

ADVENT FOR ALL AGES

by Robert A. Allen



CHRISTIAN PUBLISHERS

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INTRODUCTION

These four sketches can be used for an Advent season which includes all generations within the church in a most unusual Christmas presentation.

The first Sunday of Advent is traditionally the time to light the candle of hope. It represents the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy in the much-anticipated birth of the Messiah. While many were looking for a political or religious leader for the nation, God gave them a baby. This candle should be lit at the end of "God Gave a Baby" by the girl who invites the retirees to come and see the Christ child. During the lighting of the candle, read Isaiah 9:6-7.

On the second Sunday of Advent the first and second candles should be lit. The second candle will represent the theme of love. It should be lit by the girl in "A Christmas Diary" as John 3:16 is read. The anticipation of the celebration of Christmas mirrors the anticipation of those who looked forward to his coming and bringing love into the world. It is reflected in the love of family, which comes from the love of God himself.

The third Sunday has the theme of joy. The excitement of the little angels as they await their opportunity to announce the coming of Christ into the world reminds us of the joy in our own hearts as we remember his coming. The three angels in "The Day of Great Joy" should light the first three candles of the Advent wreath after their last lines. During the lighting of those candles, read Luke 2:15-20.

On the fourth Sunday, the theme is faith. The lighting of the four candles along with the center candle, usually called the Christ candle, will pave the way for the simplicity of "The Christmas Story According to John." The lights remind us that Jesus is himself the Light of the World. He is the One who brings us faith, love, hope, and joy. The Advent wreath candles, along with the single spotlight, will focus attention on the Light as he shines brightly in the text from the Gospel of John. The four readers should each light one candle on their way to the platform and then, using those four candles, light the center Christ candle at the end of the sketch.

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God Gave a Baby

First Sunday of Advent

CHARACTERS:

HENRY ADKINS — Retired businessman
 ELLIE FREY — Retired nurse
 BENSON TERWILLIGER — Retired politician
 LOIS FERGUSON — Retired schoolteacher
 MANDY THOMPSON — A child

SYNOPSIS: A self-appointed group of senior citizens meets to give God advice on how to run the world.

THEME: Hope.

COSTUMES: Each of the retirees wears an outfit indicative of his or her occupation. MANDY is dressed in bright Christmas colors.

PROPS: Yellow legal pads and several pencils lay at each place on the table. Water glasses and a large pitcher of ice water sit in the center of the table.

SCENE: The sketch takes place in a conference room with a large table. Christmas wreaths and candles decorate the room and the table.

(HENRY, LOIS, ELLIE, and BENSON are seated at the table as the scene opens.)

HENRY: The first annual meeting of the Committee to Advise God on What This World Needs Now will come to order.

LOIS: Now, Henry. Must we be so formal?

HENRY: This is a very serious matter, Mrs. Ferguson.

LOIS: Lois, please. We've known each other for seventy

1 years. And I know this is serious. But do we have to
2 run it according to *Robert's Rules of Order*? There are
3 only four of us.

4 ELLIE: I agree. Why can't we just talk this over and come
5 to a meeting of the minds? A consensus, if you please.

6 BENSON: We'll need to vote eventually. We'll never solve
7 anything for God unless we vote.

8 ELLIE: I don't think a vote will be necessary. We're only
9 here to advise God, not to tell him what to do.

10 HENRY: On the contrary. We have been chosen because of
11 our great experience and expertise to come up with
12 solid answers. Substantive answers.

13 LOIS: Did God ask for our advice?

14 HENRY: How should I know?

15 BENSON: What difference does it make? He obviously needs
16 it. This world is in a mess.

17 HENRY: Well said. So let's get right to work. I suggest we
18 make a list of possibilities and then prioritize them.

19 ELLIE: All right. The first thing we need is some way to
20 feed all the hungry people — those living beneath the
21 poverty level.

22 LOIS: We need to provide more education. That will solve
23 every other problem we face.

24 BENSON: A strong political leader would help — someone
25 who can bring an end to all the fighting so valuable
26 resources can be redirected to solve other problems.

27 HENRY: But the fighting is the result of economics. We have
28 to revitalize the world's economy before the wars will
29 end. Raise the minimum wage and the standard of
30 living. Loan money to third world countries so they can
31 join the consumers of the world in a global economy. If
32 everyone has enough money, they won't fight.

