

Hymns' 17.3.15 Cathedral Song **THE KINDLY KEEPER**

"And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn." Luke 2:7 NRSV

The kindly keeper welcomed them:

"There may be space for you.

Although it's true, my inn is filled,

I'll see what I can do."

He soon returned and smiling said,

"The stable has been swept;

it's safe and warm so you can rest.

It seems you haven't slept."

An anxious Joseph sighed relief,

and Mary murmured praise

to this kind keeper serving God

in quiet, humble ways.

The keeper soon beheld a star

while music filled the sky.

Then, in the morning, he returned,

and heard a Baby's cry.

The heav'nly Keeper asks us now:

“Find lodging safe and warm,
for homeless children to be loved
in shelter from the storm,
as I have planned for you, my child,
beyond your fear and night,
an open door, a kindly smile,
and home in endless light.”

Words: R. Frederick Crider ©2017 Some rights reserved. Scripture: Luke 2:1-7 CMD

Suggested Tune: Carol, Richard Storrs Willis, 1850 (UMH #218 “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”)