

SCENE FIVE: The Stable at the Inn

Location(s): The streets of Bethlehem, the stable at the inn.

Characters: Narrators, Innkeepers (3), Joseph, Mary, Donkey, Angel Gabriel.

Set/Props: Doorframes on wheels, manger, Baby Jesus, cloths.

During scene change: Narrators positioned at discretion of production team. All props and characters not in Scene 5 exit stage. Bring on manger, with Baby Jesus and cloths hidden inside, and position downstage left.

Narrators	Line	Stage Direction
	The rejections seemed to go on for hours, and Joseph began to lose hope of ever finding shelter for the night.	Three different innkeepers line up behind doorframes centre stage. Joseph approaches first two, but both shake heads immediately and exit stage right with their doorframe. Joseph puts head in hands.
	But, Mary reminded him of what the Angel Gabriel had told her. "Do not be afraid. God will be with you always."	Mary hugs Joseph. Angel Gabriel appears stage right, gestures, and exits.
	The couple came to what seemed like the last inn in the city, and, expecting another no, Joseph knocked heavily on the door.	Mary, Joseph and Donkey approach third innkeeper and Joseph exhaustedly air knocks door.
	The innkeeper who answered smiled at them warmly, and asked how he/she could help.	The innkeeper smiles and gestures warmly.
	Joseph replied, "Please could you spare us somewhere to stay? My wife is expecting a baby any minute, and every other inn is full."	Joseph pleads and gestures to Mary.
	"I have no rooms free tonight," said the man/woman, sadly, "but I do have a stable you could use? There is some firewood for heat, a manger for a crib, and plenty of fresh hay for bedding."	Innkeeper is sad and shakes head at first, then points to stable stage left.

	Mary and Joseph accepted the innkeeper's kind offer immediately. They were so relieved to have somewhere safe and warm to rest and recover from their long and tiring journey.	Joseph, Mary and Donkey, smile and shake innkeeper's hand, before passing through doorframe and settling down in stable. Innkeeper exits, wheeling doorframe off stage right.
	That very same night, in the lowly stable, Mary gave birth to baby Jesus, wrapping him in cloths and blessing him with a mother's kiss.	Mary lifts baby Jesus from manger, wraps him in cloths, and kisses him on forehead.
	SONG SIX: A Very Special Baby *During applause, commence track/piano accompaniment replay for scene change.	During song: All onstage characters face outwards and sing expressively. Choreography as suggested in production notes.

SONG SIX: A Very Special Baby

A very special baby and a king. An ordinary awesome kind of thing.
A manger for his bed, with straw to rest his head, and a mother who will sweetly sing.

Gentle Jesus, born to save the world. Bring us peace and hope.

A very special baby, and the son of God.
A blessing for us all. Forever we will follow him.

A very special baby and a king. The bells of heaven shimmer as they ring.
A stable in the night, will bring the world new light, as the angels in the sky take wing.

Gentle Jesus...

A very special baby, and the son of God...

A blessing for us all. Forever we will follow him.

SCENE SIX: The Shepherds

Location(s): A hillside, the stable at the inn.

Characters: Narrators, Shepherds, Sheep, Angels, Mary, Joseph, Donkey.

Set/Props: Manger, Baby Jesus, cloths.

During scene change: Narrators positioned at discretion of production team. All props and characters not in Scene 6 exit stage. Shepherds and Sheep enter and sit down in various poses stage right. Sheep are asleep.

Narrators	Line	Stage Direction
	Not too far away, on a hillside, some shepherds were watching over their flock, and gazing at the twinkling stars above.	Shepherds gaze into sky.
	They were very sleepy after a hard day's work, and were finding it hard to stay awake.	Shepherds yawn and stretch.
	Suddenly, in a flash of light, a chorus of a thousand angels appeared in the night sky, all singing a message from God.	Chorus of angels enters stage left with hands held in prayer.
	At first, the shepherds couldn't believe what they were seeing, and began rubbing their eyes in amazement.	Shepherds rub eyes and look at each other in amazement.
	"We bring you good news," sang the angels. "God has sent his only son, Jesus, into the world, today. He has come to be the saviour of all humankind. Go now to Bethlehem, find him there in the stable stall, and offer your praises to him."	Angels make singing movements with mouths.
	The shepherds scrambled to their feet, shook themselves off, and headed straight for the city.	Shepherds get up, dust themselves off, and take one sheep with them.
	They took with them an offering of a sheep, thinking that its wool would keep the new baby warm.	Shepherds begin walking over to the stable.

	When the shepherds reached the stable, they bowed humbly before Jesus in the manger, vowing to follow him forever.	Shepherds bow before the baby and sheep sits in stable. Shepherds stand aside.
	SONG SEVEN: High on the Hillside *During applause, commence track/piano accompaniment replay for scene change.	During song: All onstage characters face outwards and sing expressively. Choreography as suggested in production notes.

SONG SEVEN: High on the Hillside

High on the hillside, there in the cold night,
Shepherds lay watching over grazing sheep.
Still was the bright sky. Stars captured each eye.
Suddenly, an Angel, woke them from their sleep.

"Good news I bring to you! Jesus is born for you, there in a stable stall.
Hurry to Bethlehem. Offer your praise to him.
May God's blessing guide you one and all."

So, under moonlight, down from the hillside,
Shepherds made a journey, to the stable stall.

Good news...

So, under moonlight...