



CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Each grade (combine cabins) will be responsible for putting on one scene of the play. Cabin leaders will need to assign roles for the characters and one cabin leader will need to serve as the narrator. Please report to the Big Group room 15 minutes after your service begins. **Be sure to have one male AND one female to help kids get into costume.**

SCENE 1 - 1st Graders (Luke 2:1-7)

Role	Props	Cabin(s)	Person
Narrator (adult)	None		
Roman Emperor Augustus (1 kid)	Roman soldier costume, decree to hold up		
*Joseph (1 boy)	Blue robe & hat		
*Mary (1 girl)	Pink robe & hat		
*Baby Jesus (doll)	Doll, manger, blanket	n/a	n/a

*this role has no speaking part

SCENE 2 - 2nd Graders (Luke 2:8-15)

Role	Props	Cabin(s)	Person
Narrator (adult)	None		
Shepherds (3 kids)	Brown t-shirt, brown hat, rope belt, crook		
*Flock of sheep (4+ kids)	White bibs, sheep mask		
Angel of the Lord (boy)	White t-shirt, rope belt, wings, halo, sword		
Host of other angels (3+ kids)	White t-shirt, rope belt, wings, halo		

additional kids can join the "flock of sheep" or "host of other angels" as costume availability allows

*this role has no speaking part

SCENE 3 - 3rd Graders (Luke 2:16-20)

Role	Props	Cabin(s)	Person
Narrator (adult)	None		
Shepherds (3 kids)	Brown t-shirt, brown hat, rope belt, crook		
*Joseph (1 boy)	Blue robe & hat		
*Mary (1 girl)	Pink robe & hat		
*Other people in Bethlehem (3 kids)	Red robe & hat, yellow robe & hat, green robe & hat		
*Flock of sheep (4 kids)	White bib, sheep mask		

additional kids can dress as "other people" or join the "flock of sheep" as costume availability allows

*this role has no speaking part

SCENE 4 - 4th Graders (Matthew 2:1-12)

Role	Props	Cabin(s)	Person
Narrator (adult)	None		
Wise men (3 kids)	Red robe, red cape, crown		
*Wise men gifts (3 kids)	Gold (yellow costume & hat, tag) Frankincense (red costume & hat, tag) Myrrh (purple costume & hat, tag)		
*Joseph (1 boy)	Blue robe & hat		
*Mary (1 girl)	Pink robe & hat		
*Baby Jesus (doll)	Doll wrapped in blanket	n/a	n/a
King Herod (1 kid)	Red robe, big crown		
Priest (1 kid)	Black robe & hat, white cross, brown cross necklace, Bible		
Teacher of the law (1 kid)	Brown robe, rope belt		
*Star (1 kid)	Star costume		

*this role has no speaking part

Manger (with Jesus doll and blanket hidden behind it) and rock with Bethlehem sign must be set up on the stage before beginning. **All classes should be dressed before skit begins.** 1st graders/Scene 1 will line up by the door; all others will go in to watch the production (in costume). Scenes 2-4 will be told (by worship leader or narrator) when to leave through the back door to go wait in the hall.

INTRODUCTION

Song: Go Tell it on the Mountain

[Narrator enters and stands off to the side of the stage]

Narrator: Today we are going to learn about Jesus' birth. Jesus is the Son of God, who came to save us from our sin so we can have eternal life.

[***Put slide up] Isaiah 7:14 says, "The Lord himself will give you the sign. Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son and will call him Immanuel (which means 'God is with us')."

God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary, who was engaged to marry a man named Joseph. In Luke 1:31-33, Gabriel told Mary, "You have found favor with God! You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!"

*** PRESET #4 (All lights dim.)

SCENE 1 - 1st Graders (Luke 2:1-7)

*** PRESET #3 (Front spotlights go up.)

[Joseph and Mary enter and wait by the door (stage left).]

Narrator: The Roman emperor, Augustus, had a command for his Roman Empire.

[Augustus enters to front of stage and reads decree.]

Augustus: I have issued a decree that a census be taken of the land.

[Augustus exits room.]

Narrator: A census is a count of all of the people in the land. Everyone had to return to the towns their family was from in order to register for the census. Joseph was a descendant of King David who was from Bethlehem. Joseph took his fiancée Mary, who was very pregnant, and they traveled to Bethlehem.

[Joseph and Mary walk to the manger set up on the stage.]

Narrator: While in Bethlehem, Mary gave birth to her son. She wrapped him in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger because there was no lodging available for them. They named the baby Jesus and were very happy.

[Mary takes Jesus doll and blanket from behind manger, wraps Jesus in the blanket, and lays it in the manger.]

***PRESET #4 (Front spotlights dim.)

[Joseph, Mary, and Narrator exit.]

***PRESET #1 (All lights go up for song.)

DISMISS 2nd GRADERS TO PREPARE FOR SCENE 2

Song: Away in a Manger

***PRESET #4 (All lights dim.)

SCENE 2 - 2nd Graders (Luke 2:8-15)

[Narrator takes place by the side of the stage. Shepherds and sheep enter and take place in front of stage.]

***PRESET #3 (Front spotlights go up)

Narrator: The night that Jesus was born there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them.

[Angel enters and joins shepherds and sheep in front of stage. Shepherds bow down and cower in fear.]

Narrator: The shepherds were terrified, but the angel reassured them.

