

Christmas Pageant 2006

Enter narrators and Host Angel

Congregation sings one verse of
"O Come All Ye Faithful"

Host Angel: Welcome Everyone. Come back with us in time.
Our narrators will lead us through the events
surrounding the miracle of the very first Christmas.

(Short Pause)

Long before the birth of Jesus,
ancient prophets foretold of a wonderful event.
Listen to the words of the prophet Isaiah.

(enter Isaiah)

Isaiah: Yes, I told of the wonderful event of the coming of Jesus,
who would be the Son of God and would bring a
beautiful message of love and hope to all the world.
This is what I wrote so long ago:

*"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given
and the government shall be upon his shoulder;
and his name shall be called,
'Wonderful, Counselor',
'Mighty God',
'Everlasting Father',
'Prince of Peace'.
His royal power will continue to grow;
his kingdom will always be at peace.
He will rule from now until the end of time."*

(Isaiah exit)

Narrator One: Long ago, in a faraway land, in a town called Nazareth, there lived a young girl whose name was Mary. She was soon to be married to a man named Joseph.

(enter Mary)

Narrator Two: One evening Mary went out to her little courtyard to pray. Suddenly, she was surrounded by a brilliant light. Out of the light came a voice.

Narrator Three: God sent a messenger, the angel Gabriel, to appear before Mary.

(enter Gabriel)

Gabriel: Hail Mary, full of Grace. The Lord is with you.

Narrator One: Mary was frightened. Then the voice spoke again.

Gabriel: Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. He has chosen you to bear a son. You will call his name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of God.

Mary: But how can this be? I am not yet married.

Gabriel: Fear not. The Holy Spirit will be with you.

Mary: I am God's servant.
Let it happen as you have said.

Congregation and children sing one verse of
"The First Noel"

(exit Gabriel)

Narrator Two: And soon, Mary found she was with child.
 Now Joseph, the man Mary was engaged to,
 was a good man.

(enter Joseph & the Donkey)

Mary: Joseph, I have some wonderful news.
 An angel came to me to say I was
 Chosen to have God's son

Joseph: But.....

Narrator Three: Joseph was astonished and went away
 to think this over.

(Joseph leans against the organ)

Narrator One: One night while he slept, an angel came to him.

(enter Gabriel)

Gabriel: Fear not, Joseph. Mary's baby was given to her
 by the Holy Spirit.

(exit Gabriel)

Narrator Two: And soon after, Joseph and Mary were married.

(Mary and Joseph join together in center)

Narrator Three: Joseph and Mary were very excited about being chosen
 to bring Jesus, the Son of God, into this world.

Narrator One: Some months later, a decree went out from
 Caesar Augustus that everyone should return
 to the town of their ancestors to be counted.

Narrator Two: Joseph was of the line of David, from a town called Bethlehem, several days journey from Nazareth. Even though the time was near for the baby to be born, they had to go.

(Mary & Joseph and the Donkey walk down the aisle and back to the front while the congregation and children sing one verse of "O Little Town of Bethlehem")

Narrator Three: It was a long, hard trip and by the time they arrived Mary was very tired and knew that the baby would come soon.

Narrator One: They had to find a place to sleep, but the town was crowded.

(Joseph knocks on the first pew right side)

Narrator Two: No room!

(Joseph knocks on the first pew left side)

Narrator Three: No room!

(Joseph knocks on the organ)

Michael Shapiro: No room!

Narrator One: Finally, they came to an inn. It was their last hope.

(Joseph knocks on the advent wreath table)

(enter the Innkeeper)

Innkeeper: No room!

Joseph: Oh please sir, we are desperate!

Innkeeper: Well....there's a stable out back. It isn't much, but you can stay there if you want.

Narrator Two: And so it was, that night, the baby Jesus
was born in a stable.

Narrator Three: Mary swaddled him in clean strips of white cloth
and gently laid him down in the manger

(Innkeeper and Joseph open the curtains)

(Congregation and children sing one verse of “Silent Night”)

Narrator One: Meanwhile, in the hills outside the town,
shepherds were watching their flocks by night.

(The Shepherd Angel walks down the aisle to escort the
shepherds and sheep to the front where they kneel)

Narrator Two: Suddenly, the whole sky was filled with light.

