

**Bethlehem, of noblest cities**

Bethlehem, of noblest cities  
None can once with thee compare:  
Thou alone the Lord from heaven  
Didst for us Incarnate bear.

Fairer than the sun at morning  
Was the star that told his birth  
To the lands their God announcing,  
Hid beneath a form of earth.

By its lambent beauty guided,  
See, the Eastern Kings appear  
See them bend, their gifts to offer  
Gifts of incense, gold and myrrh.

Solemn things of mystick meaning  
Incense doth the God disclose:  
Gold a Royal child proclaimeth:  
Myrrh a future tomb foreshows,

Holy Jesu, in thy brightness  
To the Gentile world displayd,  
With the Father and the Spirit  
Praise eterne to thee be paid. Amen.