

THE LIVING CRÈCHE  
CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

THE CHRISTMAS STORY IN SCRIPTURE, LEGEND, AND SONG

FOR UNISON VOICES, SOLOISTS, AND NARRATORS, WITH  
OPTIONAL CONGREGATIONAL PARTICIPATION

WRITTEN AND ARRANGED BY  
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PERFORMANCE TIME: APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES

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MUSIC

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# THE LIVING CRÈCHE

## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The Christmas Story in Scripture, Legend, and Song

### OVERTURE

(♩ = ca. 88)

ACCOMP. *p*

5 *mp*

10

15 *mf*

20 *mp* *rit.*

\* STILLE NACHT (Silent Night! Holy Night!). Melody by Franz Gruber (1787-1863).

(24)  
\* Slightly faster (♩ = ca. 92)

Musical notation for measures 24-26. The piece is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Measure 24 starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The melody in the right hand consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line consists of quarter notes: G2, B1, D2, E2, G2, B1, D2, E2. Measure 25 continues the melody: A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. The bass line continues: F#2, A2, B2, C3, E2, G2, B1, D2. Measure 26 ends with a repeat sign. The melody is: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line is: G2, B1, D2, E2, G2, B1, D2, E2.

Musical notation for measures 27-30. Measure 27 continues the melody: A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. The bass line continues: F#2, A2, B2, C3, E2, G2, B1, D2. Measure 28 continues the melody: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line continues: G2, B1, D2, E2, G2, B1, D2, E2. Measure 29 continues the melody: A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. The bass line continues: F#2, A2, B2, C3, E2, G2, B1, D2. Measure 30 ends with a repeat sign. The melody is: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line is: G2, B1, D2, E2, G2, B1, D2, E2.

Musical notation for measures 31-34. Measure 31 continues the melody: A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. The bass line continues: F#2, A2, B2, C3, E2, G2, B1, D2. Measure 32 continues the melody: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line continues: G2, B1, D2, E2, G2, B1, D2, E2. Measure 33 continues the melody: A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. The bass line continues: F#2, A2, B2, C3, E2, G2, B1, D2. Measure 34 ends with a repeat sign. The melody is: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line is: G2, B1, D2, E2, G2, B1, D2, E2.

Musical notation for measures 35-38. Measure 35 continues the melody: A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. The bass line continues: F#2, A2, B2, C3, E2, G2, B1, D2. Measure 36 continues the melody: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line continues: G2, B1, D2, E2, G2, B1, D2, E2. Measure 37 continues the melody: A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. The bass line continues: F#2, A2, B2, C3, E2, G2, B1, D2. Measure 38 ends with a repeat sign. The melody is: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line is: G2, B1, D2, E2, G2, B1, D2, E2.

Musical notation for measures 39-42. Measure 39 continues the melody: A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. The bass line continues: F#2, A2, B2, C3, E2, G2, B1, D2. Measure 40 continues the melody: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line continues: G2, B1, D2, E2, G2, B1, D2, E2. Measure 41 continues the melody: A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F#4. The bass line continues: F#2, A2, B2, C3, E2, G2, B1, D2. Measure 42 ends with a repeat sign. The melody is: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line is: G2, B1, D2, E2, G2, B1, D2, E2.

\* VENI EMMANUEL (O Come, O Come, Emmanuel). Traditional 12th c. Latin.

# I. THE ADVENT OF CHRIST

## 1. O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM

(♩ = ca. 84)  
\*

ACCOMP. *p*

4 *mp*

8 UNISON VOICES  
(Congregation may join on melody to m. 25) *mp* (10)

O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How

12 still we - see thee lie! A - bove thy deep and dream-less sleep the

\* ST. LOUIS (O Little Town of Bethlehem). Melody by Lewis H. Redner (1831-1908); Words by Phillips Brooks (1835-1893).

11498

16

si - lent\_ stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the

20

*cresc.* *mf*  
 ev - er - last - ing light; The hopes and fears of all the years are

24

*poco a poco accel.* (Choir & congregation tacet)  
 met in thee to - night.

