



TEACHER SCORE

© 1996 Kremer Publications, Inc.

ABOUT THIS WORSHIP SERVICE

We hear many voices at Christmas time, however only a select few have any real significance. *Just One Little Voice* presents some of the most important Christmas voices. They include the voice of God, the voices of the prophets, those from Bethlehem, and, of course, our voices too. This service includes some new ingredients such as a signed song and a theme song highlighting a solo child's voice. These unique additions will help make this service a memorable service for your listeners and children. It includes the following parts.

Part 1: THE VOICE OF GOD

Part 2: THE VOICE OF PROPHECY

Part 3: THE VOICES OF BETHLEHEM

Part 4: MY ONE LITTLE VOICE

SPEAKERS

There are parts for two narrators or speakers. They may be positioned at the pulpit and lectern.

RECITATIONS

All parts titled Recitations include Scripture verses. Those designated with a (*) are parts that may be deleted without affecting the total impact of the service.

SONGS

The theme song, "Just One Little Voice" begins with a soloist or soloists. "My Precious, My Baby", "He Is Born", and "I Wish I Could Have Been There" are all songs for the children. "Two Hands" can be performed using sign language as illustrated in this file. The program concludes with a congregation medley of carols. Feel free to make any adjustments or additions as you see necessary.

BANNER

A banner design is included with this disk.



All Scripture quotations in this publication are from the Holy Bible, New International Version. Copyright ©1973, 1978, 1984, 1997 International Bible Society. Used by permission of Zondervan Bible Publishers.

The entire Just One Little Voice service is protected by copyright: © 1996 Kremer Publications, Inc., Butler, Wisconsin.

Hand signs for "TWO HANDS TO TELL THE STORY"

Signs are to be used only for Refrain.
Proper signs are shown beneath each word or phrase.



- I'VE: Palm faces left. Move hand to touch chest with little finger up.
- TWO: Hold up index and middle fingers.
- EYES: Point to eye.
- TO SEE: Palm faces you. Move hand outward.
- GOD'S: Palm faces left – fingers kept tight. Arches down from slightly above head toward forehead.
- GLORY: Clap right hand on top of left, palms together. Lift right hand and shake as it moves.
- TWO: (See above)
- FEET: Point down twice.
- HE: Hold closed right hand to temple and move it forward.
- CAN: Hold both clenched hands facing downward. Move hands downward in a firm manner.
- USE: Hold up first two fingers of right hand. Heel of right hand bounces on back of left hand.
- I'VE: (See above)
- TWO: (See above)
- EARS: Right index finger touches the ear.
- TO HEAR (learn): Hold left hand palm up. Right hand is lifted to put information from hand into head at forehead.
- THAT WONDERFUL: Hold hands up – chin height – palms out. Push hands in same direction back and forth.
- STORY: Interlock hands – using thumbs and index fingers. Pull apart several times.
- AND TWO: (See above)
- HANDS: Stroke the back of left hand with the right hand.
- TO TELL: Palm faces left as index finger is placed at lips. Flip hand forward to palm-up position.
- THE NEWS: Index fingers touch sides of mouth and are drawn forward and away from the face.

Just One Little Voice

(Parts with an (*) may be deleted for smaller schools or Sunday schools.)

Processional: “On Christmas Night all Christians Sing”

Invocation

Responsive Reading:

P: Our day of joy is here again, with love and peace and song.
Come, let us join the angelic strains with voices clear and strong.
C: *Glory to God we bring, glory to our Lord and King;
Peace, goodwill with all abide this holy Christmastide.*

P: When darkness lay upon this earth, a glorious light did shine.
God sent a Gift of priceless worth and showed his love divine.
C: *Glory to our God we bring, glory to our Lord and King;
Peace, goodwill with all abide this holy Christmastide.*

