



2020 Sunday School Online Christmas Program, St. John Lutheran Church  
Facebook Watch Party: December 20, 2020 at 7pm

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## **Welcome and Gathering**

**Prelude Music**

**Welcome and Prayer:** Pastor Robin

**GATHERING SONGS**

**INVITATION:** Pastor Robin

**HYMN:** O Come All Ye Faithful

**OPENING SOLO, *There Was Love***

**(Isabel) Soloist:** Ellen accompaniment

**(Bella) Narrator #1**

In the beginning, before anything had ever been made, he was there with God. In him was life, and the life was the light of all people. A light shined in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

## **SCENE 1: The Message**

### **Narrator #1 Bella**

A long, long time ago, God gave the stars in the sky, the countless constellations, the sprawling Solar System. And among it a little planet called Earth. God made all of these things, and all of the people and animals of our planet. Just over two thousand years ago, when it was most needed, God gave another gift. God came down to be with us, to save us and show us how life can be lived.

### **Narrator #2 Ally**

God could have chosen anywhere as home. God could have chosen to build a palace that would have made the Roman Empire seem like nothing. But God chose to give his Son to be born among the forgotten, the overlooked and the poorest. This is the story of God's greatest gift.

### **Narrator #1 Bella**

The story opens with a young woman in her home. Her name was Mary. She was from a town called Nazareth, and she was engaged to be married to Joseph. Unless you look a bit deeper, there is nothing particularly important about Mary.

### **Narrator #2 Ally**

But, to God, she was very important. So important that God sent the angel Gabriel down from heaven with a message for her.

*Mary is sweeping. Joseph is lying down on a couch, bed, or floor with a blanket, stuffed animal, asleep.*

**Gabriel:** *(loudly and excitedly, jumping into the screen)*

Greetings, Mary!

**Mary:** *(startled, Mary holds broom like a weapon toward Gabriel)*

Ahhh!

**Gabriel:**

You are very special! God is with you!

(Mary looks suspiciously at Gabriel like, “What are you talking about?”)

**Gabriel:** *(With hands up in the air)*

You are very special! God is with you!

**Narrator #1:**

But Mary found it hard to understand why the angel had come to see her. She was just an ordinary young woman.

**Narrator #2:**

She worried what the angel meant by the greeting. Seeing she was scared, the angel said to her...

**Gabriel:**

Do not be afraid, Mary. God is very pleased with you. You will give birth to a baby! You will call him Jesus! He will be called the SON OF THE MOST HIGH!

**Mary:**

I don't understand. I am not married yet! How can I have a son?

**Gabriel:**

The Holy Spirit will come and will give you a baby. People will call him the Son of God.

**Mary:**

*(Puts the broom down, still holding it.)*

I am a servant of God. I believe it will happen as you say.

*Gabriel bows to Mary.*

*Mary turns to camera. Dreamily looking up at the heavens.*

*Off screen: Joseph snores, yawns loudly.*

**Narrator #2:**

Joseph was a simple man – a carpenter. He was exhausted from working all day and worrying about the new baby that Mary was going to have.

**Narrator #1:**

He was not so sure he wanted to marry Mary anymore! So, Gabriel had to tell him who this baby was and how important it was for them all to be together.

*Joseph is lying down sleeping & snoring*

**Gabriel:**

Joseph! Joseph!

*Joseph stops snoring but is still sleeping.*

**Gabriel:**

Don't be afraid to get married to Mary. Her child is from the Holy Spirit, and it's a boy! *(excited!!)*

*Gabriel does a "happy dance" and makes music/sounds.*

Marys looking toward Joseph.

**Joseph:**

*Wakes up suddenly from Gabriel's loud noise. Stands up. Rubs eyes.*  
 What an UNFORGETTABLE DREAM!!!

**Gabriel:**

Oh yeah, one more thing, you are to name him Jesus because he will save God's people from their sins!!!!!!

*{Gabriel smiles until the end of the scene; can still be doing a little dance}*

**Joseph**

*Exaggerated shrug to camera.*

*Gets up out of bed*

*Picks up blankie and teddy bear and puts over arm (like he's bringing it along on their trip)*

**Joseph looking up:**

Hey Mary, are you ready for this?

**Mary looking down towards Joseph:**

Ready when you are!

**HYMN:** Oh Little Town of Bethlehem