28

③¹ In one (♩ = ca. 108-112)  
 \* *mp*

\* O BETHLEHEM. Traditional Basque carol.

## THE WORD OF THE LORD: Micah 5: 2-5 — The Prophecy

33

*mp*

NARRATOR: O little town of Bethlehem, though you are little among the thousands of cities of Judah,

39

*p (Speaking starts)*

out of you will come the Savior of ancient prophecy. And his greatness will be known throughout the world. And He will bring peace.

50

*(Speaking stops)*

*rit.*

## THE WORD OF THE LORD: Luke 1: 26-32 — The Annunciation of Mary

*(Gabriel enters, moves to center for dialogue, then to position in crèche.)*

54 **Faster** (♩. = ca. 88-92)

*f*

\* **GABRIEL'S MESSAGE** (The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came). Traditional Basque carol.

NARRATOR: The angel Gabriel was sent by God to a virgin named Mary.

58

Mary was engaged to Joseph, a descendant of the house of David. And the angel said to Mary:

64

GABRIEL: Rejoice, the Lord is with you! Blessed are you among women!

NARRATOR: But Mary was afraid, so the angel said to her:

GABRIEL: Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.  
You will conceive in your womb and bear a Son,  
and you will call Him Jesus. *(Music starts)*

## 2. TO A VIRGIN MEEK AND MILD

GABRIEL: He will be great and will be called the Son of God.

(♩ = ca. 88-92)

ACCOMP.

⑥ (♩ = ca. 104)  
\*

5

\* **THE ANNUNCIATION (To a Virgin Meek and Mild).** Traditional Spanish carol; Words by Vigleik E. Boe (1872-1953) and Oscar Overby (1892-1964). Text copyright © Augsburg Publishing House. Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress.



10

⑩ *mf* UNISON VOICES

To a vir-gin meek and mild came an an-gel ho - ly, greet-ing her, the

15

⑮

un - de - filed, in her cham-ber low - ly: Hail to thee, thou bless-ed one,

20

*cresc.*

cho-sen moth-er of God's Son! Through a won-drous birth He shall come to earth and shall

24

*f*

*mf*

*rit.*

reign as a King, as a King for - ev - er, Je-sus, bless-ed Sav - ior.

(Music stops)

### CEREMONY: The Hanging of the Greens

(As the Storyteller begins, a family or small group of people enters. They hang a spray of evergreen and holly in a prominent place. Next, they light each of the four Advent candles, leaving the Christ Candle unlit. Then they position themselves downstage, where they remain for the duration of the pageant.)

#### The Legend of the Evergreens

STORYTELLER: The Christ Child comes! Hail the triumph of Light over Darkness!  
In preparation for His coming, we hang these evergreen boughs, symbols since ancient times of victory over winter's darkness. We offer these holly branches, with their thorny leaves and blood-red berries, as symbols of Christ's crown of thorns, solemn reminders of the sacrifice of the Child yet born. (Music starts)

### 3. THE HOLLY AND THE IVY

(♩ = ca. 100-104)

ACCOMP. *p* (Speaking stops)

5 UNISON VOICES

*mf* ⑧

The hol-ly and the i - vy, when

10

they are both full grown, of all the trees that are in the wood, the

\* THE HOLLY AND THE IVY. Traditional English carol and words.

*f* (Congregation may join on melody to m. 23)

14

hol - ly bears the crown: O the ris - ing of the sun, — and the

18

run - ning of the deer, the — play - ing of the mer - ry or - gan, sweet

22

(Congregation tacet) *mf* (Optional Solo 1)

sing - ing in the choir. The hol - ly bears a ber - ry, as red as an - y

27

(Optional Solo 2) *(mf)*

blood, and Ma - ry bore sweet Je - sus Christ to — do poor sin - ners good. The

32

hol - ly bears a pric - kle, as sharp as an - y thorn, and —

(Unison Voices)  
(Congregation)  
*f*

36

Ma - ry bore sweet Je - sus Christ on — Christ - mas Day in the morn. O the

40

may join on melody to m. 47)

ris - ing of the sun, — and the run - ning of the deer, the —

44

*poco rit.*

play - ing of the mer - ry or - gan, sweet sing - ing in the choir.

