LIVING NATIVITY

PARTS Mary, Angel Gabriel, Shepherd 1, Shepherd, 2, Herod, King 1, King 2, King 3 (5-6th)

READERS 1-15 (7-12th) GROUPS Animals (PreK-K) , Angels(1-2), Shepherds (3-4)

READER 1 The prophecies concerning Jesus’ birth – Isaiah 7:14 Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign, the Virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel.

READER 2 Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

READER 3 Micah 5:2 But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.

ALL (Parents with Song Sheets) SING – “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful,

Joyful and triumphant,

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem

Come and behold Him, Born the King of angels!

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

O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

READER 4 (As the reading is read - **Mary** comes first walking to center of stage….then Gabriel enters from other side) Luke 1:26-35 Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary.

MALE ANGEL GABRIEL “Rejoice, highly favored one, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women!

READER 5 But when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying and considered what manner of greeting this was.

MALE ANGEL GABRIEL Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end!”

MARY “How can this be?”

MALE ANGEL GABRIEL “The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; there, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. For with God nothing will be impossible.”

MARY “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word. (The angel Gabriel leaves) “My soul magnifies the Lord. And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior. For He has regarded the lowly state of His maidservant; For behold, henceforth all generations will call me blessed. (Mary walks off to behind curtain.)

ALL SING - Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark, the herald angels sing,

“Glory to the newborn King”:

Peace on earth, and mercy mild

God and sinner reconciled

Joyful all ye nations rise

Join the triumph of the skies;

With th’ angelic host proclaim,

“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Hark! The herald angels sing,

“Glory to the newborn King,”

READER 6 Luke 2:1-7 And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria

READER 7 They all went to be registered everyone to his own city. 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 out of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary his betrothed wife who was with child. (Mary and Joseph walk on to center stage….they, seem to ask ‘Is there room? Walk and do it again in another spot on stage and then Mary sits with Joseph next to her)

READER 8 So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. (All animals need to come in and be seated around the manger) And she brought her first born Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

ALL SING – O Little Town of Bethlehem

O Little Town of Bethlehem,

How still we see thee lie;

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep,

The silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth

The everlasting Light.

The hopes and fears of all the years,

Are met in thee tonight.

(Shepherds enter )

READER 9 Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. (Angel enters)And behold an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Luke 2:18-20

ANGEL “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, and this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.

(Group of Angels enter together)

ALL ANGELS “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!” (All angels move to other side of stage)

READER 10 So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven that the shepherds said to one another,

SHEPHERD 1 “Let us now go to Bethlehem.”

SHEPHERD 2 “Let’s see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.”

READER 11 And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the Babe lying in a manger. Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this child. (Shepherds stand on one side of the manger) And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart. Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

ALL SING – Away in a Manger

Away in a manger, no crib for His bed,

The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head.

The stars in the sky looked down where He lay.

The Little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

READER 12 Matthew 2:1-12 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him. When Herod the king heard this he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

HEROD “But you Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah for out of you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.”

READER 13 Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem.

(Three kings at the bottom of stairs listen to Herod)

HEROD Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.

READER 14 When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, ‘till it came and stood over where the young Child was. (The three kings walk to the back of the hall…one to kitchen door, second to hallway door and third to entrance door.)

READER 15 When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshipped Him.

(Three kings enter from the back of the hall and walk toward stage one at a time with their gifts held in front of them….proceed to where Mary is and as they approach the manger turn and face the congregation and stop until the song ‘We Three Kings” is done. Then say your line and then turn and place the gift in front of the manger. Kneel down on one knee next to manger.)

ALL SING – We Three Kings of Orient Are

We three kings of Orient are,

Bearing gifts we traverse afar

Field and fountain moor and mountain

Following yonder star

O Star of wonder, star of night

Star with royal beauty bright,

Westward leading still proceeding

Guide us to they perfect light.

King #1 I bring gold for a King on Earth.

King #2 I bring frankincense for a God.

King #3 I bring myrrh for a mortal who will die.

ALL SING – Joy to the World!

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare him room,

And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven, and heaven and nature sing

Joy to the world the Savior reigns;

Let men their songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

*READER 16* The Processional Hymn - The Birth of Jesus

*READER 17* :a’0ri ,aragan – 2nntyan

Oh great and wonderous mystery

My/ e qorhovrtn ov skan[yli

Which was revealed to us today

Or a3s0r myz gu 3a3dnovi7

The shepherds sing with the angels

Howivnyr g\yrcyn hry,dagnyrov hyd

Goods news to the world they bring.

Avydis gov dan a,qarhi1

A new king is born in the city of Bethlehem;

nor arka3 mu 2unav a3sor Py;.yhem ka.akin me]1

Praise him all humans

Za3n orhnyxek martig hama3n5

For He has become man for our sake.

Zi myz hamar marmnaxav an1

Though greater then heaven and earth

Yrginki yv yrgri anpavylin

Yet he was wrapped in swaddling clothes;

Qan2arovri me] gu ‘a;;ovi7

Though inseparable from His Father,

A-anx ;o.ylo Ha3rn yrgnavor5

Yet He lay in the holy manger.

Sovrp a3rin me] gu pazmi1

ALL SAY TOGETHER -

CHRIST-OS DZUH-NAHV YEV HIDE-NEH-TSAHV!

(Christ is born and revealed)

ORT-NYAL EH HIDE-NOO-TYOON-UN CHRIST-OS-EE!

(Blessed is the revelation of Christ!)