

Silent night

by [Bonnie Thurston](#) in the [December 19, 2018](#) issue

The old tradition says
at Christ's birthing
there was utter silence.
The whole created world
was still. For an hour.
Even choirs of angels
went quiet.
It seems fitting
in the infant face
of incomprehensibility
to forego language,
sound, even song.
Into *stille nacht*
that tiny spark,
the Word, dropped
into kindling flesh,
set afire everything
we thought we knew
about God.