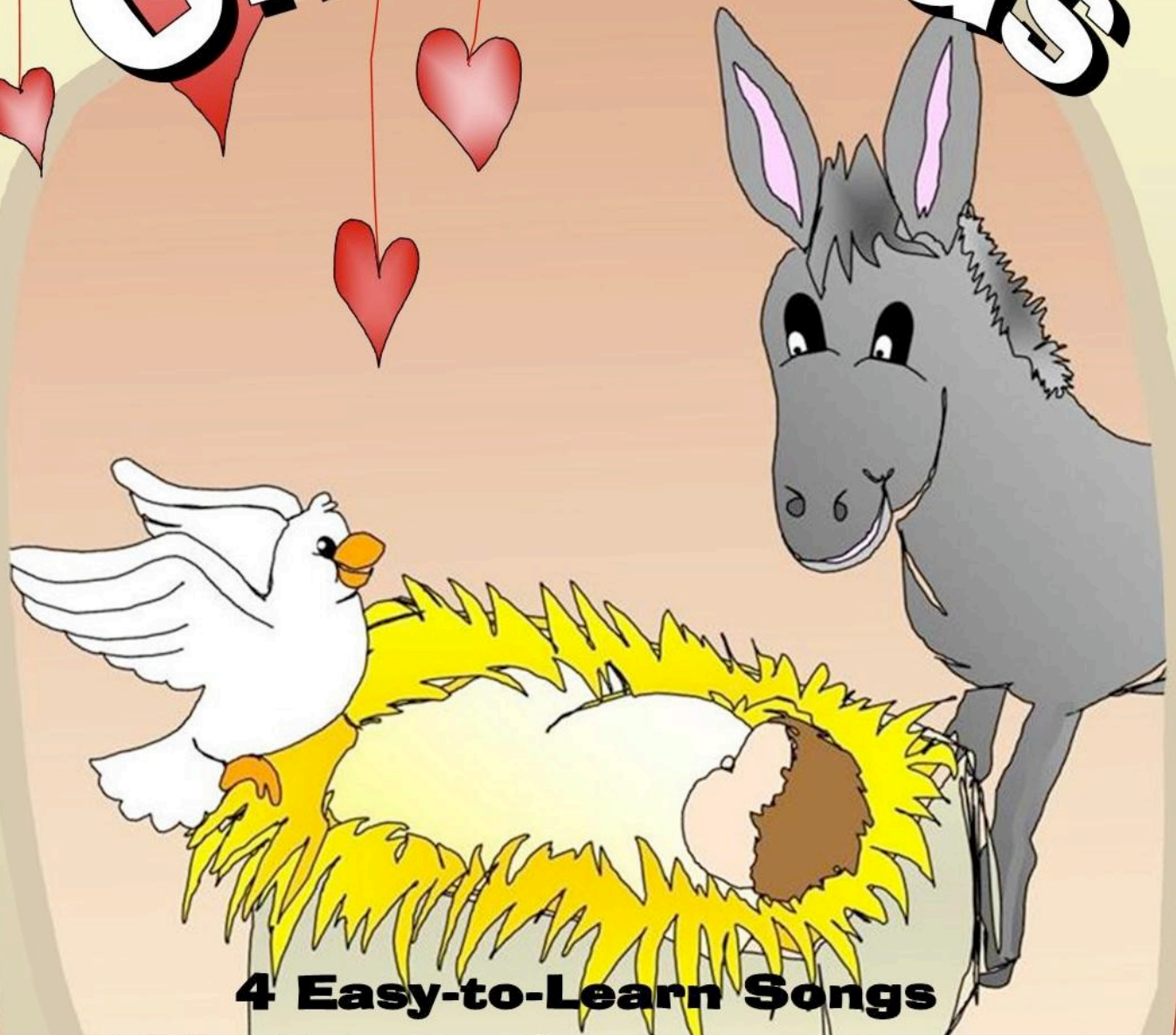


A Program for Preschoolers

Love Came Down at Christmas



4 Easy-to-Learn Songs
3 Flexible Performance Options

Created by Ramelle DeVries
Arranged by John DeVries

Geetings,

I've had the opportunity to work with preschoolers, but not on a regular basis. My admiration goes out to all who faithfully work with these littlest ones. They are certainly a busy bunch and I wish I could bottle some of their energy for my own personal use.

