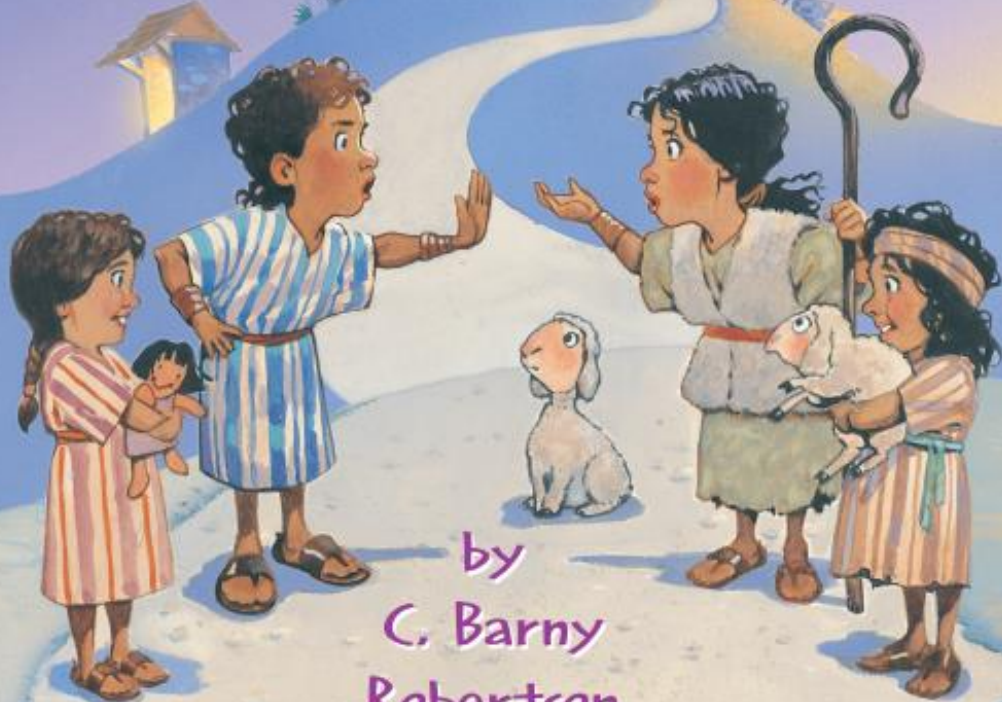


A Christmas Musical for Kids

lillenas

The Bethlehem Project



by
C. Barney
Robertson
& Carter Robertson



Hutterthal Mennonite Church

Christ Centered –

Living, Relating, Serving

Sunday, December 17, 2023

9:45 a.m.

Prelude

Call to Worship and Prayer

*Welcoming One Another

Children's Time

*Gathering and Praising

O Come, All Ye Faithful VT #241

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 61 Pew Bible p. 391

Sharing Time and Prayer

Advent Drama

Offering Prayer

Scripture Reading

Luke 1:39-55 Pew Bible p. 540

Message

The Bethlehem Project

Children's Christmas Program

*Benediction

Postlude

*please stand if you are able

HMC Service may be viewed on our web-page:

www.HMCFreeman.org

TODAY Dec. 17, 2023 9:45 a.m.. Third Sun. of Advent

Worship Leader: Pastor Randall Koehler

Accompanist: Charlene Friesen

Song Leader: Amy Hofer Vetch

Children's Time: Joline Thomas

Advent Drama Team: Larry Tschetter and Emma Johnson

Message: Children's Christmas Program

Scripture: Luke 1:39-55; Isaiah 61

No Coffee Time or Sunday School.

Following the Children's Christmas program, all are invited to stay for brunch downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.

NEXT SUNDAY Dec. 24, 2023 9:45 a.m.. Fourth Sun. of Advent

Worship Leader: John Clem

Accompanist: Paige Hofer

Song Leader: Suzanne Koerner

Children's Time: Joline Thomas

Advent Drama Team: Isabel Waltner and Genna Kramer

Worship Music: Steve & Charlene Friesen

Message: Why me? Why not me?

Scripture: 2 Samuel 7:1-17; Luke 1: 26-38

Coffee Time: Larry & Edie Tschetter

No Sunday School.

Calendar:

December 25: Christmas Day Service - 10 AM

December 31: ***Deadline for the 2024 Yearbook.***

Sunday School project (all ages): Freeman Food Pantry, non-food donations. Items can be placed in the basket by the display in the foyer.

HMC Congregational Ministry Project for December:

Cash for MCC for Israel/Palestine Conflict Victims

Please give donations to Joyce Hofer, C.M. Treasurer, or place in the C.M. mailbox.

