

DIRECTOR'S
SCORE

CARRIERS OF THE LIGHT

A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

FOR UNISON OR 2-PART VOICES, SOLOISTS, NARRATOR AND SPEAKERS



Written and Arranged by
ANNA LAURA PAGE & JEAN ANNE SHAFFERMAN

DIRECTOR'S SCORE (16077)

SINGER'S EDITION PACK OF 5 (16078)

PREVIEW PACK (16079)
(1 Singer's Edition & Listening Cassette)

PERFORMANCE PACK (16080)
(Director's Score & 10 Singer's Editions)

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PERFORMANCE TIME—APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES

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ART DIRECTION: HOLLY DeBORD

DESIGN: PIEPER DESIGN

*dedicated to our children,
Kristen, Matt, Amy, Emilie and Evan*

CARRIERS OF THE LIGHT

A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

FOREWORD

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.
Will you carry the light of God's salvation throughout the world?
Will you be a Carrier of the Light?*

Carriers of the Light is a children's Christmas musical inspired by scriptural passages from Isaiah, Matthew and Luke focusing on Jesus as the Light of Salvation. It celebrates the passing of God's Light, from Mary to Joseph to the animals in the manger, from the shepherds in the countryside to the wise men in the east. This inspiring program concludes with the cast "passing the light of God's salvation" to the audience or congregation in a beautiful candlelighting ceremony, with everyone pledging to become a carrier of God's light.

This Christmas musical is intended for performance by children in grades K-8 and features seven easy unison songs, including two with optional descant, two for solo and choir, and one unison trio with choir. For ease of teaching, most of the songs are adaptations of familiar carols with new lyrics. Simple speaking parts, a fully supportive keyboard accompaniment, costuming, prop and staging suggestions, and a reprintable program are also included. An optional accompaniment/performance recording on cassette or compact disc (CD) is available separately.

Carriers of the Light is designed for flexibility of teaching and staging. Presented as written, it may be performed by children's choirs with as few as 13 voices. However, the authors encourage teachers to adapt freely the characters and song assignments to meet their individual needs. For example, it may be performed by entire Sunday Schools with the assignment of different songs to specific grade levels. Characters may be more fully developed through the creation of additional dialog and the insertion of additional solos.

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CAST, COSTUMES & PROPS

SPEAKING ROLES: Narrator, Angel, Mary, Joseph, Owl, Cow, Lamb, Shepherd #1, Shepherd #2, Wise Man #1, Wise Man #2, Wise Man #3, King Herod.

SOLO SINGING: Mary, Joseph.

UNISON TRIO: Wise Man #1, Wise Man #2, Wise Man #3.

NARRATOR: An older boy or girl, a member of the junior or senior high choir, or an adult, dress casually.

ANGEL: An older boy or girl, a member of the junior or senior high choir, or an adult, dressed in a sparkling white robe and wearing a silver or gold tinsel garland as a halo. Angel's star may be placed on top of a long pole with long, glittering streamers flowing down. Angel may also carry a sparkling bag filled with candles or mini-flashlights.

MARY: A girl wearing a robe, or blouse and long skirt, and sandals, with a head covering fashioned out of fabric or a towel.

JOSEPH: A boy wearing a robe and sandals.

OWL, COW & LAMB: Both girls and boys may portray the animals. Costumes may be elaborate, but simple masks or face painting will be equally effective. Additional non-speaking animal roles may be created as appropriate to the manger scene.

SHEPHERDS: Both girls and boys may portray the shepherds, wearing robes and sandals and carrying shepherd's staves. (One shepherd may speak both shepherd parts, as needed.)

WISE MEN: Older boys, dressed in more exotic robes and sandals, carrying gifts of gold, frankincense (a sweet spice) and myrrh (a bitter fragrance). Legend suggests that these men were kings, so crowns may also be worn, though the Bible says only that they were wise men from the east. (One wise man may speak all three wise men parts, as needed.)

KING HEROD: An older boy, wearing a splendid crown and dressed very richly, though in dark colors.

