Once in Royal David's City



Verse I

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed.

Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

Verse 2

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all; and his shelter was a stable and his cradle was a stall: with the poor and meek and lowly lived on earth our saviour holy.

Verse 3

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 feels for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.

Verse 4

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 has gone.

Verse 5

Not in that poor lowly stable with the oxen standing by, we shall see him but in heaven set at God's right hand on high:
There his children gather round bright like stars, with glory crowned.

