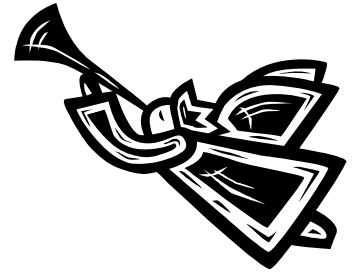


# Christmas Pageant for a Very Small Sunday School

*(with help from some adult friends)*



This Christmas program, adapted from Erskine Presbyterian Church in Dundalk, ON, was done by two seven year old boys—with a little help from some grandfriends. The minister and choir may also be included.

## Singing Gloria

**Opening song:** #133, *Go, tell it on the mountain* (Book of Praise, The Presbyterian Church in Canada)

**Prayer:** Loving God, as we enter this important season, we celebrate story and song. We gather to sing your praises and sing about the birth of our Lord Jesus. Glory to God in the highest! Amen

*Enter 3 angels (children or a combination of children and adult) singing “Gloria” in a half-hearted way (see hymn 147).<sup>1</sup>*

**Minister or other adult** *meets them:* I see you have been practicing your song.

**Angel 1:** Yes! Over and over! Why do we have to practice this song?

**Angel 2:** We tired of this song. We want to sing other songs.

**Older angel:** I agree with these little angels. Is there some reason why we are singing this Gloria over and over?

**Minister or other adult:** Ah...the time is coming very soon. You will be called upon to sing Gloria at a very important moment. It will be a turning point in the history of the world. God has been promising this for a very long time.... Keep

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<sup>1</sup> If you have access to song books from the Taizé community, they offer an easy-to-sing *Gloria*.

practicing! (*Waves goodbye and moves off to side, then pauses and turns to the congregation.*)

I know...these angels need a little encouragement. Let's help them. (*Minister or other adult leads the congregation in singing hymn #147 "Angels we have heard on high". When the Gloria chorus begins, the minister turns to the angels and encourages them to sing along lustily.*)

**Angel 1:** Wow! That was a better practice.

**Angel 2:** It was. But I still don't understand why we are practicing Gloria.

**Older angel:** Listen to this! It's from the prophet Isaiah. (*Opens Bible and reads Isaiah 7:14.*) Mmmmm....maybe this is a clue. Why are we getting ready to sing Gloria?

**Choir or congregation:** (*Sings verses 1 and 2 of hymn #109 "All earth is waiting"*)

**Older angel:** Then a *new* prophet came to earth to make an important announcement. Listen to this! (*Angel reads Isaiah 40:3-5.*)

**Choir or congregation:** Sing the round *Prepare the way of the Lord*, # 112, Book of Praise

**Angel 1:** So that is why we must practice the Gloria song!

**Angel 2:** We have to be ready to announce a special person coming from God!

**Older angel:** Let's keep on practicing...(*They move to a raised area and, with the help of the choir, begin to softly sing the Gloria from #147 as Luke 2:1-20 is read. If you have other children or adults who can dress as Mary, Joseph and shepherds, they should rise from the congregation where they have been sitting, place the baby in the manger and complete the manger scene as the story is read.*)

Adapted by Dorothy Henderson, 2005