Jesus—God’s Greatest Gift

A Christmas Presentation for Young Children

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THE OPENING HYMN

Oh, Come, Little Children (The Little Christian’s Songbook, p. 35)

Tune: IHR KINDERLEIN, KOMMET, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800

1. Oh, come, little children, oh, come, one and all,
   To Bethlehem haste to the manger so small.
   God’s Son for a gift has been sent you this night
   To be your Redeemer, your Joy and Delight.

2. He’s born in a stable for you and for me;
   Draw near by the bright, gleaming starlight to see,
   In swaddling clothes lying, so meek and so mild,
   And purer than angels, the heavenly Child.

3. See Mary and Joseph, with love-beaming eyes,
   Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies;
   The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of love,
   While angels sing loud alleluias above.

4. Kneel down and adore Him with shepherds today,
   Lift up little hands now and praise Him as they;
   Rejoice that a Savior from sin you can boast,
   And join in the song of the heavenly host.

(As singing begins, the children proceed down center aisle and take their places at the front. At least three large, gift-wrapped Christmas presents should be carried in during the processional.)

THE WELCOME

THE SONG

Little Children, Can You Tell? (Little Christian’s Songbook, p. 34, stanzas 1–2)

Text and tune: unknown

Adults, stanza 1
Children, stanza 2

Adults:
I. From God to Us: Jesus

The Reading: In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths and laid Him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. (Luke 2:1–7)

(When the reading is concluded, the leader takes the large blue present and displays it to the children and adults and then reads the large gift tag attached to it.)

The Leader: The gift tag on this blue box says that this present is from God to all of us. What gift could this be? It is Jesus. He is God’s gift to all who believe. A long, long time ago, God promised He would send a Savior, a Messiah who would save all people from sin.

In the Bible, we learn from St. Matthew that an angel told Joseph to take Mary as his wife and said,

The Children: “She will bear a son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.” (Matthew 1:21)

The Leader: When the baby came, this fulfilled God’s promise in Isaiah 7:14, “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel” (which means “God with us”). Jesus is the Savior God promised.