*poco rit.*

## II. THE EVE OF CHRISTMAS

## 4. SILENT NIGHT

49 Slower (♩ = ca. 84)

55 UNISON VOICES

57 \* *mp* (Congregation may join on melody to m. 80)

61

65

66

\* **STILLE NACHT (Silent Night! Holy Night!)**. Melody by Franz Gruber (1787-1863); Words by Joseph Mohr (1792-1848);  
Translated by John F. Young (1820-1885).

71 *rit.*

ten - der and mild, sleep in heav - en - ly peace,

*rit.*

76 **Slower** *p* (Choir & congregation tacet)

Sleep in heav - en - ly peace.

**Slower** *p*

83 **Slightly faster** (♩ = ca. 100)

*mf*

87 **Slower** (♩ = ca. 88)

*rit.*

\* CAROL (It Came Upon the Midnight Clear). Melody by Richard S. Willis (1819-1900).

## THE WORD OF THE LORD: Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7 — The Light of Nations

NARRATOR: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. For unto us a Child is born,

(91) \*

*mp (Speaking starts)*

unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

95

99

*(Speaking stops)*

*rit.*

*(Music stops)*

\*STILL, STILL, STILL. Traditional German carol.

### The Legend of the First Christmas Tree

*(As Storyteller begins, Martin Luther enters and slowly processes to the Christmas tree, which he "lights" at the beginning of "O Christmas Tree." Then he takes his position in crèche.)*

STORYTELLER: Hear the ancient story.

One Christmas Eve, centuries ago,  
a famous German preacher strolled under the clear night sky,  
pondering the wonder of the birth of Christ.

Suddenly he stopped and gazed in wonder  
at a sky lit by millions of stars.

"The heavens are radiant with the light  
of God's salvation!" he exclaimed.

He hurried to his home, uprooted a fir tree,  
and placed lighted candles on its branches,  
reminders to his children of the starlit skies  
from which Christ comes to save us all.

So began with Martin Luther,  
a famous German preacher centuries ago,  
the ritual of decorating the Christmas tree.

*(Music starts)*

# 5. O CHRISTMAS TREE

(Martin Luther lights Christmas tree.)

(♩ = ca. 88)

ACCOMP.

*p*  
(Speaking stops)

STORYTELLER: As Christ is the Tree of life, so we remember His birth in lighting the Christmas tree.

⑤

(Speaking starts)

(Speaking stops) *cresc.*

UNISON VOICES

10 (Congregation may join on melody to m. 28)

*f* ⑬

O Christ-mas tree! O Christ-mas tree! Thy

15

lights are shin - ing bright - ly. Through dark of night and win - ter's chill in

\* O TANNENBAUM (O Christmas Tree). Traditional carol; words by Jean Anne Shafferman.



18 19

(21)

ra-diance, warm us still. O Star of Da - vid, shine for me and

23

light the Sav - ior's path to me. O Christ-mas tree! O Christ-mas tree! Sal -

27

(Choir & congregation tacet)

*rit.*

va-tion shines in thee.

### III. THE FRIENDLY BEASTS

#### THE WORD OF THE LORD: Luke 2: 1-7 — Christ Is Born

(As Narrator begins, Joseph and Mary, carrying the Christ Child, slowly process to center stage. Joseph lights the Christ Candle, Mary places the baby into the crib, and they move to their positions in crèche.)

*a tempo* (32)

*mf* *mp*

\* W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY (Infant Holy, Infant Lowly). Traditional Polish carol.

NARRATOR: The Emperor Augustus decreed that all the

37

(Speaking starts)

world should be registered. So Joseph left Nazareth and journeyed to Bethlehem, the city of David, to be registered with Mary, who was expecting a child.