33 ELLIE: (*To LOIS*) You can't educate people until you satisfy
34 their hunger.

35 LOIS: (*To ELLIE*) Well, they'll never have enough to eat until

- 1 you teach them to grow their own food.
- 2 **BENSON:** *(To HENRY)* They can't hold down a job and earn
- 3 a salary while all this fighting is going on.
- 4 **HENRY:** *(To BENSON)* They'll quit fighting if we just raise
- 5 their standard of living. All they want is four-bedroom
- 6 homes and three-car garages like the civilized world.
- 7 **ELLIE:** *(Shouting)* Famine doesn't cause war. War causes
- 8 famine.
- 9 **LOIS:** *(Shouting back)* Illiteracy is the root cause of war.
- 10 **HENRY:** *(Pounding on the table)* Order! Order! Why have our
- 11 greatest wars been among the most educated nations?
- 12 Economic imbalance is the reason we fight.
- 13 **BENSON:** And that is exactly why we need a great political
- 14 leader, to redistribute the wealth, feed the hungry, and
- 15 educate people out of their ignorance.
- 16 **HENRY:** How will he do that? With another war to end
- 17 war? That's always been the political solution. Fight
- 18 some more so we can bring peace to the world.
- 19 **LOIS:** People can't vote until they learn to read and think.
- 20 **ELLIE:** Starving people aren't interested in voting.
- 21 **BENSON:** Who will organize the relief effort if you don't
- 22 have political leadership?
- 23 **HENRY:** Who will provide the food to combat famine if the
- 24 world economy is in shambles?
- 25 **LOIS:** Who is going to teach them to use proper agricultural
- 26 methods so the famine doesn't continue?
- 27 **ELLIE:** So what does the world need? What are we going to
- 28 tell God?
- 29 **MANDY:** *(Enters running and shouting.)* Come quickly! Come
- 30 and see the baby.
- 31 **HENRY:** Young lady, can't you see we're in a very
- 32 important meeting?
- 33 **MANDY:** But there's a new baby. *(Points Off-stage.)* Out in
- 34 the stable.
- 35 **ELLIE:** That's all this world needs. Another mouth to feed.

- 1 **BENSON:** We really can't be bothered right now, little girl.
2 We're solving the world's problems.
- 3 **MANDY:** But this is a special baby. God gave him to us. The
4 angels said so.
- 5 **LOIS:** God gave a baby? A baby?
- 6 **BENSON:** Why would he do a thing like that without even
7 waiting for our advice? We need a world leader, not a
8 baby. Someone to rule this world politically.
- 9 **MANDY:** I guess God thought it was time for a baby. Are
10 you going to come and see him? He's right outside in
11 the stable. Come on. Hurry!
- 12 **LOIS:** Not me. Come back when he's old enough to start
13 school. Then I'll give him an education so he can really
14 accomplish something in the world.
- 15 **MANDY:** (*To HENRY*) What about you, sir? Are you going to
16 come and see the baby?
- 17 **HENRY:** Well, now, little girl. Babies are wonderful. But I
18 can't really believe that with all of the problems we are
19 facing in this world that God would give us a baby. We
20 need big answers, great programs, international cartels,
21 and multinational corporations. No, God couldn't give
22 us just a baby. I would never advise him to do that.
- 23 **MANDY:** But babies grow up.
- 24 **ELLIE:** Right. And then they need even more to eat.
- 25 **LOIS:** And an education.
- 26 **BENSON:** And someone to rule over them and keep them
27 from fighting.
- 28 **MANDY:** Doesn't anyone want to see the baby?
- 29 **BENSON:** Sorry, child. What this world needs is a great
30 political leader, not a baby.
- 31 **ELLIE:** I don't see how a baby could possibly help solve
32 world hunger. Is he going to turn stones into bread or
33 something?
- 34 **LOIS:** A baby can't be a teacher. What can we expect to learn
35 from him? Some new truth? Why, a baby can't even talk.

HENRY: Now you see what you have done, young lady? You have interrupted a very important meeting for no reason at all. A baby is definitely not what the world needs right now. God would never look at all the desperate needs this world is facing and offer us a baby.

