

JUST A LITTLE CHRISTMAS – Simplified Version

Cast

Narrator 1

Narrator 2

Narrator 3

Mary

Joseph

Angel Gabriel

Emperor Caesar Augustus

Shepherds – any number

Angels – Any number

Wise men – 3

King Herod

Section One
Mary, Joseph and Angel

(SETTING – STAGE IS EMPTY except for microphones set up for the Narrators)

[LIGHTS UP ON STAGE]

Narrator 1: Over 2000 years ago in a city called Nazareth there was a young woman who was called Mary.

[MARY ENTERS and moves to CENTER STAGE]

Narrator 1: Mary was promised to marry a man named Joseph who lived there, too.

[JOSEPH ENTERS and moves to STAGE LEFT]

Narrator 2: One day, an angel from God came and talked to Mary.

[ANGEL ENTERS and stands on a step at CENTERSTAGE]

[Read Luke 1: 28-38]

[At the end of the reading, the Angel moves to STAGE LEFT]

Narrator 3: Now, Joseph wasn't sure what to do when he heard that Mary was going to have a baby.

[JOSEPH paces back and forth looking worried]

Narrator 3: One night while he was asleep [JOSEPH lies down on the stage] the angel came to talk to Joseph, too.

[Read Matthew 1:18-24]

[JOSEPH walks over to MARY, offers her his arm and the EXIT together]

Section Two
Herod, Soldiers, Mary, Joseph and All Actors

[LIGHTS UP ONSTAGE]

[EMPEROR ENTERS at STAGE RIGHT]

[MARY and JOSEPH ENTER and stand STAGE LEFT]

Narrator 1: A while later, the Emperor in Rome, Caesar Augustus, said that everyone had to go to their own hometown to be counted.

Emperor: Everyone go to your own hometown to be counted!

[EMPEROR EXITS]

Narrator 1: So Mary and Joseph went to Joseph's hometown of Bethlehem.

[Read Luke 2:1-5]

[CHOIR SINGS "OH LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM"]

[MARY and JOSEPH start walking slowly across the stage and then back to CENTERSTAGE. As they do this, all the other actors mill around at the center of the stage]

Narrator 2: There were lots of other people in Bethlehem, too. There were so many people, in fact, that there was no room for them in the inn. So, they stayed in a stable, which is a place where the animals stayed warm and dry.

Narrator 3: While they were there, baby Jesus was born and Mary took him and wrapped in up and laid him in the manger.

[CHOIR SINGS "AWAY IN A MANGER"]

Section Three
Shepherds and Angels

Narrator 1: That night there were some shepherds out in the fields watching over their flocks of sheep.

[SHEPHERDS ENTER and move to CENTERSTAGE.]

[Read Luke 2:8-14]

[At verse 13, all the angels come on stage]

[CHOIR SINGS “THE FIRST NOEL”]

[The ANGELS EXIT]

Narrator 2: Read Luke 2:15-20

[While the Narrator is reading, the SHEPHERDS exit “talking” to each other]

[CHOIR SINGS “It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”]

Section Four

Wise Men, Mary, Joseph Angel and all the actors

Narrator 1: One day after the baby Jesus had been born, wise men came to Jerusalem for the East looking for newly born King of the Jews.

[King Herod enters the stage and sits down with two soldiers on either side]

[The wise men come down the center aisle carrying their gifts]

[All the boys sign “We Three Kings”]

Narrator 2: They asked King Herod where this baby was.

Wise Men together: Where is he who was born “King of the Jews?”

Narrator 3: So the King asked his advisors.

King Herod: Where is this King of the Jews to be born?

Narrator 3: In Bethlehem

King Herod: (*to the kings*) In Bethlehem. Go and find Him and let me know where he is so I can come and worship him, too.

Narrator 2: So the wise men went and found the baby Jesus by following His star and when they found him, they worshiped Him.

[Wise men cross to Mary and Joseph and the baby. They place their gifts near the manger]

Narrator 3: But King Herod didn’t really want to worship baby Jesus. He wanted the harm him. The wise men were warned by God about this, so they went home another way.

[Wise men exit]

Narrator 3: When King Herod found out he had been tricked, he was really mad.

Narrator 1: He was determined to destroy this newborn King! So King Herod sent soldiers to Bethlehem to find the baby Jesus.

Narrator 2: But God warned Joseph in a dream to leave and so they did. Joseph, Mary and the little baby Jesus went to Egypt. They stayed there until the evil King Herod died.

Narrator 1: After King Herod died, God told Joseph it was safe to come back. So Mary and Joseph and baby Jesus came back from Egypt to the little town of Nazareth.

[Mary and Joseph go to center stage with the baby]

[All the cast come on stage behind them]

All Cast: Glory to God in the Highest! Peace on Earth! Good will to men!

[ALL CAST AND AUDIENCE SING "SILENT NIGHT"]

THE END