**Characters:**

**Narrator 1**

**Narrator 2**

**Narrator 3**

**Narrator 4**

**Angel Gabriel**

 **Mary**

 **Elizabeth**

 **Joseph**

 **Angel 1**

**Angel 2**

**Angel 3**

**Angel 4**

**Angel 5**

**Angel 6**

**Caesar Augustus**

 **Taxman**

**Innkeeper 1**

**Innkeeper 2**

**Shepherd 1**

**Shepherd 2**

**Shepherd 3**

**Shepherd 4**

**3 Wisemen – Gaspar**

**Balthasar**

**Melchior**

**Herod**

**Soldiers (4)**

**SCRIPT:**

**Narrator 1:** Over 2000 years ago, God’s people were waiting. They had been waiting for a long time for the Savior that God had promised to send. In a special corner of the world called Judea, there lived a young woman called Mary. She loved God and believed that one day he would send a Savior. One day the angel Gabriel appeared to her.

**Angel Gabriel:** Peace be with you! God has blessed you and is pleased with you.

**Mary:** Oh, I don´t know what you mean.

**Angel Gabriel:** Don’t be afraid, Mary. God has been very kind to you. You will become pregnant by the Holy Spirit and give birth to a baby boy and you will call him Jesus. He will be God’s own Son and his kingdom will never end.

**Mary:** I believe and trust in God. Let it happen as God chooses.

**Angel Gabriel:** Listen to me Mary, your cousin, Elizabeth who everyone thought was too old to have children, will have a baby boy whom God has chosen to prepare the way for Jesus. With God nothing is impossible.

**Mary:** I will go to see my dear cousin today.

**Narrator 1:** Mary said goodbye to her family and friends and went to visit her cousin Elizabeth and her husband Zechariah.

**Elizabeth:** Mary, I am very happy to see you. I knew that you would be chosen by God to be the mother of his Son. An angel told my husband, Zechariah, that I was going to have a baby that would prepare people to welcome your son, Jesus. My son´s name will be John.

**Mary:** Elizabeth, I have decided to stay here with you for a while.

**Elizabeth:** I am glad to have the mother of God in my home.

**Narrator 1:** So Mary stayed with Elizabeth about three months and then returned home to Nazareth. Meanwhile in Nazareth, Joseph was having doubts about marrying Mary.

**Joseph:** (thinking) I am worried. Mary is expecting a baby and we are not married yet. Maybe I shouldn`t marry her. I will talk to her when she returns.

**Narrator 1:** That night when Joseph was sleeping an Angel appeared in his dreams.

**Angel Gabriel:** Don’t be afraid to have Mary as your wife. Mary has been chosen by God to be the mother of his Son. When the baby is born you will call him Jesus, which means “Savior”, because he will save his people from their sins.

**Narrator 1:** When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel had told him to do and took Mary as his wife. At this time, the land of Judea where Mary and Joseph lived was part of the Roman Empire. Judea was ruled by Emperor Caesar Augustus.

**Caesar Augustus:** (talking to the taxman) I want to have a list of all the people in the empire, just to make sure they are paying their taxes.

**Taxman:** I will get the list as soon as possible.

**Caesar Augustus:** Also, tell everyone to return to the town where their families originally came from to be counted.

**Taxman:** Very well, Emperor.

**Narrator 2:** So Mary and Joseph travelled a long way from Nazareth to Bethlehem, because that was where Joseph’s family came from.

**Joseph:** Mary, we have to travel very slowly to be careful for the baby.

**Mary:** Thank you Joseph for being so kind with me. The baby will be born soon.

**Narrator 2:** It was late when they reached Bethlehem. They were tired and hungry, but the village was very crowded with people so they had problems finding somewhere to stay.

**Joseph:** Do you have a room available?

**Innkeeper 1:** Sorry, we have no room for you at our inn.

**Joseph:** Mary, there is no place for us. Many people came to register their names in the census.

**Mary:** Yes, and every house is full and every bed is taken in all of the Inns.

**Joseph:** We will try this one last place.

**Innkeeper 2:** I don’t have any room for you in my house, but you may stay in my stable.

**Joseph: (**talking to Mary) We will have to stay there, even though it is full of animals.

**Mary:** It doesn´t matter, we will do God`s will.

**Narrator 2:** And in this place Mary gave birth to Jesus, the Son of God. Jesus’ bed was the manger that the animals ate their hay from. A very bright great star shone over the manger and they were all covered in light. Meanwhile, outside Bethlehem, some shepherds looked after their sheep through the long night, when angels appeared.

