

The angel Gabriel went to Nazareth to talk to Mary who was engaged to Joseph.

The angel said, "Congratulations! You are very important.

"The LORD is with you.

"Don't be afraid, Mary. God is very happy with you.

"You have found favor with him.

"You are going to have a baby boy, and his name will be Jesus."

About this time, Caesar Augustus, the emperor, decreed that a census should be taken.

Everyone went to his own city to register.

Joseph went to Bethlehem with Mary, his espoused wife.

Mary was great with child.

When they were there, it came time for the baby to be born.

Mary gave birth to her firstborn, a son.

They named him Jesus.

She wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger...

...because there was no room for him in the inn.

There were some shepherds in the fields outside the village.

They were watching their sheep.

An angel of the LORD appeared to them and the glory of the LORD shone all around them. The shepherds were afraid.

The angel said, "Don't be afraid, because I bring you good news.

"Unto you is born this day in the City of David a savior, which is Christ the Lord.

"Here is a sign. You will find the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger."

Suddenly, the angel was joined by a whole lot of angels.

The angels praised God and said, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

When the angels left, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go see the baby."

They came and saw Mary and Joseph, and baby Jesus, who was lying in the manger.

After they had seen him, they told everyone they saw about baby Jesus.

Everyone that heard wondered about what the shepherds told them.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.