



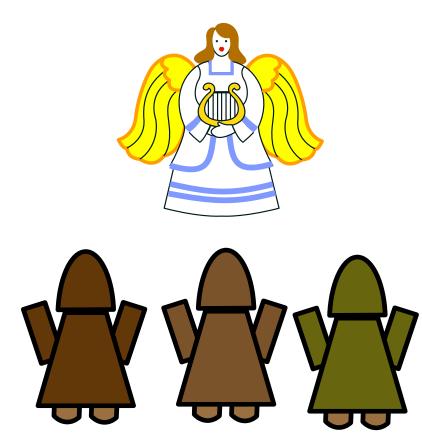






There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby. It was night, and they were looking after their sheep.

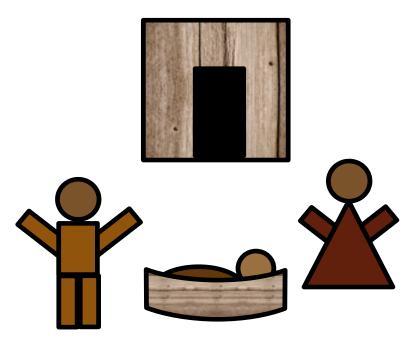
An angel of the Lord appeared to them. And the glory of the Lord shone around them. They were terrified.



But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy. It is for all the people.

Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you." He is Christ the Lord. Here is how you will know I am telling you the truth. You will find a baby wrapped in strips of cloth and lying in a manger."





Suddenly a large group of angels from heaven also appeared. They were praising God. They said,

"May glory be given to God in the highest heaven! And may peace be given to those he is pleased with on earth!" The angels left and went into heaven. Then the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem. Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and the baby. The baby was lying in the manger.