

Christmas Program

Written by Mary Ashworth

Choir: Were You There on that Christmas Night

Narrator: The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God; As it is written in the prophets. Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. The voice of one crying in the wilderness. (Mark 1:1-3)

Choir: Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord

Narrator: And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed...And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the City of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house of lineage of David, to be taxed with Mary, his espoused wife being great with child. And so it was that while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for him in the inn. (Luke 2:1-7)

Choir: The First Christmas

Narrator: And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:8-11).

Women's Chorus: Jesus is Born

Narrator: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." (Luke 2:13-14)

Choir: Angels We Have Heard on High

Narrator: And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, “Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.” And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

(Luke 2:15-19)

Speaker: Female Speaker Talking about Connection with Mary, the Mother of the Son of God

Choir: Lullaby of the Lambs

Narrator: Now when Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judaea in the days of Herod the king, behold, there came wise men from the east to Jerusalem, Saying, “Where is he that is born King of the Jews? for we have seen his star in the east, and are come to worship him.”... and, lo, the star, which they saw in the east, went before them, till it came and stood over where the young child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceeding great joy. And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him: and when they had opened their treasures, they presented unto him gifts; gold, and frankincense, and myrrh. (Matthew 2:1-2, 9-11)

Choir: Hallelujah

Narrator: And the people of Nephi in this, the western hemisphere began to know that the Son of God must shortly appear: yea, in fine, all the people upon the face of the whole earth from West to East, both in the land North and in the land South, were so exceedingly astonished that they fell to the earth, for they knew that the prophets had testified of these thing for many years, and that the sign which had been given was already at hand; and they began to fear because of their iniquity and their unbelief. And it came to pass that there was no darkness in all that night, but it was as light as though it was mid-day. And it came to pass that the sun did rise in the morning again, according to its proper order; and they knew that it was

the day that the Lord should be born, because of the sign which had been given. And it had come to pass, yea, all things, every whit, according to the words of the prophets. And it came to pass also that a new star did appear, according to the word. (3 Nephi 1:16-20)

Choir: Star Bright

Narrator: Seven hundred and forty years before these events recorded in the New Testament and the Book of Mormon occurred, Isaiah had written, “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace. “(Isaiah 9:6)

Solo: Alleluia

Narrator: This special time of year is a time of worship, a time of reflection and a time of rededication to the Savior and to His great work of bringing to pass the immortality and eternal life of man. We must look to the two facets of Christ’s faith in God and God’s Kingdom and Christ’s faith in mankind...Christ illustrates God’s love for all his children, his forgiveness, his mercy, his willingness to help. Christ’s faith in Man’s latent possibilities lays the foundation of the Gospel. Faith that from ordinary, common people, if given an opportunity, may come surprising consequences. Faith in the prodigal sons, the unpopular, the tax gatherers, and the forgiven adulteress. For faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen, as we willingly devote our lives to the principles and ideals of the Gospel. Faith that on that Holy Night, the Son of God was born.

Solo: O Holy Night

Narrator: This then, would be our Christmas remembrance. The babe in the manger, the boy in the temple, the young man in the wilderness, on the mount, and upon the cross, and the Son of God, risen upon that morn to make the second birth a living reality for all mankind. We worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, whose birth we commemorate. We stand in awe of His life and of the great atoning sacrifice which He performed. Through obedience to the principles of the Gospel we may be reconciled with God and may become qualified to return. Modern prophets have reiterated that at this joyous time of year, the happiest of all seasons, let us ever keep in mind that people are most blessed whose daily conduct most nearly comports with the teaching and example of Jesus Christ, our Lord and

Savior. With glad hearts and great rejoicing may we celebrate the Birth of the Savior of the world.

Choir: Gloria in Excelsis Deo