

Christmas Eve Children's Program, December 24th 2018

To God belongs all Glory and He gives peace to Men

Processional **83 Hark what mean those holy voices**

Congregation verses 1 and 2

All Children verses 3 - 5

Congregation and Children Verse 6

Pre-School "Glory to God in the highest and on earth Peace Good will toward men."

Song: Pre-School "Away in a Manger"

1 Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,
And stay by my cradle until morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,
And take us to heaven to live with you there.

(Pre-School returns to their parents)

- K-8** **Christmas Story Part One: Luke 2:1-5** And it came to pass in those days *that* a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. ³ So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city. ⁴ Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into 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 wife, who was with child.
- Leah Bobek** **Isaiah 40:3,5** The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight in the desert A highway for our God . . . The glory of the LORD shall be revealed, And all flesh shall see *it* together; For the mouth of the LORD has spoken."
- The Shepherds heard the word the angel spoke and believed. At first perhaps they listened because of the vision of angels. But soon they cared more about what the angels were saying. Notice they go to find out about the "things they were told." And afterwards they made widely know "the things that were told them concerning this Child." They did not talk about the angels but they told everyone about the Child.
- Aubrey Quade** Therefore God received the glory.
- Madelyn Newton** The shepherds heard the Word. They found Christ. They saw their savior.
- Ellie Dykstra** Therefore the Shepherds found peace.
- Ellie Heider** Some people believe in the form but not the message. They care about appearance but not the Word. They rejoice at the sight of the angels but not a child in a manger. They do not give God glory. They do not receive peace.
- Austin Thiem** Some people believe in themselves. The angels are only a dream. The child is merely a child. They do not give God glory. They have no peace.
- K-1st** **To God belongs all Glory and He gives peace to Men**
- Song** **76:1-4 – A Great and Mighty Wonder**
 1-3 All Children
 4 Congregation and Children

K-8 **Christmas Story Part Two: Luke 2:6,7** ⁶ So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. ⁷ And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Alyssa Quade **Isaiah 40:1-2** "Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" Says your God. ² "Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended, That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the LORD'S hand Double for all her sins."

With one heart and one mind the shepherds together go to see the Child. The Word of the angel united them.

With one heart and one mind the wise men go together to see the Child. The message of the star united them.

Mary and Joseph welcomed all. The Shepherds of Israel, the kings of Persia, Mary and Joseph, they are all one in Christ.

Savanah Heise Therefore God received glory and shepherds, wise men, and parents were given peace.

This unity does not exist on earth. Nation will fight nation until the day the earth dies. This unity does not exist in Nation, state, or community. Where even two gather there are fights and anger. This unity does not exist even in the church as we see it. Here also there is sin.

This unity exists only in those whose hearts kneel before the Child. They are united by Christ through the forgiveness of their sins. They have peace with God and one another.

K-1st **To God belongs all Glory and He gives peace to Men**

Song: 4th – 8th grade 715 Where Shepherds Lately Knelt

4-8 **Christmas Story Part Three: Luke 2:8-14** ⁸ Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹ And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. ¹⁰ Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. ¹¹ "For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² "And this *will be* the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." 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, goodwill toward men!"

Ava Stellmacher **Isaiah 40:11** He will feed His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs with His arm, And carry *them* in His bosom, *And* gently lead those who are with young.

The angels gave no command to the shepherds. They were not told to go see the Child. They heard the good news that their Savior was born and they went. It was the Gospel, the good news that a Savior is born for the forgiveness of sins which gives glory to God and peace to men.

Elijah Wilder Wherever there is law there is sin. Wherever there are commands there is rebellion. Wherever men seek peace through their own works there is only strife. These things do not give glory to God and men do not receive peace.

Kaleb Reyes The good news that a savior is born caused the shepherds and angels to sing glory to God and gave peace to the hearts of the shepherds.

K-1st **To God belongs all Glory and He gives peace to Men**

Song: Congregation 90 Come, Your Hearts and Voices Rising

6-8 **Christmas Story Part Four: Luke 2:15-16** ¹⁵ So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, "Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶ And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Evan Dumke **Isaiah 40:9** O Zion, You who bring good tidings, Get up into the high mountain; O Jerusalem, You who bring good tidings, Lift up your voice with strength, Lift *it* up, be not afraid; Say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

Hudson Laper The shepherds walked quickly. They chatted the whole way. They were excited. They were filled with joy. Their hearts rejoice at what God had done. They were filled with peace and joy and gave glory to God.

Karly Arjona When the angel first appeared the shepherds were filled with fear. The glory of the Lord shone around them but it did not give them peace. Without Christ the glory of the most holy God gives only fear.

The forgiveness of sins through this Child changes the glory of God from something fearful to something joyful.

K-1st **To God belongs all Glory and He gives peace to Men**

Song **85:1,2,13-15 From Heaven Above to Earth I Come**

K-3 Verses 1 and 2

K-8 Verses 13 and 14

K-8 and Congregation Verse 15

6-8 **Christmas Story Part Five: Luke 2:17-20** ¹⁷ Now when they had seen *Him*, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. ¹⁸ And all those who heard *it* marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. ¹⁹ But Mary kept all these things and pondered *them* in her heart. ²⁰ Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

Madelyn Quade **Isaiah 40:8** The grass withers, the flower fades, But the word of our God stands forever."

The shepherds returned to their fields talking always about what they had seen.
Mary took care of her child but kept all these things in her heart.

Keegan Thiem The shepherds did not seek glory or fame even though angels sang to them from the heavens. Mary did not seek praise or adoration even though she gave birth to the Son of God. They returned with joy each to their own life and to the tasks which God had given them. They sought no glory but gave it all to God. Yet the peace of Christ filled their humble lives with joy.

Alex Richter In this also God receives glory and men receive peace.

For some the joy of Christmas is the glitter, the presents, the food, the lights, the excitement, or the music. They seek the glories of this world. When the tree comes down and the presents are broken there is no joy. There was never any peace.

McKenzie Heise When Christ is the heart of Christmas, God is given glory and the peace of God remains in our hearts long after the glitter is gone.

May our lips and the work of our hands glorify the Lord and let us always rejoice in the peace that God has given to us through Jesus Christ our Savior. AMEN

K – 1st **To God belongs all Glory and He gives peace to Men**

Song: K-8 **713 Your Little Ones Dear Lord are We**

Offering

Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Blessing

Congregation

Recessional Hymn: Joy to the World (TLH 87)