

A Drive-Thru Do-It-Yourself Christmas Pageant



We invite you to travel ‘from the east’ to visit the nativity and celebrate again the birth of Jesus Christ! *Along the way, you can read scripture, pray, and sing your way through the story that we remember and celebrate each year.*

The Wise Men – maybe 2 or 3 or even more – travelled from far away, following the star that they had seen from their homes, in order to bring gifts for the newborn king. Can you see the star ahead, guiding you?

Scripture to read

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem village, Judah territory— this was during Herod’s kingship—a band of scholars arrived in Jerusalem from the East. They asked around, “Where can we find and pay homage to the newborn King of the Jews? We observed a star in the eastern sky that signaled his birth. We’re on pilgrimage to worship him.” (Matthew 2:1-2)

A prayer to say

May we be like the wise men, always following a path that leads us closer to Jesus Christ, our King. Amen

A verse to sing

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.
O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

The Shepherds were tending their flocks in the field when an angel suddenly appeared to them, announcing the birth of God’s son. They were given a sign to look for. What signs do you see that Christmas is near?

Scripture to read

There were shepherders camping in the neighborhood. They had set night watches over their sheep. Suddenly, God’s angel stood among them and God’s glory blazed around them. They were terrified. The angel said, “Don’t be afraid. I’m here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide: A Savior has just been born in David’s town, a Savior who is Messiah and Master. This is what you’re to look for: a baby wrapped in a blanket and lying in a manger.” At once the angel was joined by a huge angelic choir singing God’s praises: Glory to God in the heavenly heights, Peace to all men and women on earth who please him. (Matthew 2:8-14)

A prayer to say

May we be like the shepherds who received the message from the angels and look for the signs of Christ’s birth. Amen.

A verse to sing

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"

The Star shone brightly in the darkness, guiding the wise men as they continued their journey and eventually, the star led the wise men to find Jesus, and offer their precious gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh, as they bowed down to worship the tiny king. What gifts can we give to God?

Scripture to read

Then the star appeared again, the same star they had seen in the eastern skies. It led them on until it hovered over the place of the child. They could hardly contain themselves: They were in the right place! They had arrived at the right time! They entered the house and saw the child in the arms of Mary, his mother. Overcome, they knelt and worshiped him. Then they opened their luggage and presented gifts: gold, frankincense, myrrh. (Matthew 2:9b-11)

A prayer to say

May we always rejoice and celebrate like the wise men when we worship Jesus! Amen.

A verse to sing (from *In the Bleak Midwinter*)

What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part;
Yet what can I give him: give him my heart.

The shepherds and their sheep found **Mary and Joseph, and the baby Jesus**, wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger. After their visit, they returned to the fields to tend their sheep, sharing the good news with everyone they could. How can you share the good news?

Scripture to read

As the angel choir withdrew into heaven, the shepherders talked it over. “Let’s get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us.” They left, running, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. Seeing was believing. They told everyone they met what the angels had said about this child. All who heard the shepherders were impressed... [they were] glorifying and praising God for everything they had heard and seen. It turned out exactly the way they’d been told! (Matthew 2:15-20)

A prayer to say

May we always take time to recognize the gifts that God has given us! Amen.

A verse to sing

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Before you go on your way, take time to give thanks that God the Father sent Jesus Christ, God’s only son, to live on earth among us! How can you give thanks to God for this incredible gift?

Scripture to read

The Word was first, the Word present to God, God present to the Word. The Word was God, in readiness for God from day one. Everything was created through him; nothing—not one thing!—came into being without him. What came into existence was Life, and the Life was Light to live by. The Life-Light blazed out of the darkness; the darkness couldn’t put it out. The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood.

We saw the glory with our own eyes, the one-of-a-kind glory, like Father, like Son,
Generous inside and out, true from start to finish. (John 1:1-5, 14)

A prayer to say

May we always remember that Jesus is truly Emmanuel, God with us! Amen.

A verse to sing

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive its 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.

And as you go home or to your next destination, may you remember that the Son of God,
born that long ago, far away night, lived to show us God's love, died to redeem us from
our sins, and will return again. In the meantime, the Holy Spirit lives within us, guiding
us each day. May the joy of Christmas remain in your hearts, along with the texts,
prayers, and songs of the season!

Wishing you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. *Please join us at 7:00
p.m. on Christmas Eve for our drive-in worship service as our celebration of Christmas
continues.*

Pastor Ruth Ann

Pastor Ruth Ann Sipe

Vicar Mike

Vicar Mike Lang

Acknowledgements: Thanks to Pastor Ray Sipe for his narration and technical help!
All scripture passages are from **The Message**, a paraphrase by Eugene Peterson.
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