

Once In Royal David's City

IRBY 8.7.8.7.7

Cecil Frances Alexander (1848)

Henry J. Gauntlett (1849) Arr. I Reefman

$\text{♩} = 48$

Capo 3: C2
Eb2

Gsus/B
Bbsus/D

Am7
Cm7

F2
Ab2

The piano introduction consists of four measures in 2/4 time. The right hand plays a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the left hand plays a simple bass line of half notes. The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb).

5

C2
Eb2

Dm7
Fm7

C/E
Eb/G

1. Once in ro - yal Da - vid's ci - ty stood a
2. He came down to earth from hea - ven who is
3. And through all his won - drous child - hood he would
4. And our eyes at last shall see him, through his
5. Not in that poor low - ly sta - ble with the

The first system of the song features a vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The piano accompaniment is in 2/4 time, with the right hand playing chords and the left hand playing a simple bass line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

8

F2
Ab2

Am7
Cm7

low - ly cat - tle shed, where a mo - ther laid her
God and Lord of all, and his shel - ter was a
ho - nour and o - bey, love and watch the low - ly
own re - deem - ing love; for that child so dear and
ox - en stan - ding by, we shall see him but in

The second system of the song continues the vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The vocal line starts with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The piano accompaniment is in 2/4 time, with the right hand playing chords and the left hand playing a simple bass line. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

11

G B \flat F \sharp 2 A \flat 2 C \sharp 2/E E \flat 2/G Dm7 Fm7

ba - by in a man - ger for his bed: Ma - ry was that
 sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a stall: with the poor; and
 mai - den in whose gen - tle arms he lay: Chris - tian chil - dren
 gen - tle is our Lord in heav'n. a - bove: and he leads his
 hea - ven set at God's right hand on high; when like stars his

15

C \sharp 2/E E \flat 2/G F \sharp 4 A \flat 4 G \sharp 7sus B \flat 7sus x2

mo - ther mild, Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
 mean and low - ly lived on earth our sav - iour ho - ly.
 all must be mild, o - be - dient, good as he.
 chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.
 chil - dren cro all in white shall wait a - round.

18

C \sharp 2 E \flat 2 G \sharp 7sus/B B \flat 7sus/D Am7 Cm7 F \sharp 2 A \flat 2 D.S.

rall. last time

The intro should be used as an interlude until after the third verse, at which point this bigger interlude works better. This interlude can also be repeated after the last verse for a more gradual finish.