

# LET SIGHING CEASE AND WOE

Music: ST. MICHAEL (OLD 134TH), S.M.; L. Bourgeois, *Genevan Psalter*, 1551; adapt. W. Crotch

Text: *Jam desinant suspiria*, C. Coffin; tr. W.J. Blew

1. Let sigh - ing cease and woe, God from on high hath heard,  
2. Peace! through the deep of night The heav'n-ly choir breaks forth,  
3. The cave of Beth - le - hem Those wake-ful shep - herds seek:  
4. We en - ter at the door What mar - vel meets the eye?

Heav'n's gate is op-'ning wide, and lo! The long-ex - pect - ed Word.  
Sing - ing, with fes - tal songs and bright, Our God and Sav-iour's birth.  
Let us too rise and greet with them That in - fant pure and meek.  
A crib, a moth-er pale and poor, A child of pov - er - ty.

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| 5. Art Thou the eternal Son,<br>The eternal Father's ray?<br>Whose little hand, Thou infant one,<br>Doth lift the world away?                          | 7. Chaste be our love like Thine;<br>Our swelling souls bring low,<br>And in our hearts, O Babe divine<br>Be born, abide, and grow. |
| 6. Yea- faith through that dim cloud,<br>Like lightning, darts before,<br>And greets Thee, at whose footstool bowed<br>Heav'n's trembling hosts adore. | 8. So shall Thy birthday morn,<br>Lord Christ, our birthday be,<br>Then greet we all, ourselves new-born,<br>Our King's nativity.   |