

## **Nativity Script**

### **Part scripture, part paraphrase:**

[Direction: Mary should be in place, with the angel nearby and ready to appear.]

**Narrator:** Gabriel the angel was sent to Mary, who was engaged to marry Joseph, to tell her she would be the mother of Jesus, the son of God. She was afraid, but he said:

**Gabriel (Luke 1: 30-31):** Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And thou shalt bring forth a son, and shalt call his name Jesus.

**Mary (v. 38):** Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word.

[Direction: Mary gets ready to come in on donkey with Joseph leading them.]

**Narrator:** Mary became pregnant with Jesus. Around the time Jesus was supposed to be born, Caesar, the ruler of the land, told every man to return to the land of his fathers so he could be registered as a citizen of the country. And Joseph left Galilee and went to the city of David, called Bethlehem, to be registered with Mary, his wife.

### **Song: “When Joseph Went to Bethlehem” (Children’s Songbook #38)**

**Narrator:** While they were in Bethlehem, it became time for Mary to have the baby. 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.

[Direction: Mary should put baby doll in a “manger”—a basket with towels or cloth lining. Joseph should be near.]

### **Song: “Away in a Manger” (CS #42 or Hymns #206) or “Picture a Christmas” (CS #50)**

[Direction: Shepherds with stuffed animals or pets; angel appears to them.]

**Narrator:** Near Bethlehem, there were shepherds keeping watch over their flocks during the night. An angel appeared to them and told them about the birth of Jesus.

**Angel (Luke 2:10-12):** 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.

**Narrator (v. 13):** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

**Narrator and Angel (together) (v. 14):** Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

**Optional song: “Angels We Have Heard on High” (Hymns #203) or “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (Hymns #209)**

[Direction: Shepherds walk toward manger and kneel.]

**Narrator:** And the shepherds went to the find Jesus, and found him lying in a manger.

**Song: “The Shepherd’s Carol” (CS #40b) or “Silent Night” (Hymns #204)**

[Direction: Wise Men come forward carrying gifts.]

**Narrator (Matthew 2):** Sometime after, the Wise Men came from the east looking for Jesus. They followed the new star that appeared when Jesus was born until they found Jesus. They gave him gold, frankincense, and myrrh to honor him.

**(Luke 2:40)** And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

**Closing Song: “He Sent His Son” (CS #34)**