Once in Royal David's City 250

WORDS: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848 (Lk. 2:7)

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

Mary, loving mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.

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, the scorned, the lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

3. Jesus 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 feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

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 is gone.