

**Christmas Pageant
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
Yarmouth, ME**

December 24, 2020 – 4:00 PM

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing, verse 1

St. Bart's Choir

**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 host proclaim
Christ is born in Bethlehem!
Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the newborn King!**

WELCOME

Pal Covie, Education Coordinator

The Pageant

Introduction

Pal Covie

Now, friends, it is finally time to draw close to the Mystery of Christmas. As we prepare to enter this great mystery, we are all on our way to Bethlehem. Let's go with the prophets, Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the animals, the angels, the Magi, and all the rest. They will show us the way on this journey that was not just back then but is also now.

O Come, All Ye Faithful, verse 1

*Ben, Katie, Owen, Will, & Amelia Redfield
and Pal & Sarah Covie*

**O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come, and behold him,
Born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ, the Lord.**

**Prophecy of the Coming of Christ the King
Narrator 1:**

Jack & Will Estabrook and Michele Johns

Long before the birth of Jesus, prophets foretold of a wonderful event – the coming of a Prince of Peace, who would be the Son of God and would bring hope to all the world.

Isaiah:

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light...
For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore.

Narrator 1:

Many years passed before the words of the prophets were fulfilled.

The Annunciation to Mary

Juliette, Annabel, & Rudyard Ciarimboli

Narrator 2:

Christmas began,
when all human behavior
cried out for God's help,
and so, God sent a savior.
Christmas is God's love,
when God had a plan
to help all Earth's children;
that's how it began.

To a simple maiden in the town of Nazareth came the greatest honor and glory yet bestowed upon a woman.

Mary was chosen
As Jesus' mother,
So holy and pure
that there could be no other.

In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent by God to Nazareth, to Mary the virgin, engaged to a man whose name was Joseph.

This angel appeared, saying,

Angel Gabriel:

Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you.

Narrator 2:

The angel told Mary, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will have a son, and you will name him Jesus. The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God and he needs you as a mother.

Mary:

Oh yes, Lord, I'll do it with joy.

Angel Gabriel:

Soon you will bring forth a baby.

Narrator 2:

The angel departed from her.

O Little Town of Bethlehem, verses 1 & 2

Gary, Heather, Madeline, & Grayson Sylvester

**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 dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.**

**For Christ is born of Mary;
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to men on earth.**

The Birth of Christ in Bethlehem

David, Nora, & Phoebe Messinger

Narrator 3:

Joseph took Mary
to Bethlehem town.

At the end of the journey,
no room could be found.
Door after door
was shut in his face.
But Mary was due,
and she needed a place.
No room at the inn,
no place at the table,
until someone cried,
you can go to the stable.

And so it was that she gave birth to her firstborn son
and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger.

The First Nowell, verse 1

Nat, Jen, Sam, & Margaret Bessey

**The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds
in fields as they lay;
in fields as they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.**

The Worship of the Shepherds

Ella, Ollie, Gracie, Sully, & Poppy Brown

Narrator 4:

Among the few who first heard of the birth of the Christ-Child were some humble shepherds in the hills near Bethlehem.

Now these shepherds were tending
Their sheep in the night,
When they heard angel music,
And saw a great light.

An angel of the Lord stood before them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them,

Angel:

Do not be afraid, for behold – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: To you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

Rejoice, everyone,
at the message we bring.
Go down to the stable,
see God's holy son.
The hope of the nations.
Away with you, run!

Narrator 4:

When the angels left, one shepherd said,

Shepherd:

Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.

Narrator 4:

So, they ran to the stable,
and fell down in awe
before the small child
who was Jesus, the Lord.

Angels We Have Heard on High, verse 1

Rob, Lucia, Jack, & Lily Hunt

**Angels we have heard on high,
Singing sweetly o'er the plain,
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

The Worship of the Magi

Peter, Matty, & Andrew Colianni and Jean Burr

Narrator 5:

Poor shepherds were not the only worshippers at the cradle in Bethlehem.
Kings bearing gifts
from nations afar,
came hurrying 'round
at the sign of the star.

Magi 1:

Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising and have come to honor him with gifts.