Love Came Down at Christmas is designed to give you a simple program for your precious little ones. As I looked through a collection of Christmas carols, I noticed the songs **The Friendly Beasts** and **Love Came Down at Christmas**. I'd never heard either carol before, but I learned that **Love Came Down at Christmas** was a poem, and over the years has been set to different tunes. In our collection here, we chose to use the "traditional Irish melody." With the addition of a very familiar, **Away In a Manger**, and a new song, **Merry Christmas, Sing It Loud!**, we present to you a mini program for your mini people.

You will find this program to be on a level easily teachable to your children. We've included guitar parts and optional flute parts for each song which you may find helpful.

Feel free to copy what you need for your group. You have our permission to do so. We do ask that you tell others about our site for their own copies of the program.

Truly, love came down at Christmas!

Ramelle

(and John DeVries)

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Love Came Down at Christmas—Overture

CD: 1 Split: 1

Arr. John DeVries

Moderately ♩ = 94

1 *D*^{6/9} A G D

5 **A** D Bmi F#mi Emi⁷ D/F# G² A

9 D Bmi F#mi Emi⁷ A G D

B a little faster ♩ = 110

13 C Emi⁷ F G⁷ C Emi⁷ Bb G⁷

Love Came Down at Christmas—Overture

17

Ami G F C²/E C/E Dmi⁷ C/E Emi⁷ A⁷

Musical notation for measures 17-20. The piece is in 4/4 time. Measure 17 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The bass line consists of quarter notes: C2, E2, G2, C3. The treble line has a dotted quarter note chord (Ami) followed by eighth notes G and F. Measure 18 has a treble line with eighth notes G and F, and a bass line with quarter notes C2, E2, G2, C3. Measure 19 has a treble line with eighth notes G and F, and a bass line with quarter notes C2, E2, G2, C3. Measure 20 has a treble line with a dotted quarter note chord (A7) and an eighth note G, and a bass line with quarter notes C2, E2, G2, C3.

21

Dmi⁷ C/E G⁷ C C⁶/₉ G⁷ C

Musical notation for measures 21-24. Measure 21 has a treble line with a dotted quarter note chord (Dmi7) and an eighth note C, and a bass line with quarter notes C2, E2, G2, C3. Measure 22 has a treble line with eighth notes G and F, and a bass line with quarter notes C2, E2, G2, C3. Measure 23 has a treble line with a dotted quarter note chord (G7) and an eighth note G, and a bass line with quarter notes C2, E2, G2, C3. Measure 24 has a treble line with a dotted quarter note chord (C) and an eighth note G, and a bass line with quarter notes C2, E2, G2, C3.

Split: 1**Overture CD: 1****Scene 1 CD: 2**

Donkey: (Sleeping and talking gibberish in his sleep ending with...)
 Oh...I'm just a donkey, I'm nothing special!
 (More tossing and turning. Dove swoops in and sits by donkey. Pecks at him to get his attention.)

Dove: Hey Donkey. Mind if I show you something?

Donkey: (Standing up, looking around, shaking himself.)
 Who are you?

Dove: I'm your guide for the evening.

Donkey: Why? Where am I going?

Dove: First, I'm going to show you what will happen a few days from now.

Split: 20

(Dove snaps fingers. This will be the direction each time the scene changes. Use this as a starting point. Add fluttering of wings, maybe turning around in a waddling fashion—whatever is done here should be done each time.)

Donkey: (Donkey blinks, and looks around) What just happened?
 Where are we?

Dove: We're in Bethlehem.