PROPS:

- ☆ *A podium or stand for the narrator*
- ☆ *Choral risers, choir loft, or chairs for choir*
- ☆ *A crib for the manger*
- ☆ *A throne for King Herod*
- ☆ *Shepherds' staves*
- ☆ *Angel's star*
- ☆ *Optional: a bag for Angel to carry God's Lights*
- ☆ *Gold, frankincense and myrrh for the wise men*
- ☆ *God's Lights: mini-flashlights, electric or wax candles*
- ☆ *Wax candles for the audience/congregation*
- ☆ *Christ candle: large white candle*

OVERTURE

(At beginning stage lights are up full, house lights out. A Christ candle burns center stage in front of the podium. Narrator and Choir enter at the appropriate time to be in place by m. 31.)

Slow swing (♩ = ca. 96) (♩♩ = $\overset{\frown}{\underset{\frown}{\text{3}}}$)

ACCOMP.

Straight time

⑧ (♩ = ca. 96) (♩♩ = ♩♩)

16 Slower (♩ = ca. 88)

14

rit.

mp

17

21

25

29

rit. e dim.

THE PROPHECY – Isaiah 59: 9 – 60: 3

(As Narrator begins, all characters except Angel enter and move to their positions, warmly greeting each other through m. 48.)

NARRATOR: (as music continues) Once upon a time the people of God walked in His Light. Guided by
Faster (♩ = ca. 108-112)

33

p (speaking starts)

His wisdom, they lived happily as servants of God. They enjoyed the rich bounty of God's creation, harvesting crops and protecting the earth for future generations.

37

They loved one another, living as sisters and brothers in God's great family. They worshipped the Lord

41

and praised Him in all that they said and did. The people of God walked in His Light. (Characters "freeze" as music stops.)

45

rit. (music stops)

NARRATOR: But slowly the people of God lost their way. They became so busy enjoying the earth's great wonders that they forgot to worship God. They grew selfish, refusing to share with their neighbors. They grew careless, spoiling the land.

(As Narrator continues, stage lights dim as characters turn their backs on each other and "stumble in place" with eyes closed to m. 12.)

COME, LIGHT OF THE WORLD!

(Unison Voices)

NARRATOR: (as music starts) Their hearts grew cold as sisters turned against sisters and brothers fought each other. And the people of God who had walked in His light began to stumble in darkness.

Slowly (♩ = ca. 100)

ACCOMP.

mp (speaking continues)

5 UNISON VOICES *mp* ⑦

O come, O come, Em - man - u -

(speaking stops)

9 *rit.* ⑫ Faster (♩ = ca. 126-132)

el, and bring God's light to Is - ra - el.

rit.

13 (Characters "freeze.") ⑯ *mf*

Come, come, Em -

mf

man - u - el, — come, ran - som Is - ra - el, — stum - blin' in dark - ness,

cry - in' in sad - ness. Turn on — the lights! Come, come, Em -

man - u - el, — come, ran - som Is - ra - el. — Turn night - time to day - time,

moon - light to sun - light, come, Light of the World! — A - rise,

33

shine! Shine, shine like the sun! — A - rise, shine!

38

Come, Ho - ly One. — Come, come, — Em - man - u - el, —

(40) *mf*

42

come, ran - som Is - ra - el, — stum - blin' in dark - ness, cry - in' in sad - ness.

46

Come, Light of the World! — Come, Light of the World! —

f

(music stops)

THE ANNUNCIATION – Luke 1: 26-38

NARRATOR: *(Angel enters and moves to Mary.)* God heard the cries of His people. He decided to send a Savior who would be the Light of the World. This Savior would come as a tiny child, the Son of God but born of woman. Who would this special woman be?

ANGEL: Peace be with you, Mary! The Lord has greatly blessed you!

MARY: Who are you? What does God want with me?

ANGEL: I am an angel, sent by God. He has chosen you to carry His Light into the world. You will bear a child, and He will be the Son of the Most High God. He will be a great king from the family of David. And His kingdom will last forever! Mary, will you be a Carrier of the Light?

