



CHRIST-CHILD SLEEPING IN THE MANGER

Christ-child sleeping in the manger  
Lying on your bed of hay,  
What goes through your little mind  
On this, the first bright Christmas day.

Do you see your mother smiling  
As she looks into your face  
Thinking of the angel's visit  
Telling her God's plan of grace?

Do you see the faithful Joseph  
Standing by your mother's side  
Looking gently at your visage  
As his heart just bursts with pride?

Do you see the shepherds' presence  
As they come beside your bed?  
Do you know their awe and wonder  
At the words the angels said.

Do you hear the sounds of movement  
In the streets outside the stall  
As the people come for the census  
Answering the imperial call?

Do they, as they walk the streets,  
Know that you have come here now  
To bring the presence of God's Kingdom  
To all who will before you bow?

Do you waken as the Wise Men  
Come to pay their homage, too,  
Following the star of wonder  
As it leads them straight to you?

Do you know the complex meaning  
Of their journey to your stall  
Proclaiming you the King of Israel  
And the Lord of nations all?

"Jesus, child of God, Messiah,"  
That's the hymn of praise we sing  
As we come into your presence  
Worshiping you our newborn king.

But do you know our praise is fleeting  
As we worship you this day?  
Do you know we will reject you  
When you don't do things our way?

As you sleep within the manger,  
Do you know what lay ahead?  
Do you know that on a Friday  
You will be crucified till dead?

And if you know, would you choose  
To go some other path  
Than come in love and die for us  
To save us from God's holy wrath?

We are so glad that you have come  
From your blest home above  
And have come into our world  
To share with us God's holy love.

And so we thank you little Christ-child  
For your great gift of grace  
Bringing us into God's presence  
To see Him ever face to face.

C. Handlee Vige  
Christmas 1992

May the Christ-child we greet in the manger on Christmas Day  
bless you and all your loved ones each and every day, filling your  
lives with grace, peace, hope and love.

The Vige family  
Pastor, Lynne,  
Beth and Tim