**Angel 1:** Do not be afraid! We bring you Good News!

**Angel 2:** Today in Bethlehem a Savior has been born for you. You will find the baby lying in a manger.

**Narrator 2:** Then many more angels appeared, lighting up the sky. The shepherds heard them singing.

**Angels 3 & 4:** Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.

**Angels 5 & 6:** The Lord has come! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Narrator 2:** When the angels had gone, the shepherds talked.

**Shepherd 1:** Let’s go to Bethlehem to see what has happened.

**Shepherd 2:** Yes, let`s go at once.

**Narrator 3:** So the shepherds went to Bethlehem and found Mary and Joseph with the baby Jesus.

**Shepherd 3:** The baby is lying in a manger, just as the Angel said.

**Shepherd 4:** We have to tell everybody what has happened. Every people must know that God sent us his Son to be our Savior.

**Narrator 3:** Then the shepherds returned to their sheep, praising God for sending his Son to save his people. Far, far away in a distant land, 3 Kings - Gaspar, Balthasar, and Melchior - who were wise men, searched the sky.

**Gaspar:** Look at that bright star in the sky!

**Balthasar:** We know what that means.

**Melchior:** Yes, the old writings that we have read say that when Jesus is born, a bright star will appear in the sky.

**Gaspar:** Let´s follow the star.

**Balthasar:** Yes, we have to find the new king. The star will lead us on our way.

**Narrator 3:** The Wise Men followed the star for many days, traveling through strange lands. Their travels lead them to Jerusalem to the palace of wicked King Herod.

**All Three Wisemen:** Where is the newborn child who is to be king of the Jews? We come from the east to worship him.

**Narrator 3:** Herod was worried. He couldn’t let someone else take his place. He was the only king of this land. He would have to do something.

**Herod:** I am glad to meet you, Wise Men. I heard about the Baby King. Please, when you find him, let me know where he is, so that I can go and worship him.

**Narrator 3:** But Herod did not tell them that he really had an evil plan in mind to kill the new King.

**Wisemen:** Yes, we will, King Herod. Let us continue our journey, and as soon as we find him, we will let you know.

**Narrator 4:** The Wise men followed the star towards Bethlehem. The star stopped and shone directly down upon the place where Jesus was.

**Gaspar:** The star stopped!

**Melchior:** Let´s go in.

**Narrator 4:** The Wise Men entered and they found baby Jesus with Mary. They bowed down and worshipped him.

**Wise Men:** We brought gifts for our King.

**Melchior:** I brought him myrrh.

**Gaspar:** I brought him frankincense.

**Balthasar:** And I brought him gold.

**Narrator 4:** That night when the Wise Men were sleeping, an angel appeared to them in a dream.

**Angel Gabriel:** God sent me to warn you not to go back to Herod. He´s real plan is to kill Jesus. You have to take another way home.

**Narrator 4:** And the next morning when they woke up, they returned to their land in the East by a different way. When the Wise Men had gone, an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream.

**Angel Gabriel:** Joseph, take Jesus and Mary and go to Egypt. Herod wants to get rid of Jesus. I will let you know when it`s time to come back.

**Joseph:** (waking Mary) Mary, we have to leave this place tonight. We have to go to Egypt.

**Narrator 4:** Meanwhile, Herod was furious because the Wise Men tricked him.

**Herod:** Soldiers! Come here at once!

**Soldiers:** Yes, King Herod.

**Herod:** I order you to go to Bethlehem and to all of the surrounding areas, and get rid of all the boys aged two or younger. There is no other king in this land, but me!

**Soldiers:** We will do as you command King Herod.

**Narrator 4:** But Herod`s plan failed. Mary, Joseph and the baby were not in Bethlehem anymore, they were in Egypt. They lived in Egypt until it was safe for them to return home. When they came back, they went to live in the town of Nazareth. And that is where baby Jesus grew up.

**The End**