Angel of the Lord: Don't be afraid! I have good news that will bring joy to everyone. The Savior has been born today in Bethlehem! You will know it is Him because He will be wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger!

Narrator: Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others — the armies of heaven —praising God and saying,

[Dramatic door opening as other angels enter and say...]

Host of angels: Glory to God! Peace on earth! [Repeat 2-3 times]

[After saying their line a few times, all angels exit the room]

Narrator: When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds talked to each other,

Shepherd 1: Let's go to Bethlehem!

Shepherd 2: Let's see what has happened, what the Lord has told us about.

[The shepherds and sheep exit the room.]

***PRESET #4 (All lights dim.)

[Narrator exits stage.]

***PRESET #1 (All lights go up for song.)

DISMISS 3rd GRADERS TO PREPARE FOR SCENE 3

Song: The First Noel

Song: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

***PRESET #4 (All lights dim.)

SCENE 3 - 3rd Graders (Luke 2:16-20)

[Narrator takes place by the side of stage. Joseph and Mary enter and sit around manger. Other people in Bethlehem enter and go to far side of stage. Sheep enter and stand in front of the stage by the door they came in.]

***PRESET #3 (Front spotlights go up.)

Narrator: The shepherds headed to Bethlehem, hurrying to see what the angels had told them about.

[Shepherds enter and walk up to the stage toward Mary and Joseph, looking at the baby Jesus.]

Narrator: The shepherds found baby Jesus. They were amazed at what they saw. After seeing him, they left and told everyone they saw about Jesus.

[Shepherds walk off the stage and start talking to the other people in Bethlehem standing around the stage.]

Shepherd 1: Did you hear about the child?

Shepherd 2: The Lord has sent His Son, the Messiah, who we have heard about.

Shepherd 3: The Savior, Jesus, is born! The King of Israel has arrived!

[Shepherds move to left of stage, where the sheep are.]

Shepherd 1: Praise God for bringing us the Savior!

Shepherd 2: Be glorified, God, for sending the Son of the Most High!

Shepherd 3: It was just like the angel told us. The child has been born!

***PRESET #4 (All lights dim.)

[Narrator, shepherds, sheep, Joseph, Mary, and the other people all exit room.]

***PRESET #1 (All lights go up for song.)

DISMISS 4th GRADERS TO PREPARE FOR SCENE 4

Song: Joy to the World

***PRESET #4 (All lights dim.)

SCENE 4 - 4th Graders (Matthew 2:1-12)

[Narrator takes place by the side of stage.]

***PRESET #3 (Front spotlights go up.)

Narrator: After Jesus was born in Bethlehem, during the reign of King Herod, some wise men from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem.

[3 wise men enter and take place in front of stage.]

Wise Man 1: Where is the king of the Jews?

Wise Man 2: We saw his star as it rose.

Wise Man 3: We have come to worship Him.

[3 wise men exit doors (stage right) and wait in foyer.]

Narrator: King Herod heard about the wise men and called together a meeting of priests and teachers of the law.

[King Herod, priest, and teacher enter and take place in front of stage.]

King Herod: Where was the Messiah supposed to be born?

Priest: In Bethlehem.

Teacher: The prophet said a ruler would come from Bethlehem.

King Herod: I must meet with these wise men.

[3 wise men come back in through foyer doors (stage right) and come to meet King Herod.]

King Herod: Go to Bethlehem and find the child. Then come tell me so I can go and worship him too.

[Everyone exits through door left of stage – back to the hallway.]

***PRESET #2 (Front spotlights dim slightly.)

[Joseph and Mary enter and take place on stage with Jesus. Star enters and stands behind Joseph and Mary.]

***PRESET #3 (Front spotlights go up.)

[Three wise men and three wise men gifts enter. They see the star and make their way to Joseph, Mary, and Jesus. They bow down to Jesus.]

Wise man 1: The star has guided us to Bethlehem!

Wise man 2: We have brought gifts for the child, the King of the Jews!

Wise Man 3: We are filled with joy for we have seen the Messiah!

[Three wise men present the gifts to Joseph and Mary and return to bowing position. Three wise men gifts stand beside Joseph and Mary, next to Jesus.]

*** PRESET #1 (All lights go up.)

Narrator: The wise men did not actually see Jesus right after He was born, when He was just a little baby like what you just saw. They actually came to see Him when He was a couple of years old. They were overjoyed to see Jesus. They bowed down and worshiped Him and gave Him gifts. When it was time for them to leave, they returned to their country by a different way than they had come, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

You have just seen the story of Jesus' birth. Jesus came from God, but was born a baby, just like you and me. He was fully God and fully human. He came to save us from our sin. This was a gift of God, showing God's grace and how much He loves us. We have the opportunity to respond in worship to what God has done for us. We can believe that Jesus is our Savior and trust that He did come to save us from our sin. As you celebrate this time of year, Christmas, make sure to remember the true meaning of this holiday. It is more than just getting the toys and gifts we want. It is sharing the love that God poured out to us with those around us, and remembering that God sent His one and only Son, Jesus Christ, to earth to save us from our sin. Have a Merry Christmas!

Narrator: Let's pray together. (Narrator leads Big Group in prayer)

Song: O Come All Ye Faithful

THE END

Additional Song Suggestions: (if needed between scenes)

We Three Kings

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

O Come All Ye Faithful

The First Noel

O Little Town of Bethlehem