42

rit. (Music stops)

NARRATOR: (After music stops) And while they were in Bethlehem, the time came for Mary to deliver her child. And she brought forth her firstborn Son, wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

### The Legend of the Friendly Beasts

STORYTELLER: It was a night of tranquillity for all of God's creatures. According to ancient legend, on the night of Jesus' birth, the deer of the forests went down on their knees, the slumbering bees awakened and hummed a hymn of praise, and the trees along the banks of the Jordan River bowed in reverence. And in the stable that night, God, people, and the friendly beasts were joined in peace and joy. The animals were granted the gift of speech, and they, in turn, worshipped God with gifts of their own.

## 6. THE FRIENDLY BEASTS

(Donkey, Cow, and Sheep enter and slowly process, taking center stage by m. 29.)

(♩ = ca. 112-116)

ACCOMP.

*p* (Speaking stops)

\*Acciaccatura: play both notes simultaneously, releasing the grace note immediately.

## 5 UNISON VOICES

⑨ *mf*

Je - sus our

*mf* (smoothly)

10

Broth - er, kind and good, was hum - bly born in a

15

sta - ble rude, and the friend - ly beasts a - round Him

20

stood; Je - sus our Broth - er, kind and good.

DONKEY  
(opt. unis. voices) (29) *mf*

25

"I," said the

30

don - key, shag - gy and brown, "I car - ried His moth - er

35

up hill and down. I car - ried His moth - er to Beth - le - hem

40

town. I," said the don - key, shag-gy and brown.

COW  
(opt. unis. voices) (46) *mp*

45

"I," said the cow, all white and red, "I

50

gave Him my man - ger for His bed. I gave Him my

55

hay to pil - low His head. I," said the cow, all

60

white and red.

*cresc.*

65 SHEEP (opt. unis. voices)

*mf*

"I," said the sheep with curl - y horn, "I gave Him my



70

wool for His blan - ket warm. He wore my coat on



75

Christ - mas morn. I," said the sheep with curl - y



80

horn.



UNISON VOICES

84 *mf* (Donkey, Cow, and Sheep move to positions in crèche.)

Thus ev - 'ry beast by some good spell in the

88 sta - ble dark was glad to tell of the

92 gift he gave Em - man - u - el,

96 the gift he gave Em - man - u - el. *(Choir tacet)*

100

# IV. THE CHILDREN

THE WORD OF THE LORD: Matthew 1: 22-23, 25 — Emmanuel, God with Us

## 7. ROCKING

106 Slower (♩ = ca. 84)

NARRATOR: Now all this was done fulfilling ancient prophecy:  
\*

*p (Speaking starts)*

“Behold, a virgin will bear a Son who will be Emmanuel, God with us.” And Mary named her son Jesus.

*(Speaking stops)*

115 UNISON VOICES or Optional Solo (Mary)  
*mp*

Ba - by Je - sus, hush now, - sleep, On soft\_ wool Your\_

*mp*

118 slum-ber\_ keep. I will rock You, rock You, rock You; In my love I'll hold You, rock You.

\* HAJEJ, NYNEJ (Rocking). Traditional Czech carol; Words by Jean Anne Shafferman.  
11498



123

*rit.* (')

Hush - a - by my lit - tle - one, Ma - ry's - ba - by, - God's own - Son.

*rit.* (')

## 8. O COME, LITTLE CHILDREN

### The Legend of Saint Nicholas

(St. Nicholas begins a procession of small children, each of whom carries a gift. They lay the gifts before the crib, then take positions in crèche by m. 63.)

(♩ = ca. 108)

ACCOMP. *mp*

STORYTELLER: Christmas is a special time for children. The patron saint of children is St. Nicholas,

⑤

(Speaking starts)

a kind and humble fourth century bishop who wandered the earth rewarding the good children and punishing the bad!

12

*poco rit.*

\* O COME, LITTLE CHILDREN. Melody by J.P.A. Schultz (1840); Words by Jean Anne Shafferman.

STORYTELLER: *(Music stops)* St. Nicholas speaks to the spirit of the child in all of us, calling us to remember the Christ Child. *(Music starts)*

G.P.  
*(silence)*

18

19 UNISON VOICES  
*a tempo*

24

29

31

34

night, Come kneel and a - dore Him, your joy and de - light.

