

shepherds were attending their flock when suddenly a light appeared on the back wall under the pictures of Christ and Reverend Ambrose. The light came from a flashlight hold by a student from stage right.

Shepherd one: (Pointing) A star in the East.

Shepherd two: And so bright.

Shepherd one: What does it mean?

Shepherd two: Wish I knowed.

Shepherd one looked at Shepherd two as if he were about to correct his grammar, but changed his mind. No one in the audience seemed to have noticed, anyhow.

Three wise men entered from stage right dressed in red, green and yellow robes of crepe paper. Several people in the audience snickere and made comments.

Shepherd one: Wise men. They can tell us.

Shepherd two: Tell us, O wise men. What yon star mean?

Wise man one: It shines down on Bethlehem.

Wise man two: Little town of Bethlehem.

Wise man three: We must go to Bethlehem.

(They were all looking at the star. The star moved a little as if the person holding the flashlight was getting tired.)

Shepherd one: But what it mean?

Wise man one: In time you will know.

Shepherd two: How we go'n know?

Wise man one: He'll let us know.

Shepherd one: God on High?

Wise man one: Works in mysterious way.

(The light moved again, as if the person was changing hands or giving the flashlight to someone else to hold.)

Wise man two: Wonders to perform.

Shepherd two: But we ain't nothing but poor little old
Shepherds.

Wise man one: The lowest is highest in His eyes.

Wise man two: Let us be off.

Wise man three: To yon Bethелеhem.

(The wise men leave stage right.)

Shepherd one: Brightest star I ever seen.

Shepherd two: Got to mean something.

(The star dipped down and came back up. Shepherd one looked at the person holding the light, and looked back at me to be sure that I had seen it too.)

Shepherd one: Let us kneel down. Nothing will bother the flock tonight.

(The shepherds kneel as the curtain closed. The curtain opened immediatly afterward. We see Mary sitting on a bench holding baby Jesus. Joseph stands beside her looking down upon the baby. A hammer hnags from Joseph's overall loop. Off stage right we hear people approaching.)

First speaker: The star points yon.

Second speaker: We close now.

Third speaker: Yon. Yon. The stable.

(The three wise men enter from stage right and immediately kneel down before Mary and baby Jesus.)

Wise man one: Surely, He come.

Wise man two: (Nodding) Him all right.

Wise man three: Our Savior.

All three: We bring Thee gifts, O Lord. (Each placed a penny on the bench beside Mary.)

Mary: (Surprised) My little baby? Savior?

Wise man one: (Nodding) Your little baby.

Mary: (Happy) My little baby. (She holds Him up to Joseph.) Look, Joseph. My little baby. Savior.

(Joseph nods, but does not speak.)

Mary: (Rocking baby Jesus in her arms begins to sing "Joy To The World, the Lord is Come" The wise men stand and join her and so does Joseph and the shepherds and the choir and all the others, including the boy who held the flashlight. As the song ends, they all bow to the audience.)

While the children remained on stage, I asked Reverend Ambrose if he had any last remarks. Again he thanked God for allowing so many people to come out tonight. Again he reminded us that we were not all saved from sin. Even with book learning we were still fools if we did not have God in our hearts. Again he asked God to go with those locked up in prison cells. He thanked God for all his blessings. And the congregation responded with "Amen, amen, amen."