

The Christmas Story (Luke 2:1-19)



*(Joseph, Mary & behind stage right door; sheep on front center row)

*(children's choir in front foyer)

*(Main lights low; stage lights on) *enough light for congregation to read song lyrics*

Piano begins softly "O Little Town of Bethlehem" children's choir enters from foyer down center aisle with battery operated candles; they sing when they arrive center stage.

Children's choir: O Little Town of Bethlehem (center stage)

Narrator #1: And it came to pass in those days that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria. And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. *(Start piano intro for Silent Night)*

Adult choir: Silent Night (Mary & Joseph enter stage left to manger scene during last line of choir song)

Narrator #2: And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; because he was of the house and lineage of David. To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

Narrator #3: And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. *(Start piano intro for What Child...)* And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

Congregation (Ladies only) : What Child is This? (vs 1 & 2)

Narrator #4: *(Start piano intro for While Shepherds)* And there were in the same country shepherds, abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night...

Congregation: (Men only): While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night (vs 1 & 5)

Narrator #4: And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them...

Narrator #5: Fear not: for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

(Start piano “Angels We Have Heard on High” background music; children’s choir to center stage)

Narrator #6: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying...

Adult choir speaks: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace... good will toward men!

Adult & children’s choir: Angels We Have Heard on High

Narrator #7: And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see the thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

*Ladies’ Choir or Duet : One Small Child (arranged by Molly Ljames) *Lorenz Corporation*

Narrator #8: And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

Pastor : Conclusion using Luke 19:10 (Jesus was more than just a baby...)

Congregation: Tell Me the Story of Jesus (Hymnal #232) verse one and three