THE WORD BECAME FLESH

A Christmas Drama for a Small Church School (but even big ones can use it...)  
by the Rev. Dr. Lonnie S. Atkinson

This drama is based on the prologue of John’s Gospel, John 1:1-14. Music used in this version are carols and hymns from The Book of Praise, 1997. However, if you would like more contemporary music, people are encouraged to use what they like.

Adapting this drama according to your size

For small groups:
The children’s chorus should have three children. If you only have two or one, invite an adult to take one of the voices. Towards the end of the drama, Mary, Joseph and shepherds appear. If you only have a few children who are also the chorus and speaking parts, they can simply drape shawls around themselves or pick up a shepherd’s crook.

For larger groups:
Of course, if you have more than three children, you may include lots of children in the children’s chorus. You may also involve more children in the roles of Mary, Joseph and the shepherds toward the end of the drama.

Congregational song: People in Darkness, 124

Children’s Chorus of Three Children (shouting)
“It’s a girl.” “It’s a boy.”
“It’s a boy.” “It’s a girl.”

Narrator
It’s all about life. How it starts... Where it comes from... When it begins... Christmas is all about life.

Three Children
1. Our cat had six kittens
2. Our dog had twelve puppies
3. My mom had twins; and my dad had a cow!

**Narrator**
According to John the very first thing that was born was the “Word”.

**Children’s Chorus**
The Word?

**Narrator**
The Word. But it’s kinda’ confusing so listen closely...
In the beginning was the Word
And the Word was with God
And the Word was God
The Word with God in the beginning...

**Children’s Chorus** (repeat as a choral chant)
In the beginning was the Word
And the Word was with God
And the Word was God
He was with God in the beginning...

**Three Children**
1. Wow! That’s amazing!
2. That’s confusing!
3. That’s a mystery!

**Chorus/Congregational Song:** I Wonder And I Wander, 142

**Narrator**
Now let’s get back to the book of John and the Word of God.

**Child 1**
Is the mystery going to become clearer?

**Narrator**
Well, it continues. “Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made.”
Child 2
Wait a minute. Everything that was or will be made is made because Jesus wanted it to be made.

Child 3
Does that include me?

Narrator
Everything and everybody!

Child 1
Are you sure that includes my brother?

Children’s Chorus
Everybody!!!

Narrator
And as importantly nothing was made without him. Nothing in all of creation was made without Jesus.

Congregational Song: ‘Twas In The Moon Of Wintertime, 144

Narrator
The story continues.

Children’s Chorus
There’s more?

Narrator
Lots more. “In him was life and that life was the light of all.”

Child 1
Jesus is a heartbeat and a light bulb, too.

Child 2
Get serious. This is important stuff.
Child 3
I know but sometimes it makes me laugh to think how amazing this all is.

Chorus/Congregational Song: Joy To The World, 153, vs. 1 & 2

Children’s Chorus (Chant)
Jesus is the Life. Jesus is the Light.

Narrator
If we believe Jesus is the Life and the Light and it is all connected, imagine how marvellous life will be.

Child 1
Wow! But how come there are still so many bad things that happen and people seem to be so sad so often?

Narrator
What a great question! The writer of John knew we would ask that one too. He next writes, “The light shines in the darkness but the darkness has not understood it.”
I think he meant that Jesus is there even when the bad stuff happens but sometimes we just can’t see past the darkness.

Child 2
But the light keeps shining?

Narrator
Yes, the light keeps shining.

Chorus/Congregational Song: The People That In Darkness, 171, vs. 1 & 2

Child 3
Is that the end of the story?

Narrator
No. Our greatest excitement as Christians at Christmas and all year long is found in John 1 verse 14, “The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.”
(Mary and Joseph with shepherds and angels gather to form a manger scene.)

Child 1
So God really came to live with us? We are to believe that Jesus was God and yet was born like every one of us?

Narrator
Yes. We call that the Incarnation.

Child 2
Sounds like a flower!

Child 3
I’m still not sure I get it.
Words becoming flesh...how does that work?

Children’s Chorus
It’s a miracle!
It’s confusing!
It’s a mystery!

Child 1
It’s the wonder of Christmas!!!

Congregational Song: Silent Night, 154

Narrator
Oh, the story is not complete yet. In John we hear “We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

Child 1
Can you imagine seeing the glory of God?

Child 2
Imagine God’s glory in the birth of a baby.

Child 3
Can you imagine?
**Narrator**
Can you move from the imagining to believing? This Christmas, open yourself to receive the glory of the One and Only Son of God. Every time you sing a Gloria, think of the Word becoming flesh.

**Child 1**
And the light shining in the darkness.

**Child 2**
And the light being one.

**Child 3**
It’s a miracle!
It’s a mystery!
It’s the wonder of Christmas.

**Congregational Song:** Away in a Manger, 149