MARY: I am the Lord’s servant. I will carry His Light. *(Angel gives God’s Light to Mary.)*

NARRATOR: One tiny light flickered in the darkness. *(music starts)*

MARY’S SONG OF PRAISE *(Mary and/or Unison Voices)*

Gently (♩ = ca. 108-112) *(Mary moves forward to sing, carrying God’s Light.)*

ACCOMP. *mp*

4 MARY *(opt. unison voices)* *mp*

What

⑨

news is this _____ the an - gel brings, _ what

13

bless - ed peace is he sing - ing? Sal - va - tion's

18

light, _ the Son of God, _ from heav - en to earth _ is

23

mf UNISON VOICES

wing - ing. This, this _____ is Christ the

28

King — whom proph - ets prom - ised and an - gels sing.

33 *f*

Praise, praise — the Prom - ised One, — the Babe, — the

38 *mp*

Son — of Ma - ry!

43

48 *mp* (49)

The Lord has cho - sen me to car - ry His

53

bless - ed Son, His ho - ly Light in joy, in

58

hope, in peace for all; this child of

62 *mf* UNISON VOICES

(65) (Mary moves to crib.)

love and de - light. This, this is

67

Christ the King — whom proph - ets prom - ised and an - gels

72 *f*

sing. Praise, praise — the Prom - ised One, — the

77 *dim.* *mp*

Babe, — the Son — of Ma - ry!

82 *rit.*

rit. e dim. *p* (music stops)

JOSEPH, DESCENDANT OF DAVID – Matthew 1: 18-24

NARRATOR: *(Angel moves to Joseph.)* Mary was engaged to Joseph, who belonged to King David’s family. God sent His angel to Joseph.

ANGEL: Peace be with you, Joseph! The Lord has greatly blessed you!

JOSEPH: Who are you? What does God want with me?

ANGEL: I am an angel, sent by God. God has chosen Mary, to whom you are engaged, to carry His Light into the world. She will bear a son who was conceived by the Holy Spirit. You will name Him Jesus, and He will save God’s people from their sins. Joseph, will you love and protect Mary and Jesus? Will you be a Carrier of the Light?

JOSEPH: I am the Lord’s servant. I will carry His Light. *(Angel gives God’s Light to Joseph.)*

NARRATOR: Two tiny lights glowed in the darkness. *(music starts)*

I WILL NAME HIM JESUS

(Joseph and Unison Voices with Optional Descant)

Moderately (♩ = ca. 100) *(Joseph moves forward to sing, carrying God’s Light.)*

ACCOMP. *mf*

⑤ *mf* JOSEPH

He will come, ti - ny child, Prince of Peace and in - fant mild,

f UNISON VOICES

Might - y God, Ma - ry’s babe, I will name Him Je - sus. Je - sus, Son of God,

f

10

born to save the world, Je - sus, Ma-ry's son, he will name Him Je - sus.

13

15 *mf* JOSEPH

When He comes, ti - ny child,

mf

16

Prince of Peace and in-fant mild, safe from harm, from a-larm, I will car-ry Je - sus.

19 *f* UNISON VOICES

Je - sus, Son of God, born to save the world, Je - sus, Ma-ry's son,

f

22

23 (Joseph moves to crib.)

he will car - ry Je - sus.

25

DESCANT (optional)

27

UNISON VOICES

He will come,

He will come, ti - ny child,

f

29

ti - ny child, Prince of Peace and in - fant mild, Might - y God,

Prince of Peace and in - fant mild, Might - y God, Ma - ry's babe,

Ma - ry's ba - by, Je - sus. Je - sus, Son of God,
 he will name Him Je - sus. Je - sus, Son of God,

born to save the world, Je - sus, Ma-ry's son,
 born to save the world, Je - sus, Ma-ry's son, he will name Him Je - sus.

we will call Him Je - sus. He will name Him Je - sus.
 He will name Him Je - sus.

(music stops)

BETHLEHEM’S MANGER – Luke 2: 1-7

NARRATOR: Now Joseph and Mary lived in Nazareth, which was in the Roman Empire. The Roman Emperor Augustus ordered a census to count all of the people who lived in that region. Everyone had to travel to their hometowns to be counted.

