



PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

Theme: Jesus is the Light of the World who brings hope into the darkness.

Length: 45–60 minutes

Participants: Elementary Choir (on stage throughout), Preschool (2 songs at beginning), Kid Actors, Scripture Readers

PROGRAM FLOW:

Opening Scene (Darkness)

- Lights off
- One child (Light Bearer) walks on stage with a glowing candle/lantern
- Choir slowly lights up with individual glow sticks or candles

Narrator (spoken in darkness):

"In the beginning, there was nothing but darkness. But even then, God had a plan. A plan to bring light into the world. And that light... was Jesus."

Genesis 1:1–3 (Child Reader):

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth didn't have any shape. And it was empty. There was darkness over the surface of the waves. At that time, the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. God said, "Let there be light." And there was light."

(As "light" is read, all choir kids' lights turn on.)

PRESCHOOL SONGS:

Song 1: Christmas Day by Chris Tomlin and We The Kingdom
(Everyone – Summit and Lil Climbers)

Song 2: Oh What a Special Night by Animated Praise *(Lil Climbers only, Play Track)*

- Lil Climbers exit after Song 2
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SCENE 1: A PROMISE OF LIGHT

Actors: None (visual staging by choir with props: stars, lanterns)

Narrator:

"Long ago, before Jesus was born, God promised to send a Savior. His people were walking in darkness, but the light was coming."

Isaiah 9:2, 6 (Child Reader):

"The people who are now living in darkness will see a great light. They are now living in a very dark land. But a light will shine on them. A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us. He will rule

over us. And he will be called Wonderful Adviser and Mighty God. He will also be called Father Who Lives Forever and Prince Who Brings Peace.”

Choir Action: Raise glowing stars

Song: O Come, O Come Emmanuel by King and Country

SCENE 2: THE ANGEL AND MARY

Actors: Mary, Angel Gabriel

Narrator:

"God sent the angel Gabriel to visit a young woman named Mary. She was about to become part of the greatest story ever told."

Luke 1:26–33, 38 (Child Reader):

"God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee. He was sent to a virgin. The girl was engaged to a man named Joseph. He came from the family line of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel greeted her and said, "The Lord has blessed you in a special way. He is with you."

Mary was very upset because of his words. She wondered what kind of greeting this could be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary. God is very pleased with you. You will become pregnant and give birth to a son. You must call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will make him a king like his father David of long ago. The Son of the Most High God will rule forever over his people. They are from the family line of Jacob. That kingdom will never end."

"I serve the Lord," Mary answered. "May it happen to me just as you said it would." Then the angel left her."

(Mary and Gabriel act this scene out silently as the reading is done. Mary kneels and bows her head at the end.)

Song: Mary Did You Know? By Jeremy Camp

SCENE 3: JOSEPH'S DREAM

Actors: Joseph, Angel (repeats actor if needed)

Narrator:

"Joseph wasn't sure what to do when he found out Mary was expecting a child. But God sent a message to him, too."

Matthew 1:18–24 (Child Reader):

"This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about. His mother Mary and Joseph had promised to get married. But before they started to live together, it became clear that she was going to have a baby. She became pregnant by the power of the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph was faithful to the law. But he did not want to put her to shame in public. So he planned to divorce her quietly. But as Joseph was thinking about this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. The angel said, "Joseph, son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary home as your wife. The baby inside her is from the Holy Spirit. She is going to have a son. You must give him the name Jesus. That's because he will save his people from their sins." Joseph woke up. He did what the angel of the Lord commanded him to do. He took Mary home as his wife."

(Joseph lies down; angel appears near him. Joseph wakes, nods, and walks off stage.)

Song: O Little Town of Bethlehem (Bells)

SCENE 4: JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

Actors: Mary, Joseph, Innkeeper

Narrator:

"Mary and Joseph traveled a long way to Bethlehem, but every place was full."

Luke 2:1–7 (Child Reader):

"In those days, Caesar Augustus made a law. It required that a list be made of everyone in the whole Roman world... So Joseph went also. He went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea. That is where Bethlehem, the town of David, was... He went there with Mary to be listed... She was expecting a baby. While Joseph and Mary were there, the time came for the child to be born. She gave birth to her first baby. It was a boy. She wrapped him in large strips of cloth. Then she placed him in a manger. That's because there was no guest room where they could stay."

(They knock on doors. Innkeeper shakes head. They settle at the manger.)

Song: Silent Night (*LED candles, peaceful moment, traditional hymn with piano and voices*)

SCENE 5: THE SHEPHERDS

Actors: Shepherds, Angel, Choir Angels

Narrator:

"That night, shepherds were out in the fields, watching over their sheep... until the sky lit up."

Luke 2:8–14 (Child Reader):

"An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them... 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today... a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord... You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared... praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.'"

(Shepherds look amazed, then run to the stable to kneel.)

Song: Starlight by Monica Scott

SCENE 6: THE WISE MEN & THE STAR

Actors: Wise Men, Star Holder

Narrator:

"Far away, some wise men saw a special star. They knew it meant a king had been born."

Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11 (Child Reader):

"After Jesus was born... Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and

asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.' They followed the star until it stopped over the place where the child was... They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."

"...After Jesus' birth, Wise Men from the east came to Jerusalem. They asked, "Where is the child who has been born to be king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose. Now we have come to worship him."... They went on their way. The star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them. It finally stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. The Wise Men went to the house. There they saw the child with his mother Mary. They bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures. They gave him gold, frankincense and myrrh."

(Wise men follow the star across stage, kneel, and present gifts.)

Song: *We Three Kings (We're Not Lost)* by Rend Collective

CLOSING: THE LIGHT FOR THE WORLD

Actors: All return to stage. Choir stands with lights held high.

Narrator:

"Jesus came to be the Light for the whole world—not just for Bethlehem, but for us, too."

John 8:12 (Everyone Memorizes and Says Together):

“[Jesus] said, “I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness. They will have that light. They will have life.””

Leah:

“Wow, can we give these kids one more big round of applause for all their hard work today? They’ve helped us see the true meaning of Christmas — that Jesus came as the Light of the World. And the best part is, that Light doesn’t stop with them. Because of Jesus, we get to shine His light too.

As we close, we’d love to invite all of you to stand and join the kids in one last song — a joyful medley of Christmas songs celebrating the Light that has come!”

Final Song: A Christmas Medley by Alive City

Choir holds lights as they sing