40

*rit.* (Music stops)

## V. THE SHEPHERDS

### THE WORD OF THE LORD: Luke 2: 8-14 — The Shepherds and the Angels

*(Shepherds enter slowly as the Narrator begins, stopping in fear when they hear the angel's voice.)*

**NARRATOR:** Now there were in the same country shepherds in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. *(Angel appears)* And suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared, and the glory of the Lord shone all around, and the shepherds were terrified. Then the angel said to them:

**ANGEL:** "Fear not, for behold, I bring you tidings of great joy. Unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign: You will find the Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."  
*(Music starts; Angel moves to position in crèche)*

## 9. ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY

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

(♩ = ca. 112-116)

ACCOMP.

*cresc.*  
***p*** (Speaking continues)

(Speaking stops)

\* LES ANGES DANS NOS CAMPAGNES (Angels from the Realms of Glory). Traditional French carol; Words by James Montgomery (1771-1854).

11498

UNISON VOICES

⑤ *f*

Glo - - - - - ri - a

9

in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glo - - - - -

13

- - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - - - - -

17

o. An - gels from the -

⑳ *mf*

30  
22

realms of glo - ry, Wing your flight o'er all the earth; Ye who sang cre -

Musical score for measures 22-25, featuring a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

26

a - tion's sto - ry Now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth! Glo

(Congregation may join)  
(29) *f*

Musical score for measures 26-29, featuring a vocal line and piano accompaniment. A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is present at measure 29.

on melody to m. 42)

30

ri - a in ex - cel - sis

Musical score for measures 30-33, featuring a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with chords and a bass line.

34

De - o; Glo

Musical score for measures 34-37, featuring a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with chords and a bass line.

38 *ff rit.*

- ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

*ff rit.*

(Music stops)

**THE WORD OF THE LORD: Luke 2: 15-18 — The Shepherds at the Manger**

NARRATOR: When the angels had gone away into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe, lying in a manger. (Shepherds move to positions in crèche.)

**10. THE FIRST NOWELL**

**The Legend of the Shepherds' Gifts**

(♩ = ca. 112)

STORYTELLER: The first men in all of the world

ACCOMP. *mf* *mp (Speaking starts)*

to see Jesus were the shepherds! Humble, rough, simple men, yet they were the FIRST. An ancient tale says that the shepherds presented Jesus with humble gifts, such as they had: a little oil, goat cheese,

lamb's wool for a blanket. They were common folk, but the Bible says that they were the FIRST!

\* QUITTEZ, PASTEURS (O Leave Your Sheep). Traditional French carol.

11498

⑫

*(Speaking stops)* *cresc.* *f*

## UNISON VOICES

*(Congregation may join on melody to m. 43)*

18

⑳

*f*

The \_ first \_ Now - ell the \_ an - gels did

23

say Was to cer - tain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; In \_

⑳

fields \_ where \_ they lay \_ keep - ing their sheep on a cold win - ter's

\* THE FIRST NOWELL. Traditional English carol.

33 (36)

night — that was — so deep; Now - ell, — Now - ell, Now -

38 *rit.*

ell, Now - ell, born is the King of Is - ra - el.

*rit.* (Music stops)

## VI. THE WISE MEN

### THE WORD OF THE LORD: Matthew 2: 1-2 — The Wise Men See the Star

**NARRATOR:** After Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men came from the East to Jerusalem saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star and have come to worship Him." When they did not find Him there, the star reappeared, guiding them to Bethlehem. The wise men rejoiced greatly and entered the house where the star had stopped. There they worshipped Jesus, giving Him treasures of gold, frankincense and myrrh. *(Music starts)*

## 11. WE THREE KINGS

### The Legend of the Three Wise Men

*(Procession of the wise men begins; wise men should move to center stage by m. 90.)*

(♩ = ca. 112)

ACCOMP. *mp (Speaking stops)*

\* MARCH OF THE KINGS. Traditional French carol.  
11498



5

*mf* *rit.*

⑨ **Faster** (♩ = ca. 132)

*dim.* *mp* \*

⑮ **STORYTELLER:** Scripture tells us of wise men from the East. But it does not tell us their

(Speaking starts)

names, their countries, or even how many there were. Gradually through the ages, the wise men

21

acquired names, countries, and lives of their own. Melchior, an old man, brought gold, celebrating

27

\* **THREE KINGS OF ORIENT.** Melody and words by John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891).

the love of Christ. Gaspar, a middle-aged man, brought frankincense, a very sweet spice,

33

symbolizing Christ as King of heaven. Balthazar, a young man, brought myrrh, a bitter fragrance, a solemn reminder of Christ's approaching sacrifice.