(The Shepherd Angel stands in front of the shepherds at the front)

Shepherd Angel: Fear not. For behold, I bring you tidings of great joy
which shall be unto all people.
For you a savior is born, which is Christ the Lord.
You will find the babe lying in a manger in Bethlehem.

Narrator Three: And suddenly there was, with the angel,
a multitude of heavenly hosts, praising God and singing.

Shepherd Angel: Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and peace on earth and good will to all people.

(The Shepherd Angel walks down the aisle to escort the
other angels back to the front as the congregation and cast
sings one verse of “Angels We Have Heard on High”)

(Angels gather around the manger, as shepherds return to places)

Narrator One: And as suddenly as they had appeared, they were gone.

Narrator Two: When the angels had departed, the shepherds decided that they should go see the baby Jesus right away.

Shepherd One: Did you see what I saw?

Shepherd Two: I did. It was amazing.

Shepherd Three: Let's go into Bethlehem and see if we can find this baby.

Shepherd Four: We have no riches to honor him with, but we can offer him our faith.

(shepherds and sheep walk to the back of the church and turn around and walk back to the front while "What Child is This" plays in the background. They approach the manger and kneel.

Narrator Three: The shepherds found the baby, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger just as the angel had said.

(Children and congregation sings one verse of "Away in a Manger")

Narrator One: Far away, in the East, a star appeared to the three Kings and guided them to the stable.

(The Star Angel walks down the aisle to escort the Kings back to the front as the congregation and cast sings one verse of "We Three Kings")

King 1: We followed a star from the east.

King 2: It was a long journey, but we hoped it was the sign that our savior was born.

King 3: We brought gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

(When the gifts are set down by the manger, Isaiah enters)

Narrator Two: Let us ask these gathered in Bethlehem what name they have in mind for the baby.

Isaiah: What should we call this child who was born in a stable?

Mary: God said to name him Jesus.

Joseph: He shall also be called "Wonderful Counselor"

Narrator Three: Shepherds, tell the name you give.

Shepherd 1: We'll call him "Everlasting Father,

Shepherd 2: and "Good Shepherd", too.

Shepherd 3: As He will be keeper of the flock.

Isaiah: Kings, guided by a star, what name do you give?

King 1: We will call Him "Mighty God",

King 2: and "King of Kings".

King 3: We shall also call him "Our Savior".

Narrator One: Angels, what have you to say?

Host Angel: We'll call Him "Almighty One", for now He reigns, and his blessedness with us remains.

Gabriel: His gentleness will never cease, and so we will call him "Prince of Peace"

Isaiah: This ends our story, but the story of Jesus and His love will go on forever.

(Host Angel comes to center)

Host Angel: We thank you for coming with us and singing with us.
 May the miracle that happened once in Bethlehem
 be happening again this Christmas for us all.

(Congregation and children sing "Joy to the World" - all four verses,
children stay in place for first verse, then go down the aisle and back
to front to exit)

Cast List

Host Angel & Shepherd Angel – Alex Chin

Narrators – Becky Rasmussen, Sofia Gouin & Matthew Wilmot-Stroud

Isaiah – Matthew Gattullo

Mary – Monica Moser

Gabriel – Julien Gouin

Joseph – Ellis Guzewich

Donkey – Stephen Chin

Innkeeper – John Chin

Baby Jesus – Naila Alston-Romero

Shepherds – Jack Sheehy (1), Tiernan Fuller (2), Ryan Cuccia (3)
Henry Garrison (4), Thomas Sheehy, Liam Peabody,
Charlie Garrison, Willy Garrison, James Cuccia, Jake Addressi

Sheep – Vienna Guzewich

Star Angel – Julia Moser

Angels – Ellsa Peabody, Victoria Donofrio, Lucia Romero-Alston, Leah Rose
Sellinger, Ruby Sellinger, Sophia Donofrio, Sophie Fisher, Katrina

Kings – Adam Wilmot-Stroud (1), Erik Rasmussen (2), Scott Rasmussen (3)

Christmas Pageant

Presented by the Sunday School

Music

Congregation Seated:

“O Come All Ye Faithful” - # 41, 1 verse

“The First Noel” – #56, 1 verse

“O Little Town of Bethlehem” - #43, 1 verse

“Silent Night” - #60, 1 verse

Angels We Have Heard on High - #23, 1 verse

Away in a Manger - #25, 1 verse

We Three Kings - #66, 1 verse

Congregation Standing:

Joy to the World - #40, 4 verses,