

# The JOURNEY of CHRISTMAS

A Christmas Musical by Glenn & Jan Christianson  
Script by Lydia Stewart

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# The Journey of Christmas

S.A.(T.)B. Choir

Words and Music by  
Glenn & Jan Christianson

Piano

4 *f* unison  
*legato choir*  
The jour - - - ney \_\_\_\_ of

7  
Christ - mas \_\_\_\_ be - gan at Beth - le - hem. \_\_\_\_

10

— The Sav - ior — left heav - en — to

13

die for sin - ful men. This

*mf*

16

is the gos - pel sto - ry: My Je - sus came from

*cresc.*

*mf* *cresc.*


19 *f*

glo - ry, Was cru - ci - fied, then rose up from the



22

dead To set me free!



25





28 *mf* unison

O lit - tle town \_\_\_ of Beth - le - hem, How still we see \_\_\_ thee

31

lie! *mf* unison A - bove thy deep \_\_\_ and dream - less sleep The

34 *mp* *cresc.*

si - lent stars \_\_\_ go by; *mp* *cresc.* Yet in thy dark streets

## Pastor's Introduction

Good evening and thank you for joining us tonight for The Journey of Christmas. Have you ever considered how many journeys converged on the birth of Christ?

When reading the Christmas story from the Word of God, it seems almost everyone in the biblical record of Christ's birth is on a journey. His own journey from Heaven, Mary and Joseph's journey from Nazareth, the wise men from the East, the shepherds from the hills, and a prophetess from the temple. All of these people are connected by Christ's birth, and all are a part of God's plan.

Tonight, we will follow these travelers as related to the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is our prayer that you will recognize the most important journey was made by God Himself. In coming to earth as a man, God's divine Promise, the Messiah, was to redeem mankind from the curse of sin. Our desire for you is to realize that the most important journey you will ever make is directly to Jesus for the forgiveness of sins.

Please open your heart to Him as you join us for The Journey of Christmas.

# Bethlehem Singalong

S.A.(T.) B. with audience

Arranged by Glenn & Jan Christianson

Piano

*f*

4

CHOIR ONLY *f*  
unison

The jour - ney \_\_\_\_ of Christ - mas \_\_\_\_ be -

gan at Beth - - - le - - - - hem.

7

The musical score is for a song titled 'Bethlehem Singalong' in 4/4 time. It features a piano accompaniment and a choir part. The piano part consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) with a continuous melody of eighth notes in the right hand and a simpler bass line in the left hand. The tempo and dynamics are marked with a forte 'f' and a 'Piano' instruction. The choir part, labeled 'CHOIR ONLY' and 'unison', begins at measure 4 and consists of a single melodic line. The lyrics are: 'The journey of Christmas began at Bethlehem.' The score includes measure numbers 4 and 7. The key signature has one sharp (F#), and the piece ends with a double bar line and a key signature change to two sharps (D major).

10 CHOIR AND AUDIENCE *mf*

*dim.*

13

lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, How still we see thee

*mf*

16

lie! A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep The

19 *unison* *cresc.*

si - lent stars go by; Yet in thy dark streets

*cresc.*

22 *f* *mf*

shin - eth The ev - er - last - ing Light; The

*f* *mf*

25

hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee to -

28

night.

31

*mf* \* *unison* O come, all ye faith - ful,

34

*mf* *unison* joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O come ye, O

\* O Come All Ye Faithful, by John Francis Wade

## Journey #1—ANGEL

I've never found communicating with humans to be easy! Over the centuries, we angels have appeared to various individuals to deliver messages from the God of Heaven, and we usually spend the first few minutes saying, "Fear not!" or "Be not afraid!" It's always been remarkable to me how the Son cloaked His brilliance for His journey to earth.

That journey began with the Fall of Man. On that terrible day when the first man and woman chose to defy God's command, He promised them a Savior. He promised to send the Holy Son of Heaven to redeem them from their chosen path of sin.

We knew when God planned to do it. He even told man through His prophet, Isaiah: "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel." And indeed, it came to be. The prophet Micah told where the miraculous event would take place. "But thou, Bethlehem Ephrata, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto me that is to be Ruler in Israel; Whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting."

