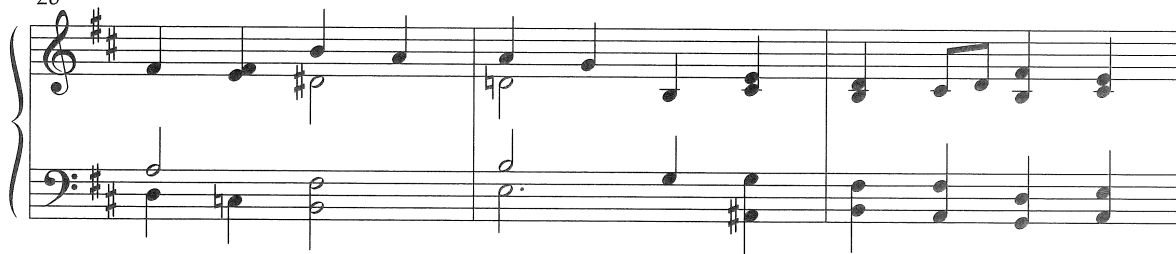
a tempo

24

25

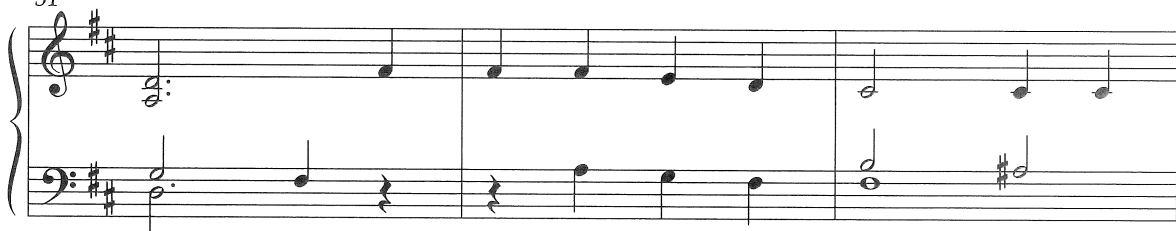


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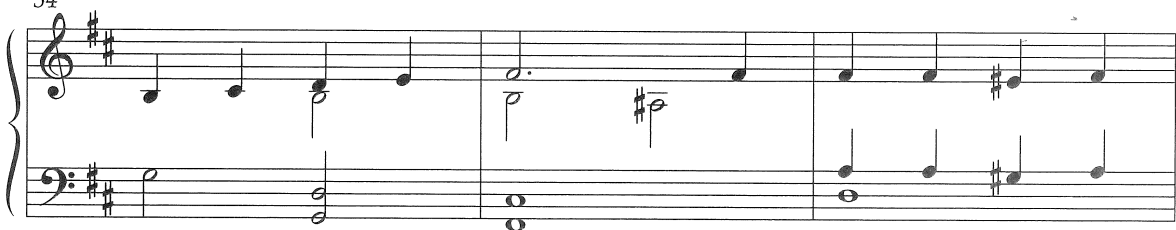


"No, it was doubtful..."

31



34



"...entered the world as a Baby."
(Segue to "Bethlehem")

37



Same tempo ♩ = 84

12 N.C. D A D⁴ A D A A D⁴ A D A

mf

14 2nd time D A D⁴ D A D⁴ D

43 † "Bethlehem"

CHOIR

45 mf

1. Cit - y of Da - vid, sim - ple lit - tle town, The
2. There in Ju - de - a, like it was fore-told, A

D G² A G²
B

47

One who is sa - cred has cho - sen to come down to your
Sav - ior, Christ Je - sus; Come, let your heart be - hold His di -

D G² A Bm

The shaded musical introduction allows you to present "Bethlehem" independently or as part of a concert or pageant.

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26
49

an-cient streets.
vin - i - ty, —

Rags will clothe Him
Look for Him who

Will you know Him, King of kings?
wrapped with - in hu - man - i - ty. —

G² A B m G² A B m

13 1st time

15 2nd time

as a ti - ny babe, — ly - ing on — the hay. —
sleeps with - in — your gates; — Come and see — His face. —

C G²/_B A

Beth - le - hem, — you are small a - mong — the na - tions; But the

F A m⁷

55

prom - ise of sal - va - tion is born in you to - night,

B \flat 2 F/A Gm7 F/A B \flat B \flat /C

57

Beth - le - hem. For with - in your low - ly man - ger there is

F A m7

59

more than just a strang - er: He's the Lord of life, Mes -

B \flat 2 F/A Gm7 A m7 B \flat C C/B \flat

28

61

16 2nd time

si - ah, Prince of peace; The Great I AM has

Ab² Eb/G Bb/F F

come to you, Beth - le - hem.

1 Eb Bb²/D D/A A D⁴₂/A D/A

mf

(to meas. 43) 2 *mp*

come to you, O

D/A D A D⁴₂/A D/A (to meas. 43) 2 Eb² Bb/D

† "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

29

67 *very smoothly*

lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee

mf

70

lie. The hopes and fears of all the years

cresc.

73

Are met in thee to -

cresc.

The musical score is arranged in three systems, each with a vocal line (treble and bass staves) and a piano accompaniment (grand staff). The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb). The tempo/style marking is 'very smoothly'. The first system (measures 67-69) features a vocal melody with lyrics 'lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee' and piano accompaniment marked 'mf'. The second system (measures 70-72) continues the vocal melody with lyrics 'lie. The hopes and fears of all the years' and piano accompaniment. The third system (measures 73-75) continues the vocal melody with lyrics 'Are met in thee to -' and piano accompaniment. Chord symbols are provided below the piano part in each system. The score concludes with a 'cresc.' marking in the piano part of the third system.

Chord symbols: E_b , Bb^2/D , Bbm^6/D_b , Dm/B , $Bbmaj^7$, C/Bb , Am^7 , Dm^7 , G^9 , Bb^2/C , Am/C , Bb^2/C , C .

75

night. Beth - le - hem, you are

f

D sus D G

77

small a - mong the na - tions; But the prom - ise of sal - va - tion is

17

Bm⁷ C² G/B

79

born in you to - night, Beth - le - hem. For with -

Am⁷ G/B C C/D G

81

in your low - ly man - ger there is more than just_ a strang - er. He's the

Bm7 C2 G/B

83

Lord of life, Mes - si - ah, Prince of peace;_ The

Am7 Bm7 C D D/C Bb2 F/A

85

Great I AM_ has come to you,_ has come to you._ The

C/G G F C2/E C sus D C2/E

88 *cresc.*

hopes and fears_ of all the years_ Are met in thee_ to -

F G/F Em7 Am Am7 Dm7 Em7

cresc.

91 *ff*

night, Beth - le - hem!

Fmaj7 E/G G7 C G/C C⁴ C

ff

93

G/C G G/C G C