

THE CHRISTMAS BANNER SYMBOLS

SCRIPT NUMBER ONE

Symbols: three stars

- Jo:** On this first Sunday of Advent we prepare for the birth of Jesus Christ. On each of the next four Sundays we will explain the symbols on our Christmas banner which was made by Jeanette Maerke. Today we are focusing on three stars – the Star of David, the Star of the East and the Star over Bethlehem.
- TJ:** “The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.”
- Elizabeth:** (As Elizabeth talks she unveils the first of three stars to the left third of the banner - - the six pointed Star of David)
On our Christmas Banner you see a six-pointed Star of David symbolizing the Holy Family.
- Autumn:** Mary, the mother of Jesus, gave us the Bethlehem babe to bring light into the world.
- Josh:** (As Josh speaks unveils the second of three stars to the left third of the banner - - the five pointed star.)
On our Christmas Banner we see the star that was seen in the East by the wise men who came from far away. Let it represent the promise of the Holy Birth.
- William:** (As William speaks he unveils the third of three stars to the left third of the banner - - the elongated 3- pointed star)
On our Christmas Banner we see the star over Bethlehem May it symbolize the good news of great joy for all.

**Song “Do You Hear What I Hear?” (I need Lambs, Shepherds ,
Mighty King and a Joseph and Mary holding Baby costumes)**

Said the night wind to the little lamb
Do you see what I see
Way up in the sky little lamb
Do you see what I see
A star, a star
Dancing in the night
With a tail as big as a kite
With a tail as big as a kite

Said the little lamb to the shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear
Ringing through the sky shepherd boy
Do you hear what I hear
A song, a song
High above the tree
With a voice as big as the sea
With a voice as big as the sea

Said the shepherd boy to the mighty king
Do you know what I know
In your palace wall mighty king
Do you know what I know
A child, a child
Shivers in the cold
Let us bring him silver and gold
Let us bring him silver and gold

Said the king to the people everywhere
Listen to what I say
Pray for peace people everywhere
Listen to what I say
The child, the child
Sleeping in the night
He will bring us goodness and light
He will bring us goodness and light

SCRIPT NUMBER TWO

SYMBOL: The City of Bethlehem (All dressed as Angels)

Jo: Last Sunday we began our celebration of Advent with the presentation of a Christmas Banner. A new symbol will be explained each week.

T.J: The first Sunday of Advent we explained the 3 stars on the banner. Today we are talking about Bethlehem.

William P: In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. And all went to be counted. And Joseph also went to the City of David, which is called Bethlehem.

Josh: (As Josh speaks he applies the symbol of Bethlehem to the left center section of the banner.)
On our Christmas Banner we see the symbol of Bethlehem, nestled among rolling hills.

Autumn: May it represent our own city which, like Bethlehem, awaits the coming of Gods gift to all persons.

Elizabeth: “prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

William I: Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill made low;

Jo: And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all shall see it together.

Song “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Oh little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting light
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

Oh holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell
O come to us, abide with us, our lord Emanuel.

SCRIPT NUMBER THREE

SYMBOL: Joseph and Mary traveling to Bethlehem (Costumes for Joseph and Mary, Donkey, Angel/ William I Drummer Boy)

Jo: For the past two Sundays we have been celebrating Advent with the new symbols on our church's Christmas Banner. Today we celebrate Mary and Joseph.

William P: The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee, to a young girl whose name was Mary. And the angel came to her and said

Autum: 'Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you!'

William I: But Mary was greatly troubled.
And the angel said to her,

Autumn: 'Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold you will have a child and you shall call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.'

Josh: "And all went to be enrolled, each to his own city. And Joseph went up to the City of David, which is called Bethlehem, with Mary, who was with child."

Drew: (As Drew speaks he unveils the Joseph & Mary symbol to the banner)
On our Christmas Banner you see the symbol of Joseph and Mary who traveled many difficult miles of rocky roads to Bethlehem.

Elizabeth: Mary only had a donkey to carry her.

Jake and Drew:
Let this symbol represent the humble and unpredictable ways God comes into our lives.

Song “The Little Drummer Boy”

Come they told me
Pa rum pum pum pum
A new born King to see,
Pa rum pum pum pum
Our finest gifts we bring
Pa rum pum pum pum
To lay before the King
Pa rum pum pum pum
Rum pum pum pum
Rum pum pum pum
So to honor Him
Pa rum pum pum pum,
When we come.

Little Baby
Pa rum pum pum pum
I am a poor boy too,
Pa rum pum pum pum
I have no gift to bring
Pa rum pum pum pum
That's fit to give our King
Pa rum pum pum pum
Rum pum pum pum
Rum pum pum pum
Shall I play for you!
Pa rum pum pum
On my drum.

Mary nodded
Pa rum pum pum pum
The ox and lamb kept time
Pa rum pum pum pum

SCRIPT NUMBER FOUR

SYMBOL: The Baby Jesus

- Jo:** For the past three Sundays we have been celebrating Advent by explaining our Christmas Banner. We have explained the symbols representing events leading to the birth of Jesus.
- Elizabeth:** We explained the star over Bethlehem, the star of the East, and the star of David.
- TJ:** We told you about the city of Bethlehem, the birthplace of our Lord and Savior.
- Autumn:** We spoke to you about Mary and Joseph who came to Bethlehem humbly on a donkey.
- All:** Today we celebrate the birth of Jesus.
- William P:** “And while they were there in Bethlehem, she gave birth to her first born son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for him in the inn.”
- William I:** For unto us a child is born.
- Jo:** And the government will be upon his shoulder,
And his name will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting
Father, Prince of Peace.”
- Jake:** (As Jake speaks he unveils the symbol representing the Baby Jesus)
On our Christmas Banner you will see the symbol of the Holy Baby who was born.
- Drew:** May the coming of Jesus bring peace on earth, joy and goodwill to all.

**Song “Away In A Manger”/ Costumes full Nativity (Mary/ Joseph,
Shepherds, Angels)**

Away in a manger,
No crib for His bed,
The little Lord Jesus
Laid down His sweet head;
The stars in the heavens
Looked down where He lay,
The little Lord Jesus
Asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing,
The poor Baby wakes,
But little Lord Jesus,
No crying He makes.
I love Thee, Lord Jesus;
Look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle
Till morning is nigh.