Seeing the Holy One of Heaven assume a body, devoid of His cloak of brilliant glory, was a sight I could not tire of. My eyes could not fathom my Master as a man. And yet, I watched it all happen; and when He was born, I was there. Truly, Heaven had come to Earth!

# Jesus Came!

S.A.T.B. Choir

Words & Music by Dennis Stremming  
Arranged by Glenn Christianson

Piano

*mf*

4

*mf* unison

Je - - sus

7

came! Yes, — Je - - sus — came!



10

Born to die that we might live with Him, Je - sus

13

camel Je - - - sus

*cresc.* *f*

16

came! Yes, — Je - - - sus — came!

*f*

19

Born to die that we might live with Him, Je - sus

1ST VERSE, LADIES; 2ND VERSE, MEN

*mf* unison

22

came!

1. In the lit - tle town of  
2. God so loved this wick - ed,

*mf*

25

Beth - le - hem, Je - sus came to earth.  
sin - ful world That He gave His Son.

28

## ALL SING

In a low - ly sta - ble He was born; He came to give new  
Je - sus died and then He rose a - gain. Sal - va - tion's plan was

31

1st Ending

2nd Ending

birth. [2nd ending] done.

*cresc.*

*cresc.*

35

***f***

Je - sus came! Yes, Je - - - sus

***f***

## Journey #2—MARY

Have you ever ridden a donkey? If you have not, then I assure you, there's no great comfort you've missed. Our journey that first Christmas in Bethlehem—(chuckling) it was a journey to remember! I understand now why Joseph and I had to leave our home in Nazareth: It was for the census. But ultimately, our journey was necessary to fulfill prophecy! It had been foretold that my Son would be born in Bethlehem, and so we had to go!

If you know anything about our beautiful country of Israel, you'll know that our home in Nazareth was over sixty miles from Bethlehem. When Joseph first told me in soft, apologetic tones where we had to go, I could hardly believe my ears. "What about Jesus?" (We had already been told the baby's name.) I remember Joseph smiling and assuring me that God would take care of His Son . . . and me.

So we started the long trip to Bethlehem, joining the stream of people that flowed down the busy pathways. Under normal conditions, such a trip takes about three days—perhaps less when riding. But I was most certainly not in "normal" conditions! That donkey was a very patient beast, and it bore my constant rearranging and requests for rest without a struggle. I don't mean to complain, but only to explain that because of me, our trip was made unnecessarily long, and we arrived with the stragglers into Bethlehem four days after we left home.

There were no rooms left, but when Joseph told me that we would be staying the night in a stable, I can honestly say it was a welcome sight. Oh, it wasn't my first choice. But I knew that my hour was close and any measure of rest would be pleasant. And that night, our humble quarters were blessed beyond the richest rooms in the inn by the birth of the Savior. The long, weary journey had been well worth it!

# Weary Travelers

S.A.(T.)B. Choir

Words and Music by  
Glenn & Jan Christianson

Piano

*mp*

*mp* unison

1. Wea - ry trav'l - ers walk - ing the road to

Beth - le - hem that day. Ma - ry and Jo - seph

10

wea - ry and worn; No place for them to stay.

13 *mf*

No room, no room for them there! Oh, what a time of

16 *mp* unison

lone - ly des - pair! Wea - ry trav'l - ers

19

walk - ing the road to Beth - le - hem.

22

*mf*  
mel. 2. "Have you room for

*cresc.* *mf*

25

wea - ry ones?" said Jo - seph that day.

### Journey #3—ANGEL

The day our King arrived on earth should have been the most celebrated day in history! But it wasn't. At the very least, the Jews should have known He had come. The signs were all there. They were simply ignored. It was as if the people had forgotten Isaiah's words: "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given: and the government shall be upon His shoulder: and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

But the God of the Universe would not allow His Son to come unannounced and without fanfare. So He sent us. We were sent that starry, cool evening to some shepherds—the kind of men who have a faith unsullied by the world's wealth and power. They were simple and believing.

We knew that if we all sprang out of the quiet sky at once, those poor men would be overwhelmed beyond recovery! So only one of us was sent at first. His message was simple: "The Savior is born!" And when we couldn't hold ourselves back any longer, we burst into the sky above them, a choir beaming God's radiance and singing our announcement song: "Glory to God in the Highest! And on earth, peace, goodwill toward men!"



