

Round 1:

A is for an angel, Gabriel, who began the story with a greeting:

“Good evening! You’re beautiful with God’s beauty,
Beautiful inside and out! God be with you!”

B is for Bethlehem, where our story takes place. People traveled from far and wide to arrive in the city; it was a very busy place.

C is for a census (that’s a counting of all the people) the reason so many people filled the city of Bethlehem.

D is for the donkey that carried a family on their long journey to Bethlehem to be counted.

E is for exhausted, that’s how everyone felt when they arrived – tired from all the travelling.

F is for family: Mary and Joseph and their new baby Jesus, who was born that night in Bethlehem.

Carol

Round 2:

G is for the Good News about to be shared with all the earth. This is what was said:

Scripture Reading: There were shepherders camping in the neighborhood. They had set night watches over their sheep. Suddenly, God's angel stood among them and God's glory blazed around them. They were terrified. The

angel said, "Don't be afraid. I'm here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide: A Savior has just been born in David's town, a Savior who is Messiah and Master. This is what you're to look for: a baby wrapped in a blanket and lying in a manger." At once the angel was joined by a huge angelic choir singing God's praises: Glory to God in the heavenly heights, Peace to all men and women on earth who please him. As the angel choir withdrew into heaven, the shepherders talked it over. "Let's get over to Bethlehem as fast as we can and see for ourselves what God has revealed to us." They left, running, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger.

H is for herds, all the animals that were present in the stable, and the flocks of sheep in the field with the shepherds when they heard the good news.

I is for our imaginations, stirred by this story!

Carol

Round 3:

J is for joy the excitement and happiness that a new baby, and now, this special night brings.

K is for kindness, shown by the innkeeper that night, allowing a tired family to stay in the stable when there was no room in the inn.

L is for the love we share with one another all through the year and especially at Christmas.

M is for the manger, it is usually used to hold food for animals, but this time it held the baby because he had no crib.

Carol

Round 4:

N is for Noel, another word for Christmas. It means new birth, that's what happened in our story, and it happens every year.

O is for offering, there were many gifts for the baby; we even have some to share now! With joy, let us share in our tithes and our offerings

Offertory: What Child is This?

Prayer of Dedication

Round 5:

P is for prayer and praise and pondering, all different ways people reacted the amazing thing that happened. We pray and praise and ponder together:

Prayers of the People

Q is for quiet, the deep peace that Christmas brings – knowing that God is with us.

R is for revelation, God showing us who God is (in a little baby born one night)

S is for one special star that shone bright in the night showing wise ones the way to Jesus.

Carol

Round 6:

T is for trust, the confidence we have in God.

U is for unity, all different people brought together tonight to celebrate God's love!

V is for vulnerable, a little child needs to be cared for, protected—that's our job.

W is for wonder— our amazement at the beauty of how much God loves us.

Carol

Round 7:

X is for Xmas, the x is actually the symbol for Christ – it is the first letter of the Greek word.

Y is for You! here to celebrate and worship.

Z is for zeal, the passion with which we share the Good News and God's love, tonight.

Carol