

# BETHLEHEM, OF NOBLEST CITIES

STUTT GART, 87. 87.; Adapted from a melody by Christian Friedrich Witt

Published in Ludwig and Witt's *Psalmodia Sacra*, Gotha, 1715

Text: Prudentius (348-413); tr. Edward Caswall, 1849

1. Beth - le - hem, of no - blest cit - ies None can once with  
2. Fair - er than the sun at morn - ing Was the star that  
3. By its lam - bent beau - ty guid - ed See the east - ern  
4. Sol - emn things of myst - ic mean - ing: In - cense doth the  
5. Ho - ly Je - sus, in thy bright - ness To the Gen - tile

thee com - pare; Thou a - lone the Lord from heav - en  
told his birth; To the lands their God an - nounc - ing,  
kings ap - pear; See them bend, their gifts to of - fer,  
God dis - close, Gold a roy - al child pro - claim - eth,  
world dis - played, With the Fa - ther and the Spi - rit

Didst for us in - car - nate bear.  
Seen in flesh - ly form on earth.  
Gifts of in - cense, gold and myrrh.  
Myrrh a fu - ture tomb fore - shows.  
End - less praise to thee be paid.