

# Sunday School Children's Christmas Pageant Program



## Nikki Introduces the Pageant

Please be seated. Now, as we prepare to begin our Christmas pageant, I want to point out that you've all gotten bulletins with one of 3 different covers. Your bulletin cover shows a picture of shepherds, angels or wise men. As you listen to the Christmas ABCs story, please pay attention to the script. Every time the word "Shepherds" is spoken, those with shepherds on their bulletin covers should hold it up and shout, "Let's Go See!" Every time the words "Wise Men" are spoken, those with wise men on their bulletin should hold up your bulletin and say "Look a Star!" And every time the word "Angel" is spoken, those who have angels on their bulletins should hold them up and say "Hallelujah!" Let's practice so you all are ready for the kids! ... Now, our Sunday school class presents the ABCs of Christmas  
First Part of the Christmas Pageant

**A is for ANGEL.** The ANGEL Gabriel began the story by telling Mary: "Good morning! You're beautiful with God's beauty. Beautiful inside and out! God be with you... Mary, you have nothing to fear. God has a surprise for you: You will become pregnant and give birth to a son and call his name Jesus." (Luke 1:28-33)

**B is for Bethlehem,** where our story takes place. People travelled far and wide to get to Bethlehem, which was not a very big village.

**C is for Census,** which means an official counting of all the people. The reason so many people came to Bethlehem

**D is for Donkey.** A Donkey carried the family on their long journey. Mary and Joseph had to travel 107 miles along the Jordan River to get from Nazareth to Bethlehem. That's a pretty long journey.

**E is for Exhausted.** That's how everyone must have felt when they arrived. It would take about 36 hours of walking to go that far. That's three days in a row of doing nothing but walking.

**F is for Family.** Mary and Joseph and their new baby Jesus created a new family, one that would bless the whole world. “While they were there, the time came for Mary to give birth. She gave birth to her firstborn. She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the hostel.” (Luke 2:6-8)

**G is for the Good News** about to be shared with all the earth. This is what the ANGELS said: “There were SHEPHERDS 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. The SHEPHERDS 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 is 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 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.’” (Luke 2:10-14)

**H is for Hope.** We recall that the first Advent candle is Hope. Hope is knowing that good news is coming, even when things look bleak. We mindfully prepare and await the birth of God’s son, Jesus. Jesus is the source of hope.

I is for Imagine. If we close our eyes and imagine the scene, we can see the beauty and wonder of the ANGELS proclaiming good news to all men and women. We can see the SHEPHERDS, first terrified, but then overcome with joy as they hear the good news. If we try even harder, we can imagine a world where God’s peace reigns, where there is no war or hunger. We are reminded in lighting the second Advent candle, the candle of Peace, as we seek God’s help in being peacemakers, we can help to bring joy to the world.

**J is for Joy. Today,** we light the third Advent candle, the candle of Joy. As we focus on Joy, we discover joy is a kind of happiness that comes from God. It cannot be dampened and is always shared. The birth of Jesus gives us joy.

**K is for King.** Though Jesus would be King, he was not the kind of King people were used to. Most kings are born in palaces, surrounded by servants. He was born in a stable, surrounded by dirty, smelly SHEPHERDS. Most kings rule with power and fear. Jesus rules with mercy and love.

**L is for Love.** The fourth Advent candle is Love, and when we light it on Christmas Eve, we are reminded that Jesus summarized his ministry by saying, “Love God...” and “Love your neighbor as yourself.”

**M is for Manger.** A manger is usually used to hold food for animals, but this time, it held the baby Jesus because he had no crib

**N is for Noel.** Noel is another word for Christmas. It means new birth, and that’s what happened in our story. That’s what happens every year at Christmas time. That’s what happens every time we decide to follow Jesus- he is born anew in us.

**O is for Offering.** The WISE MEN gave gifts to the baby, and we can offer our gifts every day. We give our time, our talents and our treasure to God, and pray that as a Church, we are good stewards of all that is entrusted to us. So we share our gifts now.

**P is for Peace.** Jesus is the Prince of Peace and is the source of the kind of peace that surpasses understanding.

**Q is for Quiet.** We begin a time of prayer in quiet, allowing God to speak to us, and joyful when the quiet is broken by small voices.

**R is for Revealed.** Revealed means, “showing us something that was once hidden.” God revealed to us what love looks like by giving us Jesus. Jesus is love and reveals to us the way to love one another.

**S is for Star.** One special star guided WISE MEN to come to see the baby. They were mysterious and they lived far away, but they brought gifts to Jesus because they knew that he would grow up to be a King.

“Instructed by the king, they set off. 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 kneeled and worshiped him. They opened their luggage and presented gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh.” (Matthew 2:9-11)

**T is for Table.** When Jesus grew up, he invited all to his table. He gave his friends bread and wine and told them to remember him always. When we gather at the Lord’s Table today, we call it Communion because we come together. So, at this table, we also remember the next letter:

**U is for Unity.** Communion is a time when all people can come together and be one. Just as many grains come together to form one bread. We, who are many people come together to be one body of Christ.

**V is for Vulnerable.** Vulnerable means “able to be hurt.” Every baby is vulnerable, and so are we when we love one another. God became vulnerable when Jesus was born, and we are called to vulnerable when we love our brothers and sisters.

**W is for Wonder.** Like the WISE MEN, we stand in awe and wonder of the newborn King.

**X is for Christ.** X is the Greek letter Chi, the first letter in the word “Christ.” The X is one of the most ancient symbols for Christianity. People have been using the letter X to stand for Christ for centuries. The fifth Advent candle, the Christ candle, will be lit on Christmas Day, symbolizing the coming of light into the world. Jesus is born.

**Y is for You.** You ANGELS. You WISE MEN. You SHEPHERDS. You sons and daughters. You mothers and fathers. You friends and strangers. You are all here to worship and celebrate the birth of Jesus.

**Z is for Zeal.** Let your zeal for Christ burn brightly, the light of God is steadfast and endures forever. May there be goodwill among all people. Now is the time for goodwill. Now is the time to love one another. Now is the time for goodwill!