# Glory to God, the Savior Is Born!

S.A.(T.)B. Choir

Words & Music by Carter M. Galentine

Arranged by Glenn Christianson

Piano

4 *mf unison*

1. Out on the hills of Ju - de - a that night,

7

An - gels ap - peared to the earth, \_\_\_\_\_ Tell - ing the news of a

*mf unison*

10

glo - ri - ous sight, Of a mi - rac - u - lous birth.

13

"Je - sus the Sav - ior is born." Won - drous the mes - sage did

16

ring. Joy - ous glad ti - dings a - dorn.

19 *cresc.*

Hear how the an - gels did sing, did sing! \_\_\_\_\_

*cresc.*

22 *f*

"Glo - ry to God," the an - gels did sing, "Glo - ry to God in the

*f*

25

high - est!" \_\_\_\_\_ Tell - ing the news of joy on this morn.

28



Glo - ry to God, the Sav - ior is

31

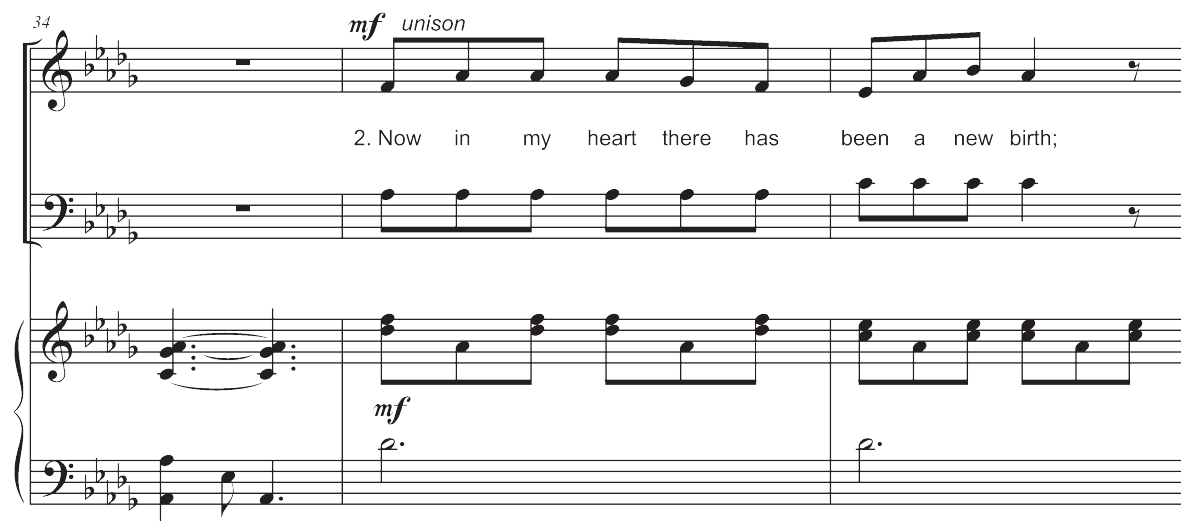


born!"

dim.

34

*mf* unison



2. Now in my heart there has been a new birth;

*mf*

## Journey #4—WISE MAN

(The Wise Man enters. He is a man of age, cultured and careful. He walks with a cane.)

My rank has always been that of advisor to the king. “Wise man,” if you prefer. I prefer “scholar.” My job is to know everything that’s happening in the world that I may be able to advise the king in any subject. Among my many studies, I have often read the Hebrew texts. Many of them are prophetic. They speak of the coming of a great ruler, one who will bring peace to Israel.

I remember those prophecies being particularly striking the first time I read them. They were so specific, so confident. Some of my fellow scholars had also noticed these texts, and we became so familiar with them that we no longer needed the scrolls on which they were written. I suppose that was where our journey began—with faith that these things that were written were indeed true.

You cannot imagine our joy when we discovered that star! We often studied the night sky, mapping its patterns and observing its changes. When that brilliant star appeared, we were all fully aware that it was special! It could only have been His star—this King that had been foretold. We had to see for ourselves!

In just a few days we were caravanning directly toward that beaming birth announcement for the new King. Carefully secured among our belongings were rich gifts for the Young Royal, and for months we followed the star. If ever I doubted the sanity of our journey, I had only to look up to ease my heart again.