Through the long day and into the night Joseph travelled with Mary to Bethlehem, the birthplace of King David, to be counted. Mary was great with child, and when they arrived in Bethlehem late that night, the time came for her to have her baby. *(Angel moves to Animals.)* Because of the census, Bethlehem was very crowded, and the innkeeper could not find room for them. Who would provide a room for the birth of God’s Son?

ANGEL: Peace be with you, God’s creatures great and small! The Lord has greatly blessed you!

OWL: WHOOOOO! Who are you? What does God want with us?

ANGEL: I am an angel, sent by God. God has chosen Mary to carry His Light into the World. She is great with child and needs a warm room to give birth to God’s Son. Will you share your stable with Mary? Will you be Carriers of the Light?

COW: MOOOOOO! Move, all of you! Make way for Mary!

LAMB: BAAAAAA! Back away, make room for the tiny King!

OWL, COW & LAMB: We are servants of the Lord. We will carry His Light. *(Angel gives God’s Light to Animals, who carry it to crib as Narrator continues. Light over crib grows gradually to full by m. 9.)*

LIGHT IN THE MANGER

(Unison Voices)

NARRATOR: *(as music starts)* So Mary gave birth to her Son in a stable, surrounded by the love of Gently (♩ = ca. 88)

ACCOMP. *mp* *(speaking continues)*

God’s creatures both great and small. She wrapped the Baby in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger.

4

Joseph named Him Jesus. God's holy light filled the stable, warming the darkness.

8 UNISON VOICES

mp 10

A - way in a man - ger, no

(speaking stops)

12

crib for His bed, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid

16

18

down His sweet head. The stars in the heav - ens looked

20

down where He lay, the lit - tle Lord Je - sus, a -

24 (26) *mf*

sleep on the hay. Star - light shin - ing so

29

bright, warm - ing the ba - by who sleeps through the night.

34 *rit.* *mp* (35) *a tempo*

The cat - tle are low - ing, the poor Ba - by

a tempo

38

wakes, but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He

42 43

makes. The stars in the heavens looked down where He

46 *rit. poco a poco*

lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep

rit. poco a poco

50

on the hay.

p (music stops)

THE SHEPHERDS – Luke 2: 8-12

NARRATOR: *(Angel moves to Shepherds.)* In the peaceful countryside there were shepherds in the fields, keeping watch over their flocks by night. Suddenly the earth shook and an angel dressed in blinding white garments appeared before them. The shepherds were terrified! The angel said:

ANGEL: Peace be with you, shepherds! The Lord has greatly blessed you!

SHEPHERD #1: Who are you? Why do you frighten us so?

ANGEL: Do not be afraid! I am an angel, sent by God to bring you news of great joy! Tonight in Bethlehem a Child has been born! He is your Savior, Christ the Lord!

SHEPHERD #2: Let us go to Bethlehem to see this Child. *(Angel gives God's Light to Shepherds, who carry it to Crib as Narrator continues.)*

NARRATOR: The shepherds found Mary, Joseph, and the baby Jesus in the stable in Bethlehem, just as the angel had said. The shepherds told the angel's story to Mary and Joseph.

GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

(Unison Voices with Optional Descant)

NARRATOR: (as music starts) Then they returned to their fields, telling their story everywhere they went.
They became Carriers of the Light, and heavenly light filled the countryside.

(Shepherds "tell story" to Mary and Joseph through m. 12 as stage lights are brought up.)

Relaxed swing ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 84\text{-}88$) ($\text{♩} = \overset{\frown}{\text{♩}} \overset{\frown}{\text{♩}}$)

ACCOMP.

p (speaking continues)

4 UNISON VOICES ⑤ *mf*

Go, tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and

(speaking stops) *mf*

8 *rit.*

ev - 'ry - where! - Go, tell it on the moun - tain that Je - sus Christ - is

rit.

12 *accel.*

14 **Faster!** (♩ = ca. 112) (*Shepherds carry God's Light*)

born! Go, tell it on the moun - tain,

accel.

