

Good News of Great Joy

- A Christmas Worship Service

Summary:

The headlines show us just how good we are at life on our own. Sin results in chaos and fear and death. But don't be afraid. We bring you good news of great joy that is for all people! God has given us what is needed to overcome evil, sin, despair, sorrow and fear- even though we don't deserve His gift. He has given us Jesus! This service is a celebration of the hope and salvation that God sent to earth on Christmas. We can face the bad news of the world with a calm assuredness in God and with a peace that comes from knowing His name and trusting in Him. That is Good News!

Helpful Hints:

-We decorated with a lighted manger set on a small "stage" of pallets on the floor level. The band on stage was in a semi circle facing the manger. We arranged the congregation chairs in groups in a semi circle around the manger on the floor.

- We had each of the scripture readers (except for one or two who came on stage) scattered in the audience. Then an assigned person brought a wireless handheld microphone to each reader during the song before so they would be ready to read at their cue. This (along with the circle seating) really gave the feeling of unity in worship and that all people were part of it- not just those on stage.

-Narrators should memorize their parts if possible. Practice with them many times!

- We made a short presentation with ProPresenter as the introduction of the service after the first song. See script for details. You could also do this as a movie.

- Project the name of Jesus given in the narrator parts. Use the same background on screen for each time a name of Jesus is projected.
- Also project the **People's Response** at the appropriate time