The day our journey ended is forever etched in my mind. I had expected throngs of people rejoicing at the birth of this anticipated King. Instead, we encountered a jealous King Herod, and blank-faced scribes who had to dig through dusty scrolls to find the very prophecies that we knew so well. No one knew about the Prince of Peace or the Mighty Counselor. So we returned to our star, until all of a sudden, it stopped. At last we had found the King!

We approached the place reverently, and upon our knock and request to see the Child, were admitted by a man. His wife was seated near by, and on her lap was the King we had come so far to see. We fell at His feet and humbly offered Him our small gifts. I will never know why wise men from the East were told of His birth in such a miraculous way, but it was a journey that changed me forever. A journey of faith and worship.

# The Wise Men Worshipped Jesus

Men's Choir

Words and Music by Byron Foxx  
Arranged by Glenn Christianson

Piano

L.H. *mf*

## OPTIONAL SOLO ON 2ND VERSE

7 *mf* unison

1. Wise men trav - eled from a - far, day Led of God, en -  
2. Wise men of - fered gifts that day To the Christ Child

10

8 cour-aged by the star, Ask - ing for the bless - ed news,  
born up - on the hay. Gold and frank - in - cense they bring

13

8 "Where is born the King of the Jews?" \_\_\_\_\_ The  
With the myrrh they give to the King. \_\_\_\_\_

ALL SING *f*

16

8 *mel.* wise men wor - shipped Je - sus; Down at His feet they

*f*

19 *unison*

8 fell. O, will you wor - ship Je - sus, *mel.* And

22

8 of His glo - ry tell? 1st Ending 2nd Ending

*mf* *mf*

25

8

*cresc.* *f*



## Journey #5—ANNA THE PROPHETESS

(Anna, an elderly woman, comes onstage and slowly seats herself as she begins talking.)

My name is Anna, and I'm sure you're asking yourself, "What is that old woman doing here?" (chuckling) I am old! In fact, I'm—well you don't have to know just how old I am, but it is all right to wonder why I'm here!

(She arranges herself carefully in the chair before speaking.)

The journey of my life story is one of patience—patience born of much waiting. When I was very young, I remember my father talking about the coming of Messiah. In the face of looming wars or trouble in Jerusalem, my father would comfort us with the promises of Messiah. I was impatient for Him to come. If God's Messiah was going to make us all rulers, what was He waiting for? (laughs at the childhood memory)

Well, when the day came for me to become a wife, I found myself blessed with a husband who lived with the future ever before him. He too spoke often of the redemption of Israel. I told you this was a journey of patience, and after several years of marriage with no children, I found that God was indeed teaching me patience.

For seven years I watched for Messiah alongside my husband; and then one day, I found myself looking for the coming King—alone. When you're young, you never expect to find yourself a widow. Oh, but don't pity me. How can you pity someone who is cared for by the Everlasting God?

Well, it has now been many, many years since my husband's passing. And if the Lord gives me many more, (chuckling) why I'll be rival to Methuselah! Rather than remarrying, I came here to the temple and devoted myself to praying for my people and the coming of Messiah. I have been blessed in my ministry as a prophetess, and discovered what it means to wait on the Lord.

(She shifts around like having a new thought.) I was praying in the temple one day, when I heard a ruckus on the steps outside. It was my good friend, Simeon. Simeon is nearly as old as I am, and we've had many a good talk about Messiah. And now it was Messiah he was again speaking of, and I heard him say, "Now I may depart in peace, for I have seen Thy salvation!" If Simeon said he had seen the salvation of the Lord, then it could only mean he had seen Messiah! I took myself as fast as I could to the sound of his voice, and coming upon him suddenly, I saw a man and his wife holding a small child. No one had to tell me that this Child was Messiah. I had waited too long and prayed too hard not to know Him when I saw Him. How I praised God at that beautiful sight!

All my years of waiting and watching have now been fulfilled, and God can take me home whenever He chooses. But what an end to my journey! I have seen Him, the Messiah Who will redeem the world!

# I Have Seen Him

Lady's Solo

Words and Music by Glenn & Jan Christianson

mp

The piano introduction consists of three measures in 4/4 time. The right hand plays a series of chords and eighth notes, while the left hand plays a simple eighth-note accompaniment.