Call to Worship:

Leader: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in
God my savior.

High voices: For the Mighty One has done great things for me.

Low voices: and holy is God's name.

Leader: God has brought down the powerful and lifted up the
lowly.

People: What will God do next?

(pause)

All: Together we wonder.

Benediction Litany:

One: Together we wonder.

Many: How will we know what's next?

One: Go, and hold fast to what is good; rejoice always; make
straight the way of the Lord.

The **draft of the 2024 Annual Yearbook** is sitting on the table in the upper foyer. Please check your information, along with any family members, and initial by it if correct or make necessary changes by December 31. Also, all **committee chairpersons** need to have their submissions to Aprille by this date as well. Please reach out with any questions you may have. Thank you!

The Deacons and pastor invite you to **come to church on Christmas Day** at 10 AM for a simple, joy-filled celebration of Jesus Christ's birth that will include the entire Christmas narrative and numerous classic Christmas carols for all to enjoy.

Prayer Requests and Praises:

- **Birthdays:** Eric Neuharth on December 20 and Joyce Hofer on December 21.
- This Advent season, we hear the stories of those who have been waiting... for restoration, for vindication, for hope. We, too, have been those who wait. While we may sometimes feel discouraged or uncertain about when or how God will act, like those in our Scriptures, we are called to live and move in the world as God's people. Even as we wonder "How long?," we begin to ask "What's next?" How do we find hope and joy in the questions of faith that may lead not to answers, but to more questions?
- Praise God for the children, their parents, and the directors and coordinators who share with us this morning the annual Christmas program *The Bethlehem Project*.
- Pray for university, college, and postgraduate students finishing up finals, travelling over the holidays, and finding spaces of rest before another semester begins in the new year.
- Pray for Larry Tschetter and his family as he walks this road with prostate cancer. Pray for doctors and caregivers who walk with them, for healing and strength to fight this cancer, for minimal side effects in treatment, for traveling mercies, and for peace of mind for all who seek to support and uphold Larry during this season.

Pastor Randall's contact information:

Office: call or email to make an appointment

Phone - 309-208-6032

Email - pastorrandallhmc@gmail.com

Office Administrative Assistant: Aprille Birkey

OAA Hours: Thursday mornings

Church Office phone: 605.925.7186

Church Email: hutterthal@goldenwest.net

Church Website: www.hmcfreeman.org

The Bethlehem Project

Overture

Angels We Have Heard on High

Scene 1..... Bethlehem, Rosenthal's Inn

We are Right, of Course

Scene 2..... Near Bethlehem

*O Little Town of Bethlehem (with O Come,
Little Children)*

Scene 2, continued

Scene 3..... The Stable

Deck the Stalls

Scene 3, continued

Scene 4..... The Stable

*Away in a Manger (with Infant Holy, Infant
Lowly)*

Scene 5..... The Fields

Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus

Angel Music I

How Great Our Joy (with Joy to the World)

Scene 6..... The Manger

The Manger Throne

Scene 6, continued

*The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy (with Go,
Tell it on the Mountain)*

Angel Music II

How Great Our Joy (with Joy to the World)

Cast of Characters

Angel, Shepherd Kid Bridget Neuharth
Gabriel, Sol Ethan Waltner
Ruth Alyssa Hofer
Joanna Natalie Johnson
Jessie Brynlee Hofer
Uzzie Egan Mettler
Elizabeth Camilla Hofer
Mary Addison Waltner
Joseph Noah Johnson
Donkey Isaac Mettler
Yetta Jessica Scheetz
Angels Nora Johnson, Otto Mettler,
Avery Waltner, Landon Neuharth
Bethlehem Kids Otto Mettler, Landon
Neuharth, Avery Waltner, Addison
Waltner, Jessica Scheetz
Shepherd Kids .. Nora Johnson, Ethan Waltner,
Noah Johnson
Singer Vivienne Koehler

The Intergenerational Class will meet in their normal classroom in the education wing on **December 31**, while the children's Sunday School and one adult Sunday School class will still be on break.

Everyone enjoys **coffee time** at HMC. It's a great chance to meet visitors and connect with regulars. In December, you can contribute to the cost by making a donation in the designated "gift box" located in the Fellowship Hall during coffee time. Thank you! - Coffee Time Committee

Register now for the **MCC South Texas Learning Tour**, February 4-9, 2024! This immigration-focused learning tour presents a unique opportunity to engage directly with organizations making a positive impact on our neighbors. You won't want to miss this opportunity. Details and online registration can be found at mcc.org/south-texas-lt. Deadline to sign up is Jan. 20. Please contact Abraham Diaz Alonso with questions, abrahamdiazalonso@mcc.org.