

The First Gleam of Christmas

♩ = 84



1 The first gleam of Christ-mas shines through the east-ern skies. It
 2 It shines a - bove the wil - der - ness, the sag - es' path re - veals. It
 3 The em - bers banked in wait - ing hearts, a fire from the skies, be -
 4 From Beth - le - hem to Gol - go - tha and throught the East - er dawn, the
 5 The light that first shone forth from God, like star - fire on the earth, be -



flick - ers through the cen - tu - ries; it dims but nev - er dies. It
 lights the skies and blinds the eyes of shep - herds in the fields. It
 come a blaze with - in the boy with fire in his eyes. The
 dark has nev - er put it out, and still it trav - els on. To
 came a ba - by long a - go, re - born with each new birth. Peace



burns with - in the He - brew heart in prom - i - ses of old, and
 glows with - in a sta - ble dark and shim - mers with the winds that
 brill - iance of e - ter - ni - ty, the bright Em-man - u - el, was
 north - ern lands its glo - ry gleams and glints up - on the snow, the
 in the heart, the home, the world, it dims but nev - er dies. The



warms the watch - er on the hill in days gone sere and cold.
 blow the lamp that lights the stall where Christ-mas love be - gins. And the
 fanned to flame with fish - er - man and wo - men at the well.
 vill - age church, and ev - er - green a - light with can - dle glow.
 first faint gleam of Christ-mas still is won - der to our eyes.



first gleam of Christ-mas, the first hint of cheer,



lights the days of win - ter in the dwin - dling of the year.

WORDS and MUSIC: James K. Manley

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A song for Advent candle lighting