4 mp

1. I have seen Him; \_\_\_\_ Yes, I've seen Him. \_\_\_\_ I have

The first system of the song features a vocal line starting at measure 4 and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line includes a rest in measure 4, followed by the lyrics. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

7

seen the Liv - ing Sav - ior with my eyes. He's Mes - si - ah, \_\_\_\_ God a -

The second system continues the song from measure 7. The vocal line includes a rest in measure 7, followed by the lyrics. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

10 *mf*

mong us. — Je-sus Christ is my Re-deem-er, good and wise. Yet His

13 *mf*

years on earth will quick - ly pass; The cross His life will

16

claim. I have seen Him, — Christ my Sav-ior, — And I'll

## Journey #6—ANGEL

For the thirty-three years of the Savior's life, heaven was as a man holding his breath in anticipation—silent, watchful and waiting. We all knew what was to happen at the end of His earthly life. The Holy Son of Heaven fully intended to die for the human race! Only He had the power to undertake such a task, and nothing more despicable could have been the object of His grace! The awe I felt at His love holds my tongue back yet. God, crucified for man—it's the kind of thing that is so marvelous that words cannot express it!

The hosts of the angels, myself among them, were poised and ready to fling ourselves to earth at any command from Him, robed in flesh as He was. More than once we were sent to minister to Him in His loneliness. Once, we ministered to Him after He withstood Satan's attacks. Another time we attended Him in prayer; but we were always ready for His call.

On the day of the crucifixion we were ready! But He never spoke. We watched as His earthly followers betrayed and forsook Him. The Pharisees took Him, falsely tried Him, and the soldiers beat and bruised Him. When they led Him to Golgotha, our swords were drawn and gleaming, our company in high passion that the Son of Heaven should be treated so. Yet, the orders never came! When He died on that cross, God's wrath shook the earth, and the very light of Heaven seemed to dim. The day of the Great Fall of Man had been terrible, but the day of death for God's Son is beyond my description!

Then, as now, I could not understand the love that He had for those people. It was His whole purpose in going. A journey of thirty-three years ended with the destination of love.

# Christ Is the Reason for Christmas

S.A.(T.)B. Choir

Words & Music by Carter M. Galentine

Arranged by Glenn Christianson

Piano

*mf*

4 *mf* unison

1. A Ba - by born in a sta - ble, \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. The rea - son Christ came to live on earth, \_\_\_\_\_

8

— A man - ger son for His cra - - - dle  
 — The rea - son for His low - - - ly

12

bed. The Son of God be - came a man long a - go in  
birth: God loved us so that He would send Je - sus Christ to

16

*unison*

Beth - le - hem. This is the rea - son for Christ - mas.  
die for men. This is the rea - son for Christ - mas.

20

*f*

Oh, Christ is the rea - son for Christ - mas.

-7

He came to die that we might

28

live. Born to give His life a per - fect

32

*unison*

sac - ri - fice. Christ is the rea - son for

## Journey #7—PASTOR

There's one more journey we should talk about tonight before we reach our final destination—the journey of the heart. We've heard about the distances that many people traveled, but in each case, they ended in the same place: at the feet of Christ. It doesn't matter who you are or where you've come from, but it does matter where you're going. Christ has promised to turn no one away, and there's nothing barring your way to the cross. In Romans 10:9 we read, "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved." We invite you to make that journey tonight.



# Let Him In

Solo with S.A.(T.)B. Choir

Music by Glenn & Jan Christianson

Piano *mp*

4 SOLO *mp*

1. There is a foun-tain filled with blood drawn from Im-man-uel's

8

veins; And you can plunge — be - neath that flood, — lose all your guilt - y

12

stains. The Sav - ior came from heav'n a - bove to die for all your

16

sin. Oh, won't you bow your heart and let Him in.

cresc.

20

CHOIR  
unison *mf*

2. A - maz - ing grace! How

*mf*

# The Journey of Christmas—Reprise

S.A.(T.)B. Choir

Words and Music by  
Glenn & Jan Christianson

Piano

*f*

4 *f* unison

*legato choir*

The jour - - - ney \_\_\_\_ of

7

Christ - mas \_\_\_\_ be - gan at Beth - le - hem. \_\_\_\_

10

— The Sav - ior — left heav - en — to

13

die for sin - ful men. This

*mf*

16

is the gos - pel sto - ry: My Je - sus came from

*cresc.*

*mf* *cresc.*