



We're Going to Bethlehem

PRESCHOOL/KINDERGARTEN
WORSHIP PROGRAM

By Kremer Resources LLC

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to WE'RE GOING TO BETHLEHEM. This short Christmas presentation is intended for children in preschool and kindergarten and may be enjoyed by any number of children. The program is about travel. We will travel from Nazareth to Bethlehem, from the inn to the stable, and from the fields to the manger.

THE NARRATION

The narration throughout the program may be done by the teacher or pastor.

THE RECITATIONS

Throughout the presentation the children will be assigned some short recitations plus a few songs. These may be done by the entire class or by individuals.

THE SONGS

NOTE: The sheet music files here provided are from the public domain. As a result, some text may be different when comparing the domain sheet music with this printed program. In some instances text has been removed or added.

The following songs are included:

AWAY IN THE MANGER (Assembly and Children) Sheet music is included.

COME, SEE THE BABY (Children) Sheet music and MP3s are included.

O COME, LITTLE CHILDREN (Assembly) Sheet music is included as "Ihr Kinderlein Kommet".

GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN (Children) Sheet music is included.

LET US NOW GO TO BETHLEHEM (Assembly and children) Sheet music is included.

LETTERS

The template for the letters in the BETHLEHEM poem are included. Have the children color the letters before the presentation.

Scripture taken from THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION ®. Copyright©
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Menomonee Falls, WI

We're Going to Bethlehem

Assembly Song: "O Come, Little Children"

O come, little children, O come one and all,
To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small,
God's son for a gift has been sent you this night
To be your redeemer, your joy and delight.

He's born in a stable for you and for me,
Draw near by the bright gleaming starlight to see,
In swaddling clothes lying so meek and so mild,
And purer than angels the heavenly Child.

See Mary and Joseph, with love beaming eyes,
Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies,
The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of love
While angels sing loud hallelujahs above.

Kneel down and adore Him with shepherds today,
Lift up little hands now and praise Him as they
Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast,
And join in the song of the heavenly host.

Pastor/Teacher: We join our hearts and voices here, in words so pure and warm
As we fix our sight on that Christmas night and the place where Christ was born.

Children: We may be meek, we may be young, but this we know is true,
That a baby small in a cattle stall was born for me and you.

Assembly: Please tell us now what happened there that brings you so much joy.
Through word and rhyme take us back in time to the birth of that baby Boy.

Children: We'll map the story out for you. We'll lead you all the way
To where Bethlehem's Son the Anointed One slept on a bed of hay.

Pastor and Assembly: Then let's go on to Bethlehem and see this noble place
Where a heavenly birth happened here on earth through God's abundant grace.

Children and Assembly Song: "Let's Now Go to Bethlehem"

Children: Let us now go to Bethlehem,
To see the wondrous thing—
Mary and Joseph and with them
The babe, our infant king!
For we shall find on earth
The Heav'n of Heav'ns in Him,
The holy, holy, holy Son,
Beneath the cherubim.

Assembly: Let us now go to Bethlehem,
To see the wondrous thing—
Mary and Joseph and with them
The babe, our infant king—
His Father's glory come
To lift our hearts above.
First loved by Him and angel hosts
We carol back His love.

Let us then go to Bethlehem—
Faith's star shall guide the way
To Jesus cradled in His church,
This bright appearing day!
There, light's true Light to Thee
We sing with glad accord.
To meet it is to celebrate
Thy birthday, Jesus, Lord!

Teacher: Bethlehem! The name means “house of bread”. In Jesus’ day it probably had no more than a few hundred people. Bethlehem is where we find Rachel’s tomb, and where Ruth and Naomi lived. But it was David who made it his town. That’s why we hear it called the City of David. Many years before Jesus’ birth, the prophet Micah said Jesus would be born in Bethlehem.

Recitation: “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,”

Assembly Song: “Once in Royal David’s City”
Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her Baby
In a manger for His bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from Heaven,
Who is God and Lord of all,
And His shelter was a stable,
And His cradle was a stall;
With the poor, and mean, and lowly,
Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,
Through His own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle
Is our Lord in Heav'n above,
And He leads His children on
To the place where He is gone.

Pastor: (Luke 2:1-4) In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

Children: "Let's go from Nazareth to Bethlehem."

(A SECTION HAS BEEN REMOVED HERE FOR SAMPLE PURPOSES)

Children Recitation: (Children hold up letters that spell B-E-T-H-L-E-H-E-M as they recite.)

By the hills the shepherds keep

Faithful watches o'er their sheep.

Every heart is calm and still,

All is quiet in the hill.

Then upon that peaceful night

Bursts a flood of heavenly light.

Hark, the angel of the Lord

Speaks to them the glorious word:

Lo. Good tidings do I bring,

Unto you is born a King.

Even Christ, so long foretold

By the holy men of old.

Hasten now your King to find,

Christ the Savior of mankind.

Every shepherd hasten then

To the inn at Bethlehem.

Mary and the Babe they found,

With God's glory shining round.

Assembly Song: "From Heaven above to Earth I Come"

From Heaven above to earth I come,

To bear good news to every home;

Glad tidings of great joy I bring,

Whereof I now will say and sing.

To you, this night, is born a Child

Of Mary, chosen mother mild;

This little Child, of lowly birth,

Shall be the joy of all your earth.

Now let us all, with gladsome cheer

Follow the shepherds, and draw near

To see this wondrous gift of God,

Who hath His only Son bestowed.

Pastor: Luke 2:16-20) So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Children: "Let's go and tell everyone."

Teacher: We've done a lot of traveling today. We've traveled with Joseph and Mary from Nazareth to Bethlehem. We traveled from the inn to the stable, and we traveled with the shepherds from the fields to the

place where Jesus was born. And we haven't even mentioned the long, long trip the Magi took to come and worship the baby Jesus. But the trip is not over. It never is. The traveling continues as the Holy Spirit seeks out the hearts of people everywhere. What a glorious message we have to tell. Let us take that message and share it with the whole world.

Recitation: Mark 16:15 “[Jesus] said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.’”

Children Song: Go Tell It on the Mountain

Refrain

*Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain,
That Jesus Christ is born.*

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. Refrain

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. Refrain