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God's Love Story

A Christmas Narration From The
Chaplain and His Circle
With Communion Service

INTRODUCTION BY THE CHAPLAIN

For the next hour, the brothers and I will present a Christmas cantata named “God’s Love Story” with hymns and scriptures.

The story will be narrated by a brother and we'll be narrating a cast of characters throughout the story. Our song leader and musicians will provide the hymns. You're welcome to sing-along from memory.

The prophet Isaiah and Micah will be portrayed from scripture by Character #1.

The apostle Matthew, John and Peter will be portrayed by Character #2.

And the physician Luke, the apostle Paul and Simeon by Character #3.

Our prayer is that you will experience the awesome love of God this Christmas Day as your eyes are opened more fully to God's amazing grace.

There will be an altar call and communion afterwards. Let us pray!

First Edition

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(Include the names of the brothers who are the narrator, song leader, musicians and characters. The presentation becomes bi-lingual with another narrator and characters as translators.

All of us, like sheep, have strayed away. We have left God’s paths to follow our own. Yet, the Lord laid on Him the sins of us all” (Isaiah 53:3-6 NLT).

Song Leader: Communion Song, while the Ushers pass out the elements, mentioning for everyone to hold their elements, so we can partake together.

THE BODY (Bread)

(Remind the congregation that 1 Corinthians 11:29, 30 says that “...*many are weak and sickly*” because of “...*not discerning the Lord’s body.*” Exhort the congregation of the importance of understanding that Jesus “...*took our infirmities, and bore our sicknesses*” (Matthew 8:17).

The apostle Paul wrote. “*For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread;*

And when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me” (1 Cor. 11:23, 24)

(Pause & Eat)

THE BLOOD (Juice)

(Remind the congregation that (1) God remembers our sins no more, Jeremiah 31:34; Isaiah 43:25; (2) He cast all of our sins into the depths of the sea, Micah 7:19; (3) He cast all of our sins behind His back, Isaiah 38:17, and (4) He removed our sins as far as the East is from the West, Psalm 103:12.

“...*This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord’s death till he come.*” (1 Corinthians 11:25–26).

(Pause & Drink)

Song Leader: Continue Communion Song, while the Ushers pick up the communion cups.

Chaplain: Close in prayer.

God's Love Story

Character #2: "Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot" (1Pet. 1:18, 19).

Song Leader: "Silent Night"

THE STORY IS NOT OVER

Narrator:

All of the prophecies concerning the birth of Jesus Christ, and His sacrificial death on Calvary's cross came to pass 2,000 years ago. God's story of redemption is still being written today. God is still saving all who come to Him in repentance and faith, trusting the sacrifice of Jesus Christ as payment for their sin. The Apostle Paul told the jailer:

Character #3: "BELIEVE ON THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, AND THOU SHALT BE SAVED, AND THEY HOUSE!" (Acts 16:31).

Narrator: Have you become part of the Christmas story? Have you seen Jesus Christ as more than a baby in a manger? Have you seen Him as the Son of God who left heaven and became a man so he could die in your place, bearing your sin? Have you turned to Him and placed your full trust in Him as Lord and Savior? If not, I urge you to do so today! You can say, as did Simeon when he saw the baby Jesus,

Character #3: "For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people" (Lk. 2:30, 31).

Song Leader: "O Come All Ye Faithful"

Chaplain: Altar Call & Communion Service

Isaiah wrote about Jesus saying, "He is despised and rejected...a man of sorrows, acquainted with deepest grief.

We turned our backs on him and looked the other way. He was despised, and we did not care.

Yet, it was our weaknesses he carried; it was our sorrows that weighed Him down. And we thought His troubles were a punishment from God, a punishment for His own sins!

But he was pierced for our rebellion, crushed for our sins. He was beaten so we could be whole. He was whipped so we could be healed.

Chaplain: Call to Worship

"For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"

(Luke 2:11–14 NKJV)

Song Leader: "Joy to the World"

THE STORY BEGINS

Narrator: "BUT WHEN THE FULLNESS OF THE TIME HAD COME, GOD SENT FORTH HIS SON, BORN OF A WOMAN, BORN UNDER THE LAW" (Galatians 4:4).

How old is the story of Christmas? While it is true that the events of Christmas (the birth of Jesus Christ) took place 2,000 years ago, the story of Christmas was being written for hundreds and even thousands of years before that blessed day.

The beginning of the story of Christmas was told in the Garden of Eden, the paradise where Adam and Eve lived in harmony with God until they disobeyed His command. Because of Satan's deceptive actions and temptation which led Adam and Eve to sin, God pronounced a judgment against Satan. The judgment, in Genesis 3:15, reveal that the seed of the woman (Jesus Christ) would bruise the head of the serpent (Satan). The sins of our first parents, as well as the sins of every person who has lived since then, creating a need and a longing for a redeemer who could conquer sin and restore mankind's relationship with God.

Song Leader: "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

MORE DETAIL EMERGE

Narrator:

More details of the story of Christmas (God's story of redemption) emerged throughout the centuries. Listen to the prophet Isaiah, who lived 700 years before Christ was born:

THE PICTURE BECOMES CLEARER

Character #1: "...the Lord Himself shall give you a sign: Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel" (Isa. 7:14).

Narrator: And again, listen to Matthew:

Character #2: "But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. And she will bring forth a Son, and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins.' So all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying: 'Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a Son, and they shall call His name Immanuel,' which is translated, 'God with us'" (Matt. 1:20-23).

Song Leader: "The First Noel"

Narrator: Micah, another Jewish prophet, pinpointed the place where the Savior would be born:

Character #1: "Bethlehem...though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me that is to be ruler in Israel; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting" (Mic. 5:2).

Narrator: Listen to Luke tell of the birth of our Savior and King:

Character #3: "And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn" (Lk. 2:1-7).

Song Leader: "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

Narrator:

Other prophetic Scriptures reveal more about who the promised Redeemer would be. Isaiah said:

Character #1: "For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace" (Isa. 9:6).

Narrator: The Savior was to be none other than the everlasting Son of God. Listen to the apostle John, saying:

Character #2: "In the beginning was the Word...And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life" (Jn. 1:1, 14; 3:16).

Song Leader: "Hark The Herald Angels Sing"

THE SAVIOR MUST SUFFER

Narrator:

When Adam and Eve sinned, God killed an animal and made coats of skin to cover them in Genesis 3:21. When the Children of Israel sinned, God required that they bring an animal sacrifice, shedding its blood at the altar in Leviticus 4. When God envisioned the ultimate sacrifice (full and final payment for sin) it also involved the shedding of blood. Listen to what Isaiah had to say about our suffering Savior with perfect clarity:

Character #1: "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. ...it pleased the LORD to bruise him; he hath put him to grief...he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors; and he bare the sin of many" (Isa. 53:5, 10a, 12b).

Narrator: Jesus Christ, the Son of God, suffered and died as the Lamb of God, the perfect sacrifice. Peter said,