

## ALTERNATE OPENING SCENES (1A & 1B)

For this musical to be a Christmas presentation, use SCENE 1A.

For a presentation for any time of the year, use SCENE 1B,  
and simply have an alternative (eg. large board) for the gifts to be pinned on or wrap some odd shaped boxes in bright paper, label each one clearly and make a pyramid of them as the show progresses.

### SCENE 1A

**BOBBY:** Boy, I can hardly wait to open my presents tomorrow!

**JOEY:** Me too!

**KIM:** I wonder why we give gifts at Christmas time.

**JOEY:** What do you mean?... We've always had them.

**BOBBY:** Well, it sure makes it fun!

**KIM:** Yeah, I know, but why do we have presents?

**HOLY SPIRIT:** Remember Jesus.

**JOEY:** *(Looks over towards but not at the Holy Spirit as if he heard something, then back to the others)* Jesus was a gift.

**BOBBY:** Huh?

**JOEY:** Well, I mean, Jesus was God's gift to us.

**KIM:** That's it! ... And He brought lots of gifts with Him too!

**JOEY:** He did?

**BOBBY:** Like what?

**KIM:** Well, for one thing, on the night He was born, the angel said that the news of Jesus would bring great **JOY**.

**BOBBY:** *(Almost making the connection)* Joy...

**JOEY:** Yeah the shepherds were pretty blown away by the news and they didn't waste any time going to find the stable where Jesus was.

**BOBBY:** *(Suddenly realising)* That's right! Everyone had been waiting for the Saviour God has promised!

### SONG CUE: GREAT JOY (track 2)

*During intro. Performing group moves onto stage.*

*Stage lights up, especially "sky". An angel appears and sings the first words of the angel in the song ("Do not be afraid ... to ... blanket tight").*

### SCENE 1B

**CURTAIN OPENS:** *Three young people are excitedly preparing a surprise party for a friend. They can be on the floor of a lounge room or around a party table etc. OR try the shadow suggestion from SCENE 1A.*

**BOBBY:** Boy, I can hardly wait to see Kerry's face!

**JOEY:** Yeah, this is going to be great! When she sees everybody, she will freak!

**KIM:** *(Sticking a gift tag on a wrapped present)* I hope she likes my present.

**BOBBY:** Of course she will!

**KIM:** It's a good feeling when you give someone a gift isn't it?

**JOEY:** *(Thoughtfully)* Actually that is so true. I wonder why?

**HOLY SPIRIT:** The image of God.

**KIM:**) Maybe it's because we're made in the image of God.

**BOBBY & JOEY:** *(Suddenly looking at Kim)* Pardon?

**KIM:** Well, you know...we're created to be like Him and He likes to give gifts.

**JOEY:** He does?

**BOBBY:** Yeah, He gives us everything we need!

**JOEY:** Mm. So He does...

**HOLY SPIRIT:** What about Jesus?

**JOEY:** *(Looks over towards but not at the Holy Spirit as if he heard something, then back to the others)* Hey! And He gave Jesus. Where would we have been without that gift?

**KIM:** I'll say! And Jesus brought lots of gifts with Him too.

**JOEY:** He did?

**BOBBY:** Like what?

**KIM:** Well, for one thing, on the night He was born, the angel said that the news of Jesus would bring great **JOY**.

**BOBBY:** *(Almost making the connection)* Joy...

**JOEY:** Yeah the shepherds were pretty blown away by the news and they didn't waste any time going to find the stable where Jesus was.

**BOBBY:** *(Suddenly realising)* That's right! Everyone has been waiting for the Saviour God had promised.

## **SONG CUE: GREAT JOY (track 2)**

### **SONG: GREAT JOY**

And the angel said, "Do not be afraid!  
I bring you news of great joy!  
It's the news ev'ryone has been longing to hear  
The birth of a baby boy.  
The Promised One, the Saviour and Lord

Has been born in this town tonight.  
You'll find Him lying in a manger bed  
Wrapped up in a blanket tight."

**CHORUS:**

Great joy! Great joy!  
When the world heard the news of its Lord!  
Great joy! Great joy!  
When the world heard the news of its Lord!

And Jesus said, "If you do what I say,  
You will live ev'ryday in my love.  
And the joy that I bring will be filling your hearts  
It's a gift that comes from above.