16 *in front of audience/congregation.)*

o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry- where! Go, tell it on the moun - tain that

20

22

Je - sus Christ - is born! When shep-herds told their sto - ry a -

24

bout that ho - ly night, Be - hold through-out the coun - try there

28 DESCANT (optional) *rit.*

30 *a tempo*

f (Shepherds return to original positions)

UNISON VOICES

Go, tell it on the moun-tain,
 shone a heav'n-ly light. — Go, tell it on the moun - tain,

rit. *f* *a tempo*

32 while Angel moves to Wise Men by m. 39, picking up the star along the way.)

o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry-where! Go, tell it on the moun-tain,
 o-ver the hills and ev - 'ry-where! Go, tell it on the moun - tain that

36

Je - sus Christ is born!
 Je - sus Christ is born!

(music stops)

THE WISE MEN – Matthew 2: 1-12

- NARRATOR: *(Angel carries star, leading Wise Men to King Herod.)* That same night, a great star appeared in the heavens, carrying to distant lands the joyous news of the savior's birth. Far to the east, wise men who studied the scriptures and the stars began a long journey. Led by the light of that great star, they travelled to Jerusalem where they told King Herod the star's joyous message.
- WISE MAN #1: We have followed the light of a great star.
- WISE MAN #2: The great star appeared to us in our land, proclaiming the birth of a child who will be a great king.
- WISE MAN #3: The great star led us to Jerusalem. Do you know where this child is?
- KING HEROD: I do not know where this child is. Find the child and return to me. Tell me where he is so that I can go and worship him.
- NARRATOR: But King Herod knew that all of this was as the ancient prophet wrote: "A great King will be born in Bethlehem, and He will rule the world." Herod was afraid that he would lose his kingdom, so he planned to kill Jesus. *(As music starts, Angel carries star, leading Wise Men to crib, where they offer gifts to Mary and Joseph.)*

WE THREE KINGS

(Wise Men and/or Unison Voices)

NARRATOR: *(as music starts)* As the wise men left Jerusalem, the star reappeared and led them to Bethlehem.

Moderately (♩ = ca. 112)

ACCOMP. *mp (speaking continues)*

There they found Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus. They worshipped Jesus with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. That night as they slept, an angel appeared to them in their dreams,

6

warning them about King Herod's plan. So the wise men did not return to Jerusalem.

11

They returned to their country singing God's praises and telling their story to all that they met along the way. They, too, became Carriers of the Light. And the Light of Salvation spread throughout the world.

17

(repeat as needed until speaking stops)

WISE MEN (or unison voices) (Angel carries star, leading the singing Wise Men through the

21 *mf*

We three kings of Or - i - ent are fol - low -

26 audience/congregation.)

ing the great ho - ly star, Field and foun - tain,

31

moor and moun - tain, jour - ney - ing from a - far.

36

39 *mp*

We have seen the

41

ho - ly Child, and His moth - er, meek - and

46

mf

mild. God's sal - va - tion, Light of Na - tions,

51

accel.

UNISON VOICES
cresc.

Je - sus, the Ho - ly Child. Oh,

56

57

f **Faster** (♩ = ca. 126)

(Angel and Wise Men gradually return to Wise Men's

star of won - der burn - ing bright,

61 *original positions by m. 75.)*

glow - ing, shin - ing through the night, tell the

66

sto - ry, sing His glo - ry. We are Car - ri - ers

71 *rit. poco a poco*

of the Light. _____

rit. poco a poco (music stops)

CARRIERS OF THE LIGHT – Matthew 2: 13-23 and 4: 12-17

NARRATOR: *(Mary and Joseph move to front carrying God's Light; all other characters except King Herod follow them.)* Joseph also heard the angel's warning. He escaped to Egypt with Mary and Jesus, where they lived safely until Herod died. Herod's anger could not extinguish the Light of the World.

After Herod's death, they returned to Nazareth, where Jesus, son of Mary and Son of God, grew in grace and wisdom. He became a great preacher and teacher, bringing the good news of God's redeeming love to all. Jesus is the Light of the World.