MANDY: But he did! God gave us a baby. God gave us hope!

ALL: *(Together)* Impossible!

MANDY: But true. *(MANDY lights the first candle on the Advent wreath, the candle of Hope, as the PASTOR reads Isaiah 9:6-7.)*

PASTOR: “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. Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it, and to establish it with judgment and with justice from henceforth even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.”

A Christmas Diary Second Sunday of Advent

CHARACTERS:

SARAH — A twelve-year-old girl.

SYNOPSIS: Twelve-year-old SARAH has been keeping a diary since her birthday in late September. Now that Christmas has arrived, she records her impressions of a traditional family gathering and the realization that Christmas is more than just a holiday.

THEME: Love.

COSTUMES: SARAH should wear pajamas or a Christmas outfit

PROPS: SARAH will need a candle, diary, and pen.

SET: The scene takes place in SARAH's living room which is decorated for the Christmas season. A decorated Christmas tree with lights and presents should dominate the stage area. Underneath the tree, a manger scene should be displayed in a prominent fashion. A large overstuffed chair sits at Center Stage. Carols should play softly in the background.

SARAH: *(Enters carrying a lit candle from the Advent wreath and places it back in the wreath, then sits down near the tree to write in her diary.)* **Dear Diary. Christmas Eve, _____.** *(Insert current year.)* **My twelfth Christmas, and the very best one yet. Snow was already falling when I got up this morning, great big fluffy flakes that seemed to drift around for hours looking for just the right place to land. The house smelled as if we were up in the North Woods since Daddy brought in the tree and set it up last night. Grandma and Mom were already in the kitchen cooking something. Lefse, *(Or insert another holiday specialty)* I suppose. I never could understand why everyone says Grandma's lefse *(Or other treat)* is so good at Christmas, but we never eat it any other time of the year. Oh well, it sure smelled good from my bedroom. Christmas must be just about the happiest day of the entire year.**

(Moves to sit on the arm of the chair to continue writing.)

I hadn't been up for very long when all the cousins and uncles and aunts seemed to arrive at the same time. They come here every Christmas 'cause we live in the big old farmhouse where Grandma and Grandpa raised all of them. Daddy has nine brothers and sisters and when we all get together, it's a houseful. Mom says it's noisy, and I suppose it is, but it's the sound of love. All

1 the cousins squealing in protest because Aunt Mabel
2 insists on hugging them. The bachelor brothers —Marvin
3 and Harvey — talking too loudly about pigs and corn
4 yield and fertilizer because they're both a little deaf and
5 won't admit it. And every once in awhile someone saying
6 something like, "Do you remember that song we used to
7 have on seventy-eights? The one Robert Merrill or Bing
8 Crosby or someone like that used to sing? And then,
9 before the rest of us could stop him, Cody asked what a
10 seventy-eight was and the stories started to fly.

11 *(Sits at the front of the stage, describing the scene behind*
12 *her.)* It was like that all afternoon. Friendly noise. Mom
13 and Grandma passing around bowls of caramel corn,
14 and plates piled high with spritzle and peppernuts and
15 big mugs of hot apple cider. Everyone talking and no
16 one listening, it seemed, until someone mentioned a
17 Christmas memory that belonged to all of the adults.
18 Then they would hush us up and make us listen to some
19 story about how Uncle Lester got trapped in the
20 outhouse by a bear and didn't get to open his presents
21 until Christmas afternoon. The stories were pretty funny,
22 but it was even more fun watching all the uncles and
23 aunts while they listened. They were just like us kids.
24 Aunt Bertha laughed so hard that her chin wobbled, and
25 Uncle Henry cried every time he laughed. The stories
26 always began the same way, with "I remember the time."

27 "I remember the time when all we got for Christmas
28 was an orange, and we were glad to get that."

29 "I remember when Uncle Fred got back from the war
30 and surprised us all on Christmas Eve."

31 "I remember Christmas of 1950 because that was the
32 year the Andrews Sisters recorded "Silver Bells." And
33 then someone would remember that it couldn't have
34 been the Andrews Sisters or it couldn't have been 1950
35 or that it couldn't have been "Silver Bells," but it didn't

1 really matter anyway. I guess that's what makes
2 memories so wonderful.