**CHORUS**

So even when things are getting you down,  
The Lord will be making you strong.  
Just knowing that He is right by your side  
Will have you singing this song:

**CHORUS**

**REPEAT CHORUS**

© 1997 Sharny Russell-van Herp (*Group moves off-stage*)

**FIRST ANGEL APPEARANCE & GIFT PLACEMENT**

*One of the angels (who may have been incorporated, even sang, in the song – "And the Angel said,....") goes and places the gift of "JOY" on the Christmas tree.*

*The stage is now plunged into darkness and the house lit up.*

**SCENE 2**

**JOEY:** But why were they so excited? What would have been the difference if Jesus hadn't come at all?

**HOLY SPIRIT:** Good question.

**BOBBY:** Well, He came to save us!

**JOEY:** Save us? From what?

**KIM:** Ourselves mainly! We're so naturally selfish. And the devil, always trying to trick us into thinking wrong! God wanted us to live forever but because the first people in the world sinned, we are born sinners too.

**JOEY:** I knew that!

**BOBBY:** Yes, (reflecting on his/her own behaviour at times) we're not very good at being good.

**KIM:** We can't be in relationship with God in that state, so He did something about it! Himself.

**JOEY:** So what's it all mean?

**HOLY SPIRIT:** Let me help you understand.

*Bobby and Joey both look around in the Holy Spirit's direction, scratch their heads, sure they heard something, but give up and resume conversation.*

**BOBBY:** Jesus took our place! – I remember hearing that!

**KIM:** He's the only One who could. Because He is the Son of God.

### **SONG CUE: NO OTHER NAME (track 3)**

*Stage becomes definitely “mysterious” (congruent with the ethereal musical accompaniment) as performing group moves on, forming into three smaller groups (song is divided among groups with whole group singing the chorus each time)*

### **SONG : NO OTHER NAME**

When time began  
We were one with our God  
In the image of Him  
Good and holy.  
Then the devil came in  
Said we'd be just like God  
If we did as we pleased  
Disobeyed Him.

God's punishment came  
For He is holy and just  
A life of trouble and pain  
Death forever!  
But He so loved our souls  
That He gave up His son  
Jesus paid the full price  
To redeem us.

#### ***CHORUS:***

No other name under Heaven  
Oh no other name can we call  
No other name  
Can mean the same  
When we cry out for the life of our soul.  
No other name under Heaven  
Since we were lost in the fall  
No other name  
Can mean the same  
Oh no other name can we call

He took on Himself  
All our trouble and pain  
And He died in our place  
Won the battle  
Then He rose up again  
Took His place on the throne  
And if we will believe  
We are His forever!

## ANGEL ANTICS - SALVATION

### MUSIC CUE: ANGEL ANTICS - SALVATION (track 4)

*Two angels (unlikely-looking angels at that!) walk on sideways and somewhat nervously carrying the gift of “**SALVATION**” for the audience to see. They hang it on the tree, check that it’s okay, and then run off quickly,*

*Stage is darkened. House is lit.*

### SCENE 3

**BOBBY:** *(Dawning)* That’s what they mean when they say, “Jesus paid the price”. He took our punishment.

**JOEY:** *(Very thoughtful)* He died didn’t He...on a cross *(then suddenly looking worried)*.

**KIM:** What’s the matter?

**JOEY:** Oh, I was just thinking, I was really mean to Jenny today. I feel awful now. God must be so angry with me.

**HOLY SPIRIT:** So, let’s get this sorted out right away.

**KIM:** Well, just talk to God about it. He understands. That’s what Jesus’ blood has done. It has washed away our sin! It’s gone as far as God is concerned.

**JOEY:** Awesome!

**BOBBY:** But try not to do it again because I reckon it makes Him sad...

**HOLY SPIRIT:** *(Clears throat in direction of Bobby)*

**BOBBY:** You know, my dumb brother accidentally broke a thing I made at school the other day and I got really mad with him. I guess I should have forgiven him.

**HOLY SPIRIT:** That’s right. Good thinking!

**BOBBY:** *(Turning to Joey)* Did you say something?

**JOEY:** Nope! *(Bobby still looks puzzled)*

**KIM:** By the way, Jesus rose up from being dead. He’s alive now!

### SONG CUE: HE FORGIVES ME (track 5)