P: How wonderful that God’s own Son should so himself abase!
He thrust the mighty from their throne, and gave the lowly grace.
C: *Glory to our God we bring, glory to our Lord and King;
Peace, goodwill with all abide this holy Christmastide.*

P: Now to the manger let us go to worship and adore
The tender Babe upon the straw, our Savior evermore.
C: *Glory to our God we bring, glory to our Lord and King;
Peace, goodwill with all abide this holy Christmastide.*

Prayer for Christmas:

God of Love, thank you for the gift you have given us in the Bethlehem manger. Your love for us was manifest in that stable so many years ago. Just as the shepherds spread the news of your birth, so may we feel that same zeal in telling others about your love. Use our hands in your service. Use our feet in your mission, and use our voices to share with others the truth of salvation through your Son, Jesus Christ. We ask this in the name of the King of kings and Lord of Lords. Amen.

Song (*All Children with Solo*)

Just One Little Voice

By Reynold R. Kremer

(Children remain seated during solo portion of the song. Soloist(s) may use a microphone because it is important that all hear the lyrics. If a microphone is not available, perhaps several children may sing the part, or even an adult soloist. Also, if a spotlight could focus on the soloist while the rest of the church is dark, it would give a much better effect. Lights may be turned up after the song is over. All children join in a powerful entrance after the solo.)

Introduction: (Solo)

1) Perhaps, perhaps, I'll speak just like Peter.
I'll stand so tall before a great crowd.
I'll tell them the message of Jesus my Savior
I'll turn all their hearts toward...
(spoken) But no! I can't preach a mighty sermon!

2) Perhaps, perhaps, I'll join with the angels
And harmonize song so sublime,
That people will listen and turn their heads heav'nward
They'll see our great gladness....
(spoken) But no! I can't join an angel choir!

Song....(all children)

1)How I want to tell the story
That was old when time began.
Of a Babe in perfect glory
Born one night in Bethlehem.

Time fulfilled the prophet's telling
That a virgin meek and mild
In a rude and humble dwelling
Bore God's Son, a little child.

Now my heart will feel no sadness,
But instead I must rejoice,
And begin to spread the gladness
Even with my one small voice.

2)Shepherds hear the joyful tidings
Of good news and peace to men.
They could sense Gods love abiding
In the crib of Bethlehem.

None could keep them from their mission.
None could silence such great joy.
They were filled with bold ambition
Having seen the baby Boy.

Now I too can see their pleasures
Now I too can know their joys.
And in thanks of such great treasures
I will offer my small voice.

Speaker A: What is the most familiar sound you hear? Is it the singing of birds, or the sound of the wind? Is it someone's voice? Could it be the rustling of trees or water running? Do you know what the most familiar sound is? It's the sound of your own voice. You hear your own voice more than any other sound around you. Today we will listen to some voices, and with each voice we will add a light to our Christmas tree. We'll listen carefully to the voice of God and of his spokespeople. We'll listen to the voices of those at Jesus birth, and then we will learn how

3)Perhaps, perhaps, I'll shout from a mountain.
I'll tell the world of God's Christmas love.
Then nations and peoples will hear of my Jesus,
They'll see the true light and...
(spoken) But no! I can't climb a mountain!

Interlude...(solo voice also)
How can I solve this?
There's so little choice.
I've such a great message
But only one voice!

3)Once you've heard His sound of crying,
Touched His hand and smelled the hay.
Once you've met the Prince of Glory
Born upon the Christmas Day,

You will have the joy that I do;
You will know the promise giv'n;
As God's Spirit rests upon you
And you see the hope of heav'n.

So let's join in chorus raising
This great strain as we rejoice.
Not just one, but thousands praising
Jesus Christ with one great voice!

each of our voices becomes very important in sharing the Christmas message.

Part 1: The Voice of God

All children: (*Spoken*)

How I want to tell the story
That was old when time began,
Of a Babe in perfect glory,
Born one night in Bethlehem.

