

SIMEON (started – then reads in wonder)

For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given; and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of His government and of peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness even for evermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 9: 6 – 7

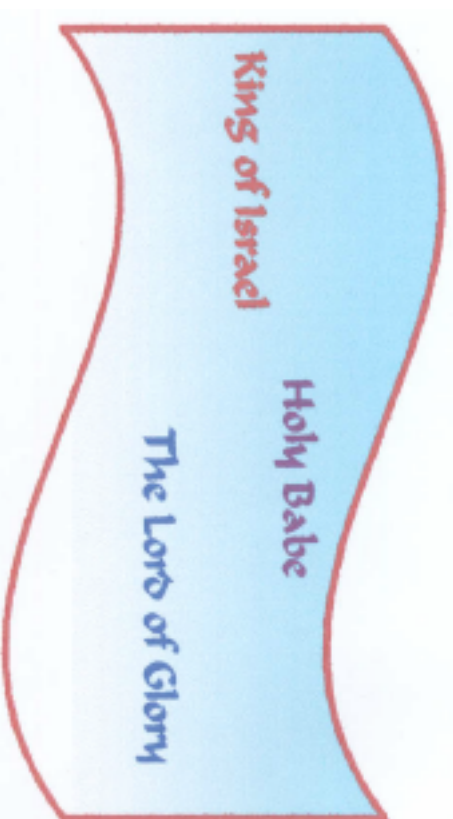
ANGEL (to Anna entering next)

Read the Banner!

Anna! Read the writing, and do not be afraid,
Read aloud the shining letters, (the angel pointing with his hand)
Read the titles of God's Son by a human mother nursed.
Announce God's secret kept for ages and you will understand
The glory of the message on this Banner here displayed.'

ANNA (reads in great wonder)

'Seed of the woman, in humble stable born,
Son of God all cradled in straw,
In Bethlehem's manger – the Holy Babe,
The Lord of Glory worshipped with awe.



SIMEON

But what child is this
Born King of kings and Lord of lords,
With the light of God's favour shining upon -
His Only Begotten Son,
The Son of the Most High?'

ANNA

Yes! What Child is this
Born King of kings and Lord of lords,
God's Anointed One, the Messiah,
Named Emmanuel – for God is with us?'

ANGEL

The only Saviour, Who will be called – Jesus!
Yes! He is the Son of the Most High
And the Good Shepherd of the sheep;
He is the Prince of Peace to end all strife,
For this Child is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

'Read the Banner! Simeon and Anna,
Read on, more and more and do not be afraid,
Read together the wondrous names of Jesus;
God's secret kept for ages and you will understand,
The glory of the message on this Banner here displayed.'

NARRATOR

So Simeon and Anna together,
Read the shining writing in that sacred place,
All those wondrous names of Jesus till Mary and Joseph came
Presenting the newborn Christ Child, full of glory and of grace.

