

## God's Son for a Gift

*Script for Children's Christmas Eve Service*

### **PROCESSIONAL- Congregation:**

*Oh, Come, Little Children* (Traditional- not available here)

1. Oh, come, little children, oh, come, one and all.  
To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small.  
God's son for a gift has been sent us this night,  
To be our Redeemer, our Joy and Delight.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. All glory and honor and praises we sing  
To God, born a child, yet our Savior and King.  
What love you have shown us! Dear Jesus, we pray,  
Accept the thanksgiving we offer today.

*(Children stand for the responsive reading)*

Children: To us a child is born!

Congregation: To us a son is given!

Children: He will be called Wonderful Counselor,

Congregation: The Mighty God,

Children: The Everlasting Father,

Congregation: The Prince of Peace.

Children: He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins,

Congregation: And not only for ours, but for the sins of the whole world.

Children: For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

Congregation: And the wages of sin is death.

Children: But the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Ch/Cong: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Children: Shout with joy to God, all the earth! Sing the glory of his name. To us a child is born!

Congregation: To us a son is given!

**SONG- Children:**

Let Our Gladness Have No End (Traditional- not available here)

*(NOTE: K & Pre-K join in the last line of the chorus- it will be sung slower for them)*

1. Let our gladness have no end, Alleluia!  
Unto earth did Christ descend, Alleluia!  
**CHORUS:**  
On this day God gave us, his own son to save us  
His own son to save us.
  
2. Prophesied in days of old, Alleluia!  
God has sent him as foretold, Alleluia!  
**CHORUS:**  
On this day God gave us, his own son to save us  
His own son to save us.
  
3. It was human form he took, Alleluia!  
It was heaven he forsook, Alleluia!  
**CHORUS:**  
On this day God gave us, his own son to save us  
His own son to save us.
  
4. Satan's power now is gone, Alleluia!  
Safe in Jesus we are strong, Alleluia!  
**CHORUS:**  
On this day God gave us, his own son to save us  
His own son to save us.

*(Children sit down.)*

**INVOCATION AND PASTOR'S MESSAGE**

*(After which, all children stand)*

Reader: God promised a Savior to Adam and Eve, right after they first sinned—not because they *deserved* a second chance, but because he loved them. This promise was also for all their children who followed.

Children: That means *US*.

**NOTE:** *Slowly and softly, the accompanist plays the verse portion of “Oh, Come, Oh Come, Emanuel” (CW 23) in the background during the following reading. On the final recitation line—“Therefore let all...”—gradually increase the volume and prepare to accompany the children on the chorus: “Rejoice”, etc.*

Reader: In the Old Testament, God gave us signs so we would know the true Savior when he came.

Children: He would come from the nation of Israel. He would descend from King David.

Children: He would be true God and man, born of a virgin.

Children: He would be born in Bethlehem.

Children: His name would be Emanuel, which means “God with us”.

Reader: God also described *how* he would save us.

Children: He would die by crucifixion, but he would not decay. He would rise up to sit at God’s right hand, ruler of all. And because he has risen, so shall we!

All Children: (*sing*) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emanuel  
Shall come to you, O Israel

Reader It was a long time before the Savior finally came. A lot of people gave up looking for him. But the faithful trusted in God to send him at the right time.

Child/Cong: When the time had fully come, God sent his son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those under the law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

*(Children sit down)*

**SONG- Congregation:**

*Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful* (CW 55)

1. Oh, come, all ye faithful, Joyful and triumphant,  
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold him born the king of angels.  
Oh, come, let us adore him. Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.
2. God from true God, and Light from Light eternal,  
Born of a virgin to earth he comes.  
Only begotten Son of God the Father.  
Oh, come, let us adore him. Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n.  
Word of the father, Now in flesh appearing.  
Oh, come, let us adore him. Oh, come, let us adore him,  
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Children:     *(stand)* Now the birth of Jesus came about in this way:

**SONG-Children:**

*In Nazareth* (from eSongbook, "The Birth of Jesus" –eSong may be purchased separately)

Girls:         In Nazareth, lived a virgin, Mary; righteous servant of the Lord.  
There, an angel came to her saying, "Do not be afraid.  
You have found favor with Jehovah; you will bear the Promised One.  
You will name the infant Jesus. He is God's begotten son."