39

Legend made them kings, whose coming we celebrate at Epiphany. King or wise man, each humbled himself before Jesus, who is King of us all.

45

(Speaking stops)

51 UNISON VOICES

53 *mf*

We three kings of O - ri - ent are,

*mf*

57

Bear - ing gifts we tra - verse a - far, Field and foun - tain,

63

moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star:

(Congregation may join on melody to m. 87)

69

*cresc.* *f*  
O star of won - der, star of night,

75

star with roy - al beau - ty bright; West - ward lead - ing,

81

still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us to thy per - fect light! \_\_\_\_\_

87

SOLO (Melchior or unison voices)  
90 *mf*

\_\_\_\_\_ Born a King on Beth - le - hem's

93

plain, Gold I bring to crown Him a - gain, King for -

99

ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er, o - ver us all to reign. \_\_\_\_\_

(108) SOLO (*Gaspar or unison voices*)  
(*mf*)

105

Frank - in - cense to of - fer have

111

I; In - cense owns a De - i - ty nigh; Prayer and

117

prais - ing, all men rais - ing, Wor - ship Him, God most high.

(126) SOLO (*Balthazar or unison voices*)  
(*mf*)

123

Myrrh is mine; Its bit - ter per -

129 *cresc.*

fume Breathes a life of gath - er - ing gloom; Sor - row - ing,

135 *f* *mf*

sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing, Sealed in the stone - cold tomb.

UNISON VOICES  
 (Congregation may join on melody to m. 162)

141 *mf cresc.* *f*

O star of won - der, star of

147

night, Star with roy - al beau - ty bright;

152

West - ward lead - ing, still pro - ceed - ing, Guide us

157

*rit.* (Wise men move to positions in crèche.)

to thy per - fect light.

*rit.* (Music stops)

## VII. SPREAD THE NEWS: JESUS CHRIST IS BORN!

**THE WORD OF THE LORD: Matthew 2: 12 and Luke 2: 20 — Spreading the News**

**NARRATOR:** After they had worshipped the Christ Child, the wise men returned to their countries, and the shepherds returned to their fields, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had seen and heard. *(Music starts)*

### 12. HE IS BORN, GLORIA!

(♩ = ca. 132)

**ACCOMP.** *p* (Speaking stops)

**STORYTELLER:** So, like the wise men and

(Speaking starts)

\* **IL EST NÉ (He Is Born).** Traditional French carol and words.

shepherds, go into all the world proclaiming the good news to all: God is with us! Christ is born!

4

(Speaking stops)  
cresc.

8 UNISON VOICES

11 *mf*

He is born, the di -

12

vine Christ Child, Play the o - boe and bag - pipes mer - ri - ly!

15

He is born, the di - vine Christ Child, Sing we now, He is born to - night!



①9

O - ver thou-sands of years gone by proph-ets have fore - told His com-ing:

23

O - ver thou-sands of years gone by proph-ets have fore - told His birth.

*poco rit.*

②7 *a tempo*

He is born, the di - vine Christ Child, Play the o - boe and bag-pipes mer-ri - ly!

*a tempo*

31

He is born, the di - vine Christ Child, Sing we now, He is born to - night!

(Congregation may join on melody to end)

35 **f** \*

Glo

39

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glo

43 **ff rit. poco a poco al fine**

ri - a in ex - cel - sis

**ff rit. poco a poco al fine**

47

De - o!

\* LES ANGES DANS NOS CAMPAGNES (Angels from the Realms of Glory). Traditional French carol; words by James Montgomery (1771-1854).