3 (*Moves back to the tree and continues writing.*) Daddy is
4 the youngest of all his brothers and sisters. I think some
5 of my cousins are almost as old as he is. At least some
6 of them seemed to know the words to the song he
7 remembered. I had heard him tell the story before, how
8 he got sick the week after Thanksgiving and had to stay
9 home, and how he played that song so many times that
10 Grandma finally took the record while he was sleeping
11 and threw it into the wastebasket. I don't know why
12 Grandma didn't like it. I think I would have done the
13 same thing Daddy did: rescue it from the wastebasket
14 and keep on playing it. It was one of the neatest songs
15 anyone sang all day.

16 (*Sits in the big overstuffed chair.*) After all the uncles
17 and aunts told the same stories they tell each other
18 every Christmas, Grandpa Johnson walked over and sat
19 down in Daddy's big chair. All of us knew what was
20 coming next. "I have a nickel for every child who will
21 give a Christmas recitation," he said. I wish someone
22 would tell Grandpa that a nickel doesn't buy much
23 anymore. There was lots of shoving and coaxing for the
24 next several minutes as one after another of the younger
25 cousins whispered a couple of lines from their Sunday
26 school Christmas programs just loud enough for
27 Grandpa to hear — all except Haley. She sang an entire
28 song, and she sang it loud. I heard Mom tell one of the
29 other outlaws that she's precocious. I don't know what
30 that means, but I hope I don't catch it. I hate being up
31 in front of people.

32 (*Stands by the tree.*) After the recitations, we all took
33 turns hanging an ornament on the tree. There were so
34 many of us that I only got to hang two, but one of them
35 was the angel at the top since I'm the oldest of the

1 younger cousins. Next year I'll be a teenager and old
2 enough to go down to the lake and skate with all the
3 older cousins. They all came rushing back about nine
4 o'clock, singing Christmas songs and calling loudly for
5 hot chocolate with lots of marshmallows.

6 (*Sits down by the manger scene.*) And then it was time to
7 light the tree. Daddy turned out all the lights in the
8 living room and everyone was absolutely quiet while
9 Grandpa used a candle to read those Bible verses about
10 Joseph and Mary going to Bethlehem to pay taxes and
11 Mary being great with child and the shepherds abiding
12 in the fields keeping watch over their flocks by night.
13 Then, just as he came to the part about the angel of the
14 Lord coming upon them and the glory of the Lord
15 shining around them, Daddy plugged in all the lights on
16 the tree and the entire room filled up with red and green
17 and blue and white lights. I thought for a minute that I
18 could see a little angel hovering just above every one of
19 those little lights.

20 (*Still under the tree.*) After we had been sitting for a
21 long time just staring at the lights, I heard my cousin
22 Bethany whisper, "I can almost hear the angels singing."
23 And so could I. I looked to see if Daddy had his CD
24 player hidden somewhere. He loves to play tricks like
25 that. But it wasn't Daddy. It sounded like angel voices
26 coming right out of the Christmas tree. I felt just like one
27 of those shepherds who saw the angels that first
28 Christmas Eve; I was sore afraid. Only I didn't let
29 anyone know, and I'm glad I didn't because I would
30 have felt pretty foolish a minute later when Mom opened
31 the front door so we could see the carolers standing on
32 the lawn.

33 (*Moves back to sit on the edge of the platform.*) For some
34 reason all the kids wanted to go to bed early that night.
35 Daddy's family doesn't open presents on Christmas Eve

1 like Mom's family does. But after lying awake in bed for
2 what seemed like an hour, I slipped out from under the
3 covers and went down to sit under the tree again. The
4 lights were still on, and it seemed like they were all
5 shining on the wooden manger scene Mom and I had set
6 up earlier in the week. The manger scene is my favorite
7 Christmas decoration, and she always lets me help her
8 set it up. First the sheep and the donkeys. Then the
9 shepherds. Next Mary and Joseph, and finally the baby
10 in the manger. I sat there under the tree and thought
11 about Jesus coming as a little baby. I decided that God
12 sent us a baby because he knew that everyone loves
13 babies and he wanted everyone to love his Son. I wish
14 everyone did.