Narrator 5:

The kings set out with the star ahead of them.

When the star stopped over the place where the child was, they were overwhelmed with joy.
They knelt before the Holy Family and offered gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Magi 2:

This child is a hope,
a good for all nations.
Let us bow down
in glad adoration.

Away in a Manger, verses 1-3

Ella, Ollie, & Gracie Brown

**Away in a manger, no crib for his 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.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
and stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay

**close by me forever, and love me I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

Conclusion

Ross & Drew Fischer

Narrator 6:

When the shepherds, the magi, and everyone who came to greet the little King returned to their homes, they joined with the angels in glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen.

So, Christmas is angels,
and bright hope, and joy,
shepherds and kings,
and a new baby boy.
Christmas is saying,
O Prince of Peace, come!
Help us love one another,
and make your world one.
Christmas is God's love
for people on earth,
the day that we celebrate
Jesus' birth.

Joy to the World, verse 1

Katherine Damasco and Pal & Sarah Covie

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

Blessing

The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley

As we celebrate Christmas this year, may we, too, go on our way, with praise and wonder in our hearts, giving glory to God for the gift of love given to us in Christ. Amen.

Celebrant: Glory to God in the Highest!

All: **And Peace to God's People on Earth!**

THANK YOU & MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Annie Davis, Pageant Coordinator

Silent Night, verses 1-3

St. Bart's Choir

**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.

Silent night, holy night,
Shepherds quake at the sight,
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;
Christ, the Savior, is born!
Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Thanks to all who participated in and helped contribute to this year's pageant:

Jen Bessey, <i>Singer</i>	Owen Damasco
Margaret Bessey, <i>Singer</i>	Annie Davis, <i>Pageant Coordinator</i>
Nat Bessey, <i>Singer</i>	Harriet Davis, <i>Education Committee</i>
Sam Bessey, <i>Singer</i>	Jack Estabrook, <i>Isaiah</i>
Ella Brown, <i>Narrator 4, harpist</i>	Will Estabrook, <i>Listener</i>
Gracie Brown, <i>Angel, singer</i>	Drew Fischer, <i>Listener</i>
Ollie Brown, <i>Shepherd, singer</i>	Ross Fischer, <i>Narrator 6</i>
Poppy Brown, <i>Sheep</i>	Carla Hunt, <i>Education Committee</i>
Sully Brown, <i>Sheep</i>	Jack Hunt, <i>Singer</i>
Jean Burr, <i>Narrator 5, Education Committee</i>	Lily Hunt, <i>Singer</i>
Annabel Ciarimboli, <i>Mary</i>	Lucia Hunt, <i>Singer</i>
Juliette Ciarimboli, <i>Narrator 2</i>	Rob Hunt, <i>Singer</i>
Rudyard Ciarimboli, <i>Angel Gabriel</i>	Michele Johns, <i>Narrator 1</i>
Phil Chin	Meredith Mazur, <i>Administrative Assistant</i>
St. Bart's Choir	David Messinger, <i>Narrator 3</i>
Andrew Colianni, <i>Magi 3</i>	Nora Messinger, <i>Mary</i>
Matty Colianni, <i>Magi 2</i>	Phoebe Messinger, <i>Joseph</i>
Peter Colianni, <i>Magi 1</i>	Ken Pooley, <i>Photographer</i>
John Corrie, <i>Choir Director</i>	The Rev. Dr. Nina R. Pooley, <i>Rector</i>
Pal Covie, <i>Education Coordinator</i>	Amelia Redfield, <i>Singer</i>
Sarah Covie, <i>Singer</i>	Ben Redfield, <i>Singer</i>
Ben Damasco	Katie Redfield, <i>Singer</i>
Gabe Damasco	Owen Redfield, <i>Singer</i>
Katherine Damasco, <i>Singer</i>	Will Redfield, <i>Singer</i>
Gary Sylvester, <i>Singer</i>	Heather Sylvester, <i>Singer</i>
Grayson Sylvester, <i>Singer</i>	Madeline Sylvester, <i>Singer</i>