Will you join the star-led band? Will you walk in God's ways, loving your neighbor, protecting the earth, worshipping God with all of your heart? Will you spread throughout the world the good news of our Savior, Jesus Christ? Will you be a Carrier of the Light?
(music starts)

CARRIERS OF THE LIGHT *(Unison Voices)*

MARY: *(as music starts)* I carried God's son into the world. JOSEPH: I loved and protected God's Son.
Joyfully (♩ = ca. 108)

ACCOMP. *mp (speaking continues)*

ANIMALS: We warmed God's son and gave him our manger. SHEPHERDS & WISE MEN: We worshipped

God's son and spread the good news. ALL: We are Carriers of the Light. Join us! Pass the Light along!

(repeat as necessary) *(speaking stops last time)*

⑨ *mf* UNISON VOICES

This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine. This lit-tle light of mine,

12

I'm gon-na let it shine. This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine

15 *rit.*

Swing! (♩ = ca. 108) (♩♩♩ = $\frac{3}{4}$)

ev - 'ry - where - I go.

⑮

(Characters move into audience/congregation, singing and "passing" God's Light.)

Go, tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and

21

ev - 'ry - where! _ Go, tell it on the moun - tain that

24

rit.

Je - sus Christ _ is born! The Light of God has

27 Straight time (♩ = ca. 108) (♩♩ = ♩♩)

29 *f* (Congregation may sing to end.)

come! This lit-tle light of mine,

30

I'm gon-na let it shine. This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.

This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine — ev - 'ry - where I

36 *mf* (37) (*Characters return to front for final bow.*)

go. O come, let us a - dore Him. O come, let us a -

40 *f*

dore Him. O come, let us a - dore Him. — We are

44 *rit.* *a tempo*

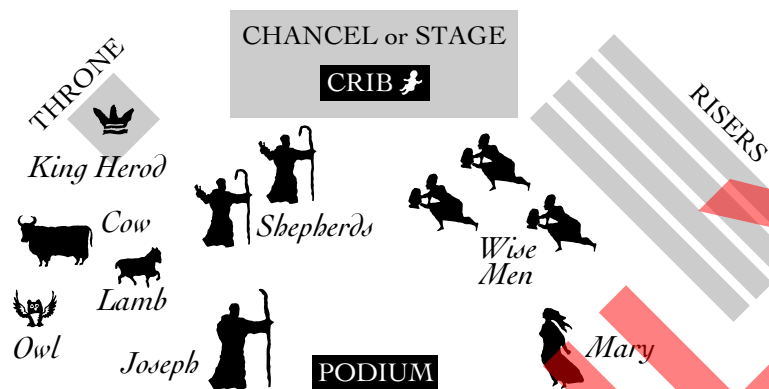
Car - ri - ers of the Light! —

a tempo

STAGING SUGGESTIONS

Set Diagram

This set diagram is conceived for a sanctuary with a raised chancel or an auditorium with a stage or raised platform. However, it may be adapted for use in any setting.



Staging

During the first part of the Overture, Narrator and Choir should enter and take their positions before Narrator begins to speak (m. 33). At that point, the rest of the characters, with the exception of Angel, should enter, warmly greeting one another as they take their positions. They may also pantomime harvesting crops and worshipping God. After “freezing” in position at the end of the Overture, they should begin to move in place at the beginning of “Come, Light of the World!” arguing in pantomime as they turn their backs on each other (and the audience!) and pretend to “stumble in darkness” with their eyes closed.

Angel should remain offstage until the appropriate moment. As Angel approaches and begins to speak to each character, that character should slowly turn to face both Angel and the audience. Stage and audience limitations may prevent Angel and Wise Men from processing throughout the room at m. 21 in “We Three Kings,” but a processional around the circumference of the room or stage will suffice. Both the cast members AND the choir may be utilized to “pass the light” throughout the congregation during “Carriers of the Light.” However, King Herod should remain on his throne while the light is being passed.

Lighting

For the Overture, stage lights should be up full. Stage lights should dim gradually from mm. 1-12 of “Come, Light of the World!,” until the effect is one of a “world in darkness.” As the story progresses from this point, stage lights should be added gradually at the appropriate moments until “the world is filled with light.” (The exception is King Herod, who should remain in darkness.)