Boys:         In Nazareth, lived a man called Joseph; righteous servant of the Lord.  
There, an angel came to him saying, "Do not be afraid.  
Mary has conceived by the Holy Spirit; she will bear Emanuel.  
You will name the infant Jesus. He will save his people."

Children:     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 his own town to register.

Children:     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. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

Children:     While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.

Children:     She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

**SONG- Children & Congregation:**

*Once in Royal David's City (CW #50)*

Children:     1. 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

*(children sit down)*

Cong:         2. He came down from earth to 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.

**Song- Children and Congregation:**

O Little Town of Bethlehem (CW #65)

Congregation: 1. 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 darkness shineth the everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

*(Children stand)*

Children: 3. How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.  
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin  
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.

Children: And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified! But the angel said to them,

**C. Women:** “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David, a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

Children: Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

Child/Cong: Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace to men on whom his favor rests.

**C. Men:** When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

*(N-K stands; other children sit down)*

N-K: We hardly can believe our eyes-  
Come see who in the manger lies!  
God is a spirit we can’t see,  
But here he looks like you and me!

**SONG- N/K**

God Came Down From Heaven (at end of script)

1. God came down from heaven  
God came down from heaven  
God came down from heaven  
And he came to take our sins away.

2. Came because he loved us  
Came because he loved us  
Came because he loved us  
And he came to take our sins away.
3. He was born a baby  
He was born a baby  
He was born a baby  
And he came to take our sins away.
4. Baby's name was Jesus  
Baby's name was Jesus  
Baby's name was Jesus  
And he came to take our sins away.
5. Thank you, baby Jesus  
Thank you, baby Jesus  
Thank you, baby Jesus  
You're the greatest gift on Christmas Day!

**OFFERTORY:** (OPTION- Cong. Sing selected hymn stanza)

**Hymn 63 (vs 1) "Angels We Have Heard on High"**

1. Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.  
Glo-----ria, in excelsis Deo. Glo-----ria, in excelsis Deo.

**Hymn 53 (vs 1 & 4) "To Shepherds As They Watched By Night"**

1. To shepherds as they watched by night, appeared a host of angels bright;  
"Behold the tender babe," they said, "In yonder lowly manger laid."
4. What harm can sin and death then do? The true God now abides with you.  
Let hell and Satan storm and rave, Christ is your brother—you are safe.

**Hymn 51 (vs 1,2,4) "I Am So Glad When Christmas Comes"**

1. I am so glad when Christmas comes, the night of Jesus' birth,  
When Bethl'em's star shone as the sun, and angels sang on earth.
2. The little child of Bethlehem, He was a king indeed!  
For he came down from heav'n above To help a world in need.
4. I, too, shall sing my Savior's praise, My joy, my crown, my Lord;  
For he has made me his own child by water and the Word.

**Hymn 60 (vs 1 & 3) “Silent Night”**

1. Silent night! Holy Night!  
All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.

**Hymn 64 (vs 1-3) “Let Us All with Gladsome Voice”**

1. Let us all with gladsome voice Praise the God of Heaven  
Who, to bid our hearts rejoice, His own son has given.
2. To this vale of tears he comes, Here to serve in sadness,  
That with him in heav’n’s fair homes We may serve in gladness.
3. We are rich for he was poor; Is not this a wonder?  
Therefore praise God evermore Here on earth and yonder.

**Hymn 67 (vs 1-3) “What Child Is This”**

1. What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary’s lap is sleeping?  
Who angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing.  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the Son of Mary!
2. Why lies he in such mean estate where oxen now are feeding?  
God’s only son has just begun his work for our redeeming.  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through; the cross he’ll bear for me, for you.  
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the Son of Mary.

