

Once in Royal David's City

1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's ci - ty stood a low - ly cat - tle shed,
 2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of all;
 3 For he is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by day like us he grew;
 4 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing love,
 5 Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble with the ox - en stand - ing by

where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his bed:
 and his shel - ter was a sta - ble and his cra - dle was a stall:
 he was lit - tle, weak, and help - less; tears and smiles like us he knew:
 for that child, so dear and gen - tle, is our Lord in heaven a - bove:
 we shall see him, but in heav - en, set at God's right hand on high:

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 with the poor and meek and low - ly lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
 and he feels for all our sad - ness and he shares in all our glad - ness.
 and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he has gone.
 there his chil - dren gath - er round bright like stars, with glo - ry crowned.

Text: Cecil F. Alexander, 1848
 Tune: Henry J. Gauntlett, 1849



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