Speaker B: Come with us as we step into the pages of the Bible. The first voice we hear is that of God, a fitting voice to begin with. Listen carefully to the voice of God as it speaks to us.

***Speaker A:** God has a very unique voice. People have heard the Lord speak in many different ways. Sometimes the Lord's voice is very powerful.

***Recitation:** "He thunders with his majestic voice. When his voice resounds, he holds nothing back." Job 37:4.

***Speaker B:** Sometimes God's voice is very quiet.

***Recitation:** "After the earthquake came a fire...and after the fire came a gentle whisper." I Kings 19:12.

***Speaker A:** But we want to take a careful look at another time when God spoke.

Speaker B: (Emphatically) "And God said, let there be light!"

Speaker A: Isn't it interesting that the very first voice we hear in the Bible is God's own voice? "And God said." Nine times in the Bible's first chapter we find the words, "And God said". Do you know why it was so important for God to actually speak words at the creation instead of just wishing what he was going to do? Do you know that this Word of God later became a real human being?

Speaker B: If we turn to the book of John, we find who this Word at creation really was.

Recitation: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. The Word became flesh and lived for a while among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son."

***Speaker A:** And if we turn to Revelation, the very last book in the Bible, we see the same person.

***Recitation:** "He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God."

Speaker B: The first Word ever spoken became our Jesus, the very same one whose crying voice we hear as we look into the stable of Bethlehem.

Song: (*Lower-Middle Grades*)
My Precious, My Baby
(Lower-Middle Grades)

1) Softly tiptoe, my precious, my baby,
Look around you; the cattle, the stall.
Do you see the man and the lady,
Still caressing the infant so small?

Does your heart not glow with ember warm?
Do you see His smile shine through?
Softly tiptoe, my precious, my baby,
Look around you, the cattle, the stall.

2) Kneel before him, my precious, my baby,
'Tis your Savior, your Brother, your King,
Set before Him your prayers and your praises,
Though unworthy our gifts we do bring.

Does your heart not glow with ember warm?
Do you feel His smile shine through?
Kneel before Him, my precious, my baby,
'Tis your Savior, your Brother, your King.

3) Hum your carols, my precious, my baby,
Through this infant, God's glory you'll see.
Hope and joy at long last is given,
God from heaven to mankind set free.

Does your heart not glow with ember warm?
Do you see His smile shine through?
Hum your carols, my precious, my baby,
Through this infant, God's glory you'll see.

Part 2: The Voice of Prophecy

All children: (*Spoken*) Time fulfilled the prophets telling
That a virgin meek and mild,
In a rude and humble dwelling,
Bore God's Son, a little child.

Speaker A: As we page through the books of the Old Testament, we hear some familiar voices. The voices sound quite similar, and the message they tell is the same—only the speakers are different. Each of them uses one little voice to make the message come alive.

Speaker B: Next we hear about the voice of the prophets as they tell us about a King, a Messiah, a Savior about to come to this earth for a very special purpose.

Speaker A: Listen to the voices of these prophets as they speak to us.

***Recitation:** I am Moses. I said, “The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him.”

Recitation: I am Isaiah. I said, “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.”

Recitation: I am Micah. I said, “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.”

***Recitation:** I am Jeremiah. I said, “The days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch. This is the name by which he will be called: The Lord Our Righteousness.”

Speaker B: The prophets spoke loud and clear. Their voices told the people that Jesus would come.

Song: (*Upper Grades*)

“He Is Born”

REFRAIN

He is born, the Holy Child, play the oboe and bagpipes merrily!

He is born, the Holy Child, sing we all of the Savior mild.

Through long ages of the past, prophets have foretold his coming;

Through long ages of the past; now the time has come at last!

REFRAIN

O how lovely, O how pure, is this perfect child of heaven;

O how lovely, O how pure, gracious Gift of God to man!

REFRAIN

Jesus, Lord of all the world, coming as a child among us,

Jesus, Lord of all the world, grant to us thy heavenly peace!