**Hymn 68 (vs 3 “Away in a Manger” (or traditional melody)**

3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with you there.

*(When the offering/singing is concluded, congregation and all children rise)*

Children: If God hadn’t become a man for us,

Congregation: We would be lost. If God hadn’t lived a perfect life for us,

Children: We would be lost. If God hadn’t died for us,

Congregation: We would be lost. If God hadn’t risen from the dead for us,

Children: We would be lost. But Jesus did all this for us.

Child/Cong: We are not lost! Through faith in him we are saved!

**PRAYER** Lord Jesus, you are such a wonderful gift—thank you for rescuing me! I am sorry for my sins that caused your suffering, and ask for your forgiveness. Remind me, Lord, that repentance doesn't just mean I feel sorry—it means I change the way I live. Be with me in whatever I think, say, and do, so that my life will always reflect your love. Amen

*(Congregation sits; children remain standing)*

Reader: The shepherds saw and they believed; Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

Children: The shepherds praised God for all the things they had heard and seen.

Reader: They shared his gift by spreading the Good News. This work will only be finished when Jesus returns in glory. So until then...

*(NOTE: accompanist begins introduction to "Mission Medley" on the underlined portion of the recitation above so the children can go into the song immediately.)*

**SONG-Children & Staff:**

Mission Medley (from eSongbook, "Outreach" –eSong may be purchased separately)

From Greenland's icy mountains, to India's coral strand,  
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

REFRAIN:

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere!  
Go tell it on the mountains that Jesus Christ is born!

If you cannot speak like angels, If you cannot preach like Paul,  
You can tell the love of Jesus, You can say he died for all.

REFRAIN:

I am trusting you, Lord Jesus, Trusting only you.  
Trusting you for full salvation, Free and true.

REFRAIN:

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to him belong; they are weak,  
They are weak but he is strong.

REFRAIN:

Lift we then our voices, Swell the mighty flood.  
Louder, still and louder, Praise the precious blood, and

REFRAIN:

*(Children sit)*

## **BENEDICTION**

### **RECESSIONAL – Congregation**

*Joy to the World* (CW #62)

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king.  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, And heav'n and nature sing
  
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
  
3. No more let sins and sorrows grow  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.
  
4. He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love.

# God Came Down From Heaven

Calypso

Measures 1-4 of the Calypso piece. The melody is in the treble clef and the bass line is in the bass clef. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is common time (C).

5

Measures 5-8 of the Calypso piece. The melody is in the treble clef and the bass line is in the bass clef. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is common time (C).

1. God came down from hea - ven,  
2. Came be - cause he loved us,  
3. He was born a ba - by,  
4. Ba - by's name was Je - sus,

God came down from hea - ven,  
came be - cause he loved us,  
he was born a ba - by,  
ba - by's name was Je - sus,

9

Measures 9-12 of the Calypso piece. The melody is in the treble clef and the bass line is in the bass clef. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is common time (C).

God came down from hea - ven, and he came to take our sins a - way.  
came be - cause he loved us, and he came to take our sins a - way.  
he was born a ba - by, and he came to take our sins a - way.  
ba - by's name was Je - sus, and he came to take our sins a - way.

13

1,2,3

Measures 13-16 of the Calypso piece. The melody is in the treble clef and the bass line is in the bass clef. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is common time (C).

5. Thank-you, ba - by Je - sus,

17

Measures 17-20 of the Calypso piece. The melody is in the treble clef and the bass line is in the bass clef. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is common time (C).

thank - you, ba - by Je - sus, thank - you ba - by Je - sus, You're the

21

Measures 21-24 of the Calypso piece. The melody is in the treble clef and the bass line is in the bass clef. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#) and the time signature is common time (C).

great - est gift on Christ - mas Day! You're the great - est gift on Christ - mas Day!