

LIVING NATIVITY 2018 CHRISTMAS STORY

INTRODUCTION (Mark 1)

1The beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; **2** As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. **3** The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, **make his paths straight!**

ANNUNCIATION (Luke 1) [MARY & GABRIEL]



[LIGHTS ON HOME SCENE]



(Mary is sweeping her house as Angel Gabriel walks up.)

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, **27** to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.



(Angel Gabriel stands with arms out.)

28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" **29** But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.

30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, **33** and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." **34** And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.

36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. **37** For nothing will be impossible with God."

38 And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.



(Gabriel leaves as Mary leans on her broom, thinking.)



[LIGHTS OFF]



SONG 1: O Come, O Come, Emmanuel? 2 verses

JOHN THE BAPTIST (Luke 1) [MARY & ELIZABETH]

CHANGE SCENE



[LIGHTS ON HOME SCENE]



[Elizabeth holds her belly as Mary walks up to greet her.]

39 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, **40** and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.



[Mary & Elizabeth greet each other with hugs.]

41 And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, **42** and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! **43** And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? **44** For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. **45** And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord."

MAGNIFICAT: (Luke 1:47-56)



[Mary kneels with hands up as Elizabeth looks down until the lights turn off.]

EXIT SCENE. Mary goes to petting zoo to wait for Joseph and the donkey.]



[LIGHTS FADE OUT ON HOME SCENE]

READER: Female

46 And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord, 47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, 48 for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now on all generations will call me blessed; 49 for he who is mighty has done great things for me, and holy is his name. 50 And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. 51 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts; 52 he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate; 53 he has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. 54 He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, 55 as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

(narrator) 56 And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to her home.

JOSEPH’S DREAM (Matthew 1) [JOSEPH & GABRIEL]

CHANGE SCENE



[LIGHTS ON HOME SCENE]



(Joseph rolls out his grass mat and goes to sleep.)

18 Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

19 And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly.



(At “behold,” Gabriel stands with arms out, like giving an angelic message.)

20 But as he considered these things, **behold**, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.

21 She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.”



(Gabriel leaves.)

22 All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 23 “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel”(which means, God with us).

24 When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, 25 but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.



(Joseph wakes up, looking for angel Gabriel, doesn't see him. Joseph rolls up his mat and walks to petting zoo to meet with Mary.)



[LIGHTS OFF]



Song 2 Silent Night: 2 verses

BETHLEHEM (Luke 2) [MARY, JOSEPH & BABY JESUS]



[LIGHTS ON MANGER]



[Mary and Joseph walk to manger scene slowly with Baby Jesus & Donkey from Petting Zoo.]

1 In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.
2 This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. **3** And all went to be registered, each to his own town. **4** And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, **5** to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, **[b]** who was with child. **6** And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. **7** And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, **because there was no place for them in the inn.**

CHANGE SCENE



[During the song, shepherds will bring the sheep around the hill side scene.]



[LIGHTS OFF MANGER]



Song 3 Away in a Manger: 2 verses

SHEPHERDS & ANGELS (Luke 2) [SHEPHERDS AND ALL ANGELS]



[LIGHTS ON HILL SCENE AND SHEAPHERD BANNER]

(NARATOR GO SLOW) 8 And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.



[Angel Gabriel walks up to shepherds and shepherds look afraid.]

10 And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

12 And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger."



[At "suddenly," all angels surround the shepherds with hands out.]

13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

14 "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

15 When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us."

16 And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.



[LIGHTS OFF]



Song 4 The First Noel : 2 verses



[Angels and shepherds all go to nativity.]

17 And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child.

18 And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them.

19 But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart.

20 And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.



[LIGHTS OFF]



Song 5 Hark the Herald Angels Sing : 2 verses



[During Song, Roman guards hang cloth over home scene and bring Herod's chair, stand either side]

(WISE MEN START MOVING AROUND BACK OF CHAIRS TOWARD HEROD)

HEROD & THE WISE MEN (Matthew 2)

[HEROD, ROMAN GUARDS, CHIEF PRIESTS, WISE MEN]



[LIGHTS ON HEROD'S PALACE & MANGER]

DRUMS



[Herod sits on throne with a guard at each side and wise men standing around.]

1 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men [a] from the east came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him."

3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.



[Chief Priests hurry over to King Herod.]

5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

6 "'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.'"

7 Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared.

8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him."



[Wise Men walk to manger with gifts held up for Baby Jesus and kneel around the manger.]



[LIGHTS OFF PALACE AND ON MANGER]

9 After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was.

10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy.

11 And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.



[ALL CHARACTERS STAY AT MANGER SCENE, WORSHIPPING BABY JESUS.]



[LIGHTS OFF DURING SONG]



Song 6 We Three Kings: 2 verses



[ALL LIGHT ON MANGER]

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, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:6)

CLOSING REMARKS:

CLOSING MESSAGE (Pastor's Remarks) TELL THE GOOD NEWS!



[LIGHTS OFF DURING SONG]



Song 7 Joy to The World: 2 verses