



Children's Christmas Eve

Welcome

Opening Song: Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Intro: Tonight is a very special night! It's someone's birthday – someone very special. (Of course, everyone is special to God and to the people who love them.) But the person whose birthday we celebrate tonight is special to the whole world. That person is Jesus. He was born in a stable in the middle of the night a long time ago. And because of his birthday we get to have Christmas. Can you help me to sing Happy Birthday to Jesus?

Song: Happy Birthday to you
Happy Birthday to you
Happy Birthday, dear Jesus,
Happy Birthday to you.

Prayer: God, thank you for your love at this special Christmas time. Thank you for baby Jesus. We pray that everyone can remember that this special time of year is all about your love for us. As we enjoy the lights, the songs, the presents, the food, and being with our family and friends, help us to remember it's all about you. In your name we pray. **Amen**

The Story: Light of the World

Song: This Little Light of Mine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Blessing of the Crib: (placing baby Jesus figure into the manger - Tyler) Thank you, God, for the story of the first Christmas. May your blessing be on this holy manger tonight and be in our hearts always. Amen.

Song: Away in a Manger

Prayers:

On this holy night,
for the love in our homes – **we thank you, God.**
for the joy in our hearts - **we thank you, God.**
for the food on our tables – **we thank you, God.**
for the gifts under our trees – **we thank you, God.**
for the great gift of Jesus – **we thank you, God.**

for all people who are alone tonight – **we pray to you, God.**

for all people who are afraid or in danger – **we pray to you, God.**

for all people working at Christmas to protect and help others – **we pray to you, God.**

for all people who are sick and for the people who take care of them – **we pray to you, God.**

for all the people we love who have died – **we pray to you, God.**

for all people who need your promise of love, peace, hope and joy tonight – **we pray to you, God.**

Together let's pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen

Now we'll go from our worship to all of the wonderful celebrations of Christmas, and as we go -
Be bright with God's joy, alive with God's hope, show others God's love and be filled with God's peace.
Merry Christmas!

Song: Joy to the World