

# How far is it to Bethlehem?

Voice

1. How — far is it to Beth - le - hem?  
 2. May — we stroke — the crea - tures there,  
 3. Great kings — have pre - cious gifts,

5

Not ve - ry far? Shall — we find the  
 Ox, ass and sheep? May — we peep like  
 And we have naught, Little smiles and

8

sta - ble room Lit by a star? Can  
 them and see Je - sus a - sleep? If  
 little tears Are all — we brought. For

11

we see the lit - tle child, Is he with - in? If —  
 we touch his ti - ny hand Will he a - wake? Will —  
 all wea - ry chil - dren Ma - ry must weep;  
 4. God in his mo - ther's arms, Babes in the byre,

15

we lift the wood - en latch May we go in?  
 he know we've come so far Just for his sake?  
 Here on this bed of straw Sleep, chil - dren, sleep.  
 Sleep, as they sleep who find their heart's de - sire.

The child-like nature of the words in this song, though not a problem for adults, can be a problem for children just passing out of childhood. It would be a pity for so beautiful a tune not to be sung because of this, so if a problem arises in some verses, give those verses to soloists, who will be glad of the chance to sing alone.