REFRAIN

Part 3: The Voices of Bethlehem

(Part 3 has been removed in this sample)

Part 4: My One Little Voice

All children: (Spoken) Now my heart will feel no sadness,
But instead I must rejoice,
And begin to spread the gladness;
Even with my one small voice.

Speaker A: Up to now we've heard the voice of God, his prophets and those at Bethlehem. There are still some voices we haven't heard from yet - our own!

Speaker B: We've set aside this part of our Christmas service to listen to our own voices. How will we use them? What will we say?

All children: (*Spoken*) Now I too can feel their pleasures;
Now I too can know their joys.
And in thanks for such great treasures
I will offer my small voice.

Speaker A: Each voice is important in God's plan: young and old voices, strong voices and weak ones, and voices from people of all races and languages. See how important your voice is, your one little voice.

Speaker C: First we want to hear from the boys and girls (age 12 and under). Tell us what young Samuel said when he heard the Lord's voice speak to him

Boys and girls: Then Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." Let us be a shining example as we listen to God's Word, even if we have just one little voice.

Speaker C: Even to the poor, the ill, or the deprived, God has given the hope of using their one small voice in many ways.

Song: (*Lower Grades*) See file for hand sign directions.

"Two Hands"

'Twas long time ago on a bed made of straw that a baby was placed by a mother so mild,
Who knew in her heart as this Baby lay sleeping that he was God's only Child.

REFRAIN WITH SIGNS

I've two eyes to see God's glory, two feet that he can use,
I've two ears to hear of the wonderful story and two hands to tell the news.

While shepherds were watching their sheep late at night they saw heav'n break open with songs all around.

As thousands of angels sang glory to God with a beautiful, heavenly sound.

REFRAIN WITH SIGNS

Those shepherds ran down from their hillside in haste wond'ring what they would find in that place filled with love.

They peeked in, they saw him, 'twas just as it had been announced by the angels above.

REFRAIN WITH SIGNS

I know who that Baby is there in that manger, I know in my heart it is Jesus alone.
Who brought me the gift of my sins all forgiven so I can make heaven my home.

REFRAIN WITH SIGNS

Speaker C: Teens, listen to the voice of young Daniel as he told about his stay in the lion's den.

Recitation: Daniel answered, "My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions. They have not hurt me, because I was found innocent in his sight." Let us be shining lights as this Christmas we profess our faith - even though we have just one little voice.

Speaker C: Parents, listen as David tells how he felt the need to show his children the way of

the Lord.

Recitation: David wrote, “Come my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.”

Speaker C: And let all other adults, young and old alike, follow the example of faithful Anna as she refused to let anything keep her from telling the good news about the baby Jesus.

Recitation: “Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who are looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.” Let us see the importance in letting our lights shine, even though we have just one little voice.

All children: (*Spoken*)

Once you've heard the sound of crying,
Touched his hand and smelled the hay,
Once you've met this Prince of Glory
Born upon that Christmas Day,

You will feel the joy that I do;
You will know the promise giv'n;
As God's Spirit rests upon you
And you see the hope of heaven.

So let's join in chorus raising
This great strain as we rejoice;
Not just one, but thousands praising
Jesus Christ with one great voice!

Speaker B: Let us join our individual voices into one great voice as we praise God for the wonderful things he has done for us in these Christmas carols we've learned to love and enjoy.

Song Medley by Congregation

“It Came upon the Midnight Clear” (Stanza 1 sung by assembly)

“The First Noel” (Stanza 1 sung by women and girls)

“What Child Is This?” (Stanza 1 sung by all children)

“Once in Royal David’s City” (Stanza 1 sung by men and boys)

“Silent Night” (All stanzas sung by everyone)

Prayers, Lord's Prayer, Benediction

Recessional Song: “Just One Little Voice”

Sung by assembly and children. (Stanzas only - no solo.)