

The First Christmas Night

William Dix, 1871, arr. Richard W. Adams, 2019

William Gustin Cooper, 1889

$\text{♩} = 80$

1. There was si - lence in Beth - le - hem's fi - elds that night, Where the
2. How drear - y the ag - es of strife passed a - way, Since this
3. Then sud - den - ly came to the an - gel most bright All the

shep - herds were keep - ing their sheep; And the stars calm - ly shone from their
mar - vel - ous night was fore - told; Ho - w still the deep qui - et that
host of the heav - en - ly choir, And a glo - ry broke forth far more

beau - ti - ful height, While the flocks on the hills lay a - sleep; Lo, the
reigns ere the day, And the mid - night so lone - ly and cold. Love des -
dazz - ling to sight Than the sun in its bright noon - day fire; Now the

qui - et that fell In that ho - ly, mys - ter - ious hour Spoke of prom - ise ful - filled, and of
- cend - ed to earth, Where sheep on the hills lay a - sleep; Then an an - gel spoke out of the
si - lence is o'er, The prom - ise no long - er de - ferred, The an - gels sang out, and the

hope now re - vived That for years had been robbed of her power.
won - der - ful birth— That we no more need sor - row or weep.
shep - herds looked up: Good tid - ings from Hea - ven they heard.