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Tune: IRBY (87 87 77) Text: Cecil Alexander (†1895)

1. Once in roy - al Da - vid's_ cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle_ shed,
 2. He came down to earth_ from_ heav - en, who is God and Lord_ of_ all,
 3. For he is our child - hood's pat - tern, day by day like us_ he_ grew;
 4. And our eyes at last_ shall_ see him, through his own re - deem - ing_ love;
 5. Not in that poor low - ly_ sta - ble, with the ox - en stand - ing_ by,

where a moth - er laid_ her_ ba - by in a man - ger for_ his_ bed:
 and his shel - ter was_ a_ sta - ble, and his cra - dle was_ a_ stall;
 he was lit - tle, weak_ and_ help - less, tears and smiles like us_ he_ knew.
 for that Child who seemed so_ help - less is our Lord in heav'n a - bove;
 we shall see him; but_ in_ heav - en, set at God's right hand_ on_ high;

Mar - y was that moth - er mild, Je - sus Christ her lit - tle_ child.
 with the poor, the scorned, the low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior_ ho - ly.
 and he feel - eth for our sad - ness, and he shar - eth in_ our_ glad - ness.
 and he leads his chil - dren on_ to the place where he_ is_ gone_
 when like stars his chil - dren crowned, all in white shall wait a - round_