Earth has many a noble city AMNS 48 Melody: Stuttgart 8 7. 8 7.



Earth has many a noble city;

Bethl’em, thou dost all excel:

out of thee the Lord from heaven

came to rule his Israel.

Fairer than the sun at morning

was the star that told his birth,

to the world its God announcing

seen in fleshly form on earth.

Eastern sages at his cradle

make oblations rich and rare;

see them give in deep devotion

gold and frankincense and myrrh.

Sacred gifts of mystic meaning:

incense doth their God disclose,

gold the King of kings proclaimeth,

myrrh his sepulchre foreshows.

Jesu, whom the Gentiles worshipped

at thy glad Epiphany,

unto thee with God the Father

and the Spirit glory be.

Words: Prudentius (348-c. 413), translated by Edward Caswall (1814-1878)

Music: Adapted from a melody by Christian Friedrich Witt (1660-1716)