The following summary of lighting cues may be helpful:

- ∨ **Stage Lights Full** – beginning of Overture
- ∨ **Stage Lights Gradually Dim** – “Come, Light of the World!” mm. 1-12
- ∨ **Crib Light Gradually Up** – “Light in the Manger,” mm. 1-9
- ∨ **Stage Lights (except King Herod) Gradually Up** – “Go, Tell It on the Mountain,” mm. 1-12
- ∨ **Audience/Congregation Candle Lighting** – “Carriers of the Light”

“God’s Light” may be passed to each character in a variety of ways. Angel may light a candle from the Christ candle, then give candles to each character in turn and pass the light along. Another option is for Angel to carry a sparkling bag full of electric candles or mini-flashlights that are given to the characters as cued. When passing God’s Light through the audience/congregation, the characters may pass candlelight from single large candles burning at the end of each row or pew, or from their own burning candles.

Be creative in your lighting approach, employing additional candlelight and other lighting effects throughout the room. Add an Advent wreath around the Christ candle, with four candles each of which are lit in turn by Mary, Joseph, Animals and Shepherds. Add starlight by creating behind the crib a screen twinkling with mini-lights. At the program’s conclusion, illumine a Christmas tree with Angel placing his/her star atop the blazing tree.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS

ANNA LAURA PAGE is Handbell Editor for Alfred Publishing Co., Inc., and a widely celebrated composer, children's choir conductor and handbell clinician. A native of Louisville, Kentucky, she graduated from the University of Kentucky with a B.M. in vocal music education and an M.M. in music theory. Anna Laura currently resides in Sherman, Texas, where her husband Oscar is President of Austin College.



JEAN ANNE SHAFFERMAN is Director of Church Choral Publications for Alfred Publishing Co., Inc., and serves the music ministry at College Hill Presbyterian Church in Easton, Pennsylvania. A native of Owensboro, Kentucky, she graduated from the University of Kentucky with a B.M. in vocal music education and an M.A. in music theory. Jean Anne currently resides in Easton with her husband David, an architect, and two children. Though both Anna Laura and Jean Anne graduated from the University of Kentucky, they first became acquainted with each other professionally in 1988.

ABOUT THE RECORDING

Carriers of the Light was recorded at Red Rock Recording Studio, Saylorsburg, Pennsylvania; Kent Heckman, Engineer; Jean Anne Shafferman, Producer. The cast was composed of students from the Parkland School District, Orefield, Pennsylvania, directed by Clair Neamand, and included Shannon Ehret, Lauren Hofmann, Megan Hofmann, Craig Neamand, Kirsten Neamand, Lauren Smith, Cheryl Springer and Mallory Sweeney.

INSTRUMENTAL ARRANGER & SYNTHESIZERS: Wolfgang Knittel

PIANO & SYNTHESIZERS: Jean Anne Shafferman

PERCUSSION: Tom Whaley

BASS: Steve Gilmore



CARRIERS OF THE LIGHT

A CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MUSICAL

FOR AUDIENCE/CONGREGATION PARTICIPATION

OVERTURE

THE PROPHECY—ISAIAH 59: 9—60: 3

COME, LIGHT OF THE WORLD!

(Choir)

THE ANNUNCIATION—LUKE 1: 26—38

MARY'S SONG OF PRAISE

(Mary and/or Choir)

JOSEPH, DESCENDANT OF DAVID—MATTHEW 1: 18—24

I WILL NAME HIM JESUS

(Joseph and Choir)

BETHLEHEM'S MANGER—LUKE 2: 1—7

LIGHT IN THE MANGER

(Choir)

THE SHEPHERDS—LUKE 2: 8—12

GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

(Choir)

THE WISE MEN—MATTHEW 2: 1—12

WE THREE KINGS

(Wise Men and/or Choir)

CARRIERS OF THE LIGHT—MATTHEW 2: 13—23 & 4: 12—17

CARRIERS OF THE LIGHT

(Choir)

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine everywhere I go.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere!

Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

The Light of God has come!

(Audience/congregation may join)

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine everywhere I go.

O come, let us adore Him. O come, let us adore Him.

O come, let us adore Him. We are Carriers of the Light!

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