

2—"Fear not," said he for mighty dread
Had seized their troubled mind,
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
To you and all mankind.

3—"To you in David's town this day,
Is born of David's line,
The Saviour, who is Christ the Lord,
And this shall be the sign.

4—"The heavenly Babe you there shall
find

To human view displayed;
All meanly wrapped in swaddling bands,
And in a manger laid.

5—"All glory be to God on high!
And to the earth be peace,
Good will, henceforth, from heaven to men,
Begin and never cease."

Esther—"And did they find the Holy Babe
in Bethlehem?"

Rebecca—"Even as the angel had said,
they found him lying in a manger, wrapped
in swaddling clothes. They found him with
Mary his mother, asleep on the hay and Joseph
of Nazareth guarding the rude stable."

Esther—"Verily thou hast spoken of the
travellers with whom my father and I spoke
as we journeyed here. I am blest for I shared
with Mary—the mother of the Holy Babe,
the contents of my water pot."

Ruth—"I fear me thou dost speak of the
travellers that we turned away at eventide
for there was no room in the inn. I fear
me for the woe shall come upon my father's
house. Elizabeth, thinkest thou this Babe
born in Bethlehem's stable can be the Messiah?"

Elizabeth—"Verily hath the prophet spoken,
"Therefore the Lord himself shall give
you a sign; behold a virgin shall bear a son
and shall call His name Immanuel; For unto
us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and
the government shall be upon his shoulders;
and His name shall be called Wonderful,
Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting
Father, The Prince of Peace?"

Esther—"Hearken I hear music— heavenly
sweet!"

Rebecca—"It is an echo of the songs of

the hosts of angels who touched their harps
of gold and sang as they appeared to the
shepherds on the plain."

(A violin in another room plays softly several
verses of the carol, "It came upon the
Midnight clear," A chorus of voices sing
softly two verses)

Enter Orpha—"Peace be unto you. I am
of all maidens most blest. Thou dost remember,
Cousin Elizabeth, how I have been lame
from birth. My brother David who watched
with the shepherds and followed the guiding
star to the manger carried me to see the
Holy Babe. I held the young child in my
arms and as I drew him near my worshipping
heart, strength came into my limbs and I
leaped and walked as other maidens."

E—"Thou oh, Cousin Orpha, art indeed of
all maidens most blest, Thou hast worshipped
the King, thou hast seen the fulfillment of
prophecy—"and a little child shall lead them;
they that dwell in the land of the shadow of
death upon them hath the light shined."

Orpha—"Even as he lay sleeping in the
rude manger, wise men came out of the East.
They rejoiced with exceeding great joy and
fell down worshipping. They bore rich gifts
of gold, myrrh and frankincense which they
laid at the feet of the Holy Child."

Elizabeth—"I marvel that they did find
the child so speedily. How were they
guided?"

Orpha—"The Star which shone from the
East guided them all the way. But, maidens,
there cometh one—Mary, who Watched the
Wise Men from afar and she can best tell
the story of the Star."

Enter Mary, who sings as a solo a Star song
best suited to a young girl's voice.

Esther as Mary finishes her song of the
star—"I too would worship at the feet of
the Holy Child; but I have no gift to carry
Him."

Elizabeth—"And I would seek this new
born King. Dost thou think He will accept
my love, 'tis all that I have to offer?"

Mary—"Yea, maidens, our love will be as
precious to the Holy Babe as the treasures
of the Wise Men, if we but kneel at his feet
and pour out the adoration of our hearts."

Ruth—"My father's inn had no room for