15 *(Sits by the manger scene under the tree.)* I had only been
16 sitting here by the tree a little while when Daddy came
17 in to turn off the lights and tell me that I really needed
18 to get to bed. Just like that, all the angel lights and tinsel
19 and presents disappeared into the darkness. I couldn't
20 even see the baby in the manger scene. It was right then
21 that I think Christmas changed forever for me. I knew it
22 wasn't the lights and the tree and the special food that
23 made Christmas wonderful. But it wasn't even the
24 manger scene and the baby. That was only the
25 beginning. Jesus grew up just like I was growing up. He
26 had been twelve and thirteen. Jesus wasn't a baby
27 anymore. He is the King. He is love. And he is my Savior.
28 *(SARAH lights the second candle of Love on the Advent*
29 *wreath as PASTOR reads John 3:16.)*

30 PASTOR: "For God so loved the world that he gave his only
31 begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should
32 not perish, but have everlasting life."
33
34
35

The Day of Great Joy

Third Sunday of Advent

CHARACTERS:

GLOCKENSPIEL — An angel

TYMPANI — An angel

CYMBAL — An angel

ARCHANGEL — An Off-stage voice

SYNOPSIS: Backstage at the shepherd's field, the angels prepare for their announcement of Christ's birth.

THEME: Joy.

COSTUMES: Angel costumes with white robes and wings will be immediately recognized by the audience. Since angels are ageless spirit beings, this sketch could be performed with characters from any age group, but it will probably be most effective with small children, just old enough to memorize their lines.

PROPS: None.

SCENE: The sketch takes place backstage at the heavenly auditorium in the clouds, where a multitude of angels will be announcing the birth of Christ to the shepherds watching over their flocks. The shepherds will not appear, but the angels should be able to see them and should talk about them as if they were just out of sight of the audience.

(GLOCKENSPIEL, TYMPANI, and CYMBAL stand at Center Stage. CYMBAL fusses with her head.)

CYMBAL: Is my halo on straight?

TYMPANI: Don't be silly. Angels don't have halos.

CYMBAL: How do you know what we will look like when

- 1 the shepherds see us? They might see a halo.
- 2 GLOCKENSPIEL: If they do it will be straight, Cymbal.
- 3 After all, we're representing heaven, and everything
- 4 there is perfect.
- 5 CYMBAL: I know. I'm just so excited that I want everything
- 6 to be exactly right. Do I have any wing feathers out of
- 7 place?
- 8 TYMPANI: If you had wings, every feather would be in
- 9 place. The more important question is — do you know
- 10 your lines?
- 11 CYMBAL: Lines?
- 12 GLOCKENSPIEL: Words! Our message. Do you remember
- 13 the message we're supposed to give to the shepherds?
- 14 CYMBAL: Fear. Joy. Great joy. Great fear. No fear. Oh, I'm
- 15 going to mess this up something royal.
- 16 TYMPANI: Settle down. We're all a little bit excited.
- 17 CYMBAL: A little bit? I'm so excited I can hardly fly
- 18 straight. They must be excited too.
- 19 GLOCKENSPIEL: I'm sure they are. To have our Lord come
- 20 down and live among them — wow. It will be a little
- 21 taste of heaven right on the earth.
- 22 TYMPANI: Will all of them love him and honor him just like
- 23 we do?
- 24 GLOCKENSPIEL: Why wouldn't they? He's the Son of God.
- 25 The best that heaven has to offer. The greatest gift God
- 26 could ever give to his created world.
- 27 CYMBAL: Fear. Joy. Baby? Swaddling clothes? Manger?
- 28 Oh, it would be so much easier to remember what I'm
- 29 supposed to say if I knew what the words meant.
- 30 What's a baby?
- 31 GLOCKENSPIEL: That's what they call someone on earth
- 32 just after he has been born. Babies are tiny, and they
- 33 can't talk or walk.
- 34 TYMPANI: Since our Lord has been born today, he's a
- 35 baby. And this is his birthday.

