

Arise and Shine



Creative
Communications
Sample



A Children's
Christmas Service

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A Children's Christmas Service

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Notes For Leaders

—Speaking Parts—

There are six sections with a total of 83 lines that can be assigned to three or more children. Lines noted for "parent" character can be assigned to a girl and a boy playing the role of a mom and dad. At least 2 children play the role of "siblings." If there is a large number of children available for speaking parts, different children can be assigned to each of the six sections. There are also 16 Scripture readings (indicated by an **R** in the script), which can be read by one or more child(ren) or an adult. Longer readings can also be broken up to accommodate the number of parts needed. Children can be dressed in robes and slippers or modern-day, casual or "Christmas best" clothing.

—Children's Songs—

Songs by children are indicated in the script and include "Silent Night, Holy Night," "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" and "God Loves Me Dearly" (for the youngest children). Additionally, children can be assigned verses for congregational hymns, if desired. All children with speaking and non-speaking parts should gather to sing in a designated area.

—Setting the Stage—

A living room set-up including various sources of light (see details below) serves as the stage. The following items should be included in the set:

- A Christmas tree with lights (LED lights preferred)
- A sofa or a few chairs (some kids can sit on floor next to the tree)
- One or two end tables (actual end tables can be used, or stools covered with round table cloths or card tables with table cloths are possible substitutes. A coffee table could also be used in addition to or in place of one of the two end tables)

Sources of light to be used on the stage are as follows:

- Table lamp (plugged in and placed on one of the end tables)
- Star for top of Christmas tree (to be placed on tree at specific time as indicated in the script)
- Flashlight (preferably a cell phone flashlight which one child can have with him/her)
- Christmas-scented candle (placed on an end table. If using two end tables, place on the opposite one used for table lamp. Candle to be lit at specific time as indicated in script. May substitute a battery-operated candle and pretend to light it with lighter when indicated)
- Christmas tree lights (LED preferred-on Christmas tree. Should be on from beginning to end of service)
 - Hand-held mirror (wrapped in gift box under tree, to be opened at specific time as indicated in the script)

Other props needed are as follows:

- A variety of wrapped gifts (may be empty boxes of various sizes and shapes) placed under the Christmas tree
- Nativity set placed on an end table (the baby Jesus figure should be wrapped in a tiny box under the tree and opened at specific time as indicated in script)
 - Lighter (to light candle, placed next to candle)
- Step stool (if needed) for child to place star on top of tree when indicated

TuneAdeste Fideles irregular meter

Measures 1-5 of the piece. The music is in G major (one sharp) and common time. The melody in the treble clef begins with a whole rest, followed by a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. The bass clef accompaniment starts with a whole rest, followed by a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. The piece is marked with a '1' at the beginning of both staves.

Measures 6-10. The melody continues with a quarter note C, a quarter note D, and a quarter note E. The bass clef accompaniment continues with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. The piece is marked with a '6' at the beginning of both staves.

Measures 11-16. The melody continues with a quarter note F#, a quarter note G, and a quarter note A. The bass clef accompaniment continues with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. The piece is marked with an '11' at the beginning of both staves.

Measures 17-21. The melody continues with a quarter note B, a quarter note C, and a quarter note D. The bass clef accompaniment continues with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, and a quarter note B. The piece is marked with a '17' at the beginning of both staves.

Processional Hymn Oh, Come, All Ye Faithful

Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him born the king of angels
Oh, come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes.
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing.
Oh, come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest:
Oh, come, let us adore him, oh, come, let us adore him,
Oh, come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

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