



7/17

# Christmas Means Jesus

Unison voices and piano

CHRISTMAS  
Lesson plan - pages 46-47

Words and music by  
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)

Sweetly ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 112$ )

PIANO *mf*

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a 3/4 time signature. It begins with a half note chord (F2, A2, C3) followed by a series of chords and moving lines. The left hand starts with a bass clef and a 3/4 time signature, playing a simple accompaniment of quarter notes.

5 UNISON VOICES *mf*

Christ - mas means an - gels. Christ - mas means Beth - le - hem. Christ - mas means

The first line of the song features unison voices and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The piano accompaniment is on two staves (treble and bass clefs). The lyrics are: "Christ - mas means an - gels. Christ - mas means Beth - le - hem. Christ - mas means".

10

shep - herds, a rough cat - tle stall. Christ - mas means giv - ing.

The second line of the song continues the unison voices and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The piano accompaniment is on two staves (treble and bass clefs). The lyrics are: "shep - herds, a rough cat - tle stall. Christ - mas means giv - ing."

\* "Away In a Manger" by James R. Murray, 1887

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## ITEMS YOU NEED:

- \_\_\_ CD player
- \_\_\_ Enhanced StudioTrax CD
- \_\_\_ Bible
- \_\_\_ Round plastic tablecloth (for floor circle)
- \_\_\_ PDF song chart (found on enhanced StudioTrax CD)
- \_\_\_ Masking tape
- \_\_\_ Wrapped gift box with slot cut in top
- \_\_\_ Bag of chocolate sandwich cookies
- \_\_\_ Note cards or ¼ sheets of construction paper
- \_\_\_ Marker board or large sheet of paper
- \_\_\_ Glue
- \_\_\_ \*Pictures: angel, Bethlehem (ancient city), shepherds, stable, gift, smiling face, baby Jesus

## PREPARATION:

- Gather the \*pictures (download, cut out, or have children draw).
- Glue one \*picture to a notecard.
- Make sure the cards fit easily thru the slot in top of wrapped gift box.

## Rehearsal 1

### 1 Read the Christmas story.

- Play a steady beat on the drum in 3/4 meter. (emphasize beat 1: 1-2-3, 1-2-3)
- Lead the children to say, "Christ-mas means Je-sus." (rhythm of meas. 17-18)
- Read Luke 2:8-14. Stop after verse 10, 12, and 14 and speak, "Christ-mas means Je-sus."

- Ask the children to recall characters found in the story: shepherds, angels.

### 2 Listen for "Christmas means Jesus."

- Teach the sign language for "Jesus." (right "tall" finger touches palm of left hand - then - left "tall" finger touches palm of right hand)
- Play CD, track 7.
- Instruct children to sign "Jesus" when they hear, "Christmas means Jesus."
- Ask these questions:
  - How many times did you hear, "Christmas means Jesus?" (5)
  - Why do you think it is important to know the real meaning of Christmas?"

### 3 Echo sing meas. 17-20 by 2 meas. phrases.

## Rehearsal 2

### 4 Learn the text, meas. 5-20.

- Place the tablecloth on the floor. Invite children to sit around the edge.
- Place the picture notecards in the circle center, facing up.
- Read each phrase, meas. 5-20.
- Let a volunteer choose the card that matches each phrase.
- Sing meas. 5-20. Have the 4 children with the pictures stand as their picture is sung.

### 5 Learn the melody, meas. 5-20.

- Hum or /oo meas. 5-20. Identify this as the melody.
- Say, "The melody of this song is like a chocolate sandwich cookie with icing between the chocolate cookies. You've just sung one of the cookies!"
- Draw the melody in the air, on a board, or paper.
- Sing meas. 5-20 again. Trace the melodic movement as you sing.



9/19

# Rejoice, It's Easter Day!

Unison voices and piano with optional rhythm instruments

EASTER  
Lesson plan - pages 50-51

Words and music by  
JEFF REEVES (ASCAP)

Happily! (♩ = ca. 80-82) *mf*

UNISON VOICES

1. Re -

PIANO *mf*

5 *Sing only verse 1 on D.S.*

joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, it's Eas - ter day! With joy - ful hearts we  
joice! Re - joice! Re - joice, it's Eas - ter day! Oh, hur - ry now, let's

10 *Last time to Coda*

glad - ly sing prais - es to our ris - en King. Re - joice, it's Eas - ter  
all go tell Christ is ris - en; all is well! Re - joice, it's Eas - ter

*Last time to Coda*

\* Optional handclaps, rhythm sticks, claves or triangle.

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