- 1 CYMBAL: His birthday? Do you think they will celebrate it
2 every year? It will be the most wonderful day in their
3 entire calendar, won't it? I think they should call it
4 "The Day of Great Joy." What's a manger?
- 5 TYMPANI: The shepherds will know. Besides, you won't be
6 saying any of those words anyway.
- 7 CYMBAL: What do you mean? That's the message God gave
8 us, isn't it?
- 9 TYMPANI: That's the message he gave to the archangel.
10 You need to be quiet while he speaks. Absolutely quiet.
11 (*Shoots CYMBAL a meaningful glance.*) If that's possible.
- 12 GLOCKENSPIEL: Our part starts after he's finished. "Glory
13 to God ... "
- 14 CYMBAL: I remember! "Glory to God in the ... "
- 15 GLOCKENSPIEL: "Highest ... "
- 16 CYMBAL: "Highest ... "
- 17 GLOCKENSPIEL: "And ... "
- 18 CYMBAL: "And ... "
- 19 GLOCKENSPIEL: "On earth ... "
- 20 CYMBAL: "On earth ... "
- 21 TYMPANI: "And on earth peace, goodwill toward men"
22 (*Luke 2:14.*)
- 23 CYMBAL: I knew it. I knew. Just give me a chance. Oh, I'm
24 so excited. Do you think I have time to dive through a
25 few clouds before we have to go on-stage?
- 26 TYMPANI: I think you had better stay right where you are.
27 The shepherds are in place and we're all in place and
28 things could start immediately.
- 29 CYMBAL: They'll sure be surprised when we light up the
30 night sky. What are swaddling clothes?
- 31 GLOCKENSPIEL: His mother will know. Now, be quiet so
32 we can hear the angel and listen for our cue. We start
33 after he says "manger."
- 34 CYMBAL: Do you think he will get any presents?
- 35 TYMPANI: Presents?

- 1 CYMBAL: For his birthday.
- 2 GLOCKENSPIEL: Quiet, now.
- 3 CYMBAL: Do you think they will build him a throne like the
4 beautiful one he sits on here in heaven?
- 5 TYMPANI: He's going to be in a manger, remember? That
6 must be something like a throne.
- 7 GLOCKENSPIEL: Shhhh! Get ready now.
- 8 CYMBAL: Oh, look. They saw him. They saw him! But
9 they're hiding their faces. Why won't they look at him?
- 10 TYMPANI: They're afraid.
- 11 GLOCKENSPIEL: Hush! And listen!
- 12 ARCHANGEL: (*Off-stage voice*) Fear not: for behold, I bring
13 you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all
14 people. For unto you is born this day in the city of
15 David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall
16 be a sign unto you; ye shall find the babe wrapped in
17 swaddling clothes, lying in a manger (Luke 2:10-12).
- 18 CYMBAL: Manger. He said manger.
- 19 GLOCKENSPIEL: Let's go!
- 20 CYMBAL, TYMPANI, and GLOCKENSPIEL: (*Together*)
21 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good
22 will toward men (Luke 2:14).
- 23 TYMPANI: Did you see their faces?
- 24 GLOCKENSPIEL: Awestruck!
- 25 CYMBAL: I think I'm going to turn somersaults all the way
26 back to heaven. Do you think they will call it the Day
27 of Great Joy?
- 28 GLOCKENSPIEL: No! I think they will call it Christmas!
29 (*GLOCKENSPIEL, CYMBAL, and TYMPANI each light one*
30 *candle on the Advent wreath as the PASTOR reads Luke*
31 *2:15-20.*)
- 32 PASTOR: "And it came to pass, as the angels were gone
33 away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to
34 another, "Let us now go even unto Bethlehem and see
35 this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath

made known unto us.” And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.”

The Christmas Story According to John

(Based on John 1:1-14)

Fourth Sunday of Advent

CHARACTERS:

VOICES 1-4

SYNOPSIS: A most unusual Christmas program results when the Christmas story according to John forms the basis for that program.

THEME: Faith.

COSTUMES: All VOICES should be dressed in black and white.

PROPS: Each reader carries a black folder to hold his/her script so that nothing On-stage calls attention to itself. The attention of the audience should be focused on the message.

SCENE: The stage should be bare except for four stools and the Advent wreath. Ideally, there would be no decorations, although this is probably difficult to accomplish during the Advent season. You might consider using the side of the



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ADVENT FOR ALL AGES

by Robert A. Allen.

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