Donkey: In a stable. I can see that. But why is there a baby in that manger?

Dove: You carried his mother here safely from Nazareth and the baby was born here today. He's here in the stable because there was no room for them at the inn.

Split: 2**Song 1: The Friendly Beasts CD:3**

The Friendly Beasts

CD: 3 Split: 2

Moderately ♩ = 130

TRADITIONAL
Arr. John DeVries

1 A

1. Je - sus our broth - er,
2. "I," said the don - key,
3. "I," said the cow all

D A D G A D

7

kind and good, Was hum - bly born in a sta - ble
shag - gy and brown, "I car - ried His moth - er up - hill and
white and red, "I gave him my man - ger for His

A D G A

12

crude, And fi
down; I
bed, I g

D

The Friendly Beasts

EDIT--->

23

3.

B

4. "I," said the sheep with curl - y
5. "I," said the dove from raf - ters

EDIT--->

The Friendly Beasts

EDIT--->

43 2. C

6. Thus eve - ry beast was glad to tell In the

The Friendly Beasts

49

sta - ble dark where all was well Of the gift he

D G A D

54

gave Em - man - u - el, The gift he gave Em -

G A D Bmi

59

man - u - el, The gift he gave Em - man - u -

A7 D Bmi A7

64

el.

D G F#mi Emi D

rit.

Scene 2 CD: 4**Split: 20**

Donkey: There IS life outside of Nazareth. That makes me feel useful. Thanks for bringing me here.

Dove: We aren't through yet.
(**Snaps fingers.** Calmly, motions for Donkey to look toward the sky) Look.

Donkey: The stars seem like they are getting brighter! (Turns his head as though it is too bright to look—then turns back unable to look away.) That's not a star—it's...

Dove: It's an angel. A special messenger sent by God to tell those shepherds that His Son, Jesus was born here today. The people have been waiting a long time for the Messiah to come.

Donkey: (Surprised) The SON of GOD was born today! Where?

Dove: (Patiently) In the stable. He was the baby in the manger
Donkey.

(Pause a moment to let Donkey comprehend)

Donkey: (Calmly) The sky is full of angels now!

Dove: Praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace
to men with whom He is pleased."

(Both watch in awe until the angels fade away.)

Donkey: (Looks down/over to where the shepherds are) Where
are the shepherds
going?

Dove: They're going to find the baby.

Split: 8**Song 2: Love Came Down at Christmas CD: 5**

Love Came Down

TRADITIONAL,
Verses 2 and 3, Ramelle DeVries
Arr. John DeVries

at Christmas

CD: 5 Split: 8

Moderately ♩ = 94

1

A

1.4. Love came down at Christ - mas,
2. Praise
3. Son EDIT--->

5

B

Love all love - ly, Love di - vine; Love was born at Christ - mas;
Love
Love
Love
EDIT--->

9

Star
Peace
I
EDIT--->

fine last time.
G D

Scene 3 CD: 6

Dove: Close your eyes.

Donkey: Why?

Dove: We are going to fast forward through time about 2,000 years.
 (Snap fingers and maybe a little more drama than usual...)

Split: 21

Donkey: (Swaying head as though dizzy) Whoaaaaaaaa, Dovey!

Dove: (Maybe a little laugh at Donkey) Look over there, in front of the church.

Donkey: That's Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus. I see a shepherd and an angel. Oh look, that's me!

Dove: Yes, Donkey, whenever the Christmas story is remembered with a Nativity scene, large or small, you are usually there too.

Donkey: Well, how about that! I'm just a lowly donkey.

Dove: True, but you carried a humble girl named Mary to Bethlehem. God sent his Son, Jesus into the world in the most humble of settings, a stable. You are a reminder to people everywhere that Jesus came to be the Savior for all people who will humble themselves and believe in Him.

Split: 12**Song 3: Away In a Manger CD: 7**

Away In a Manger

CD: 7 Split: 12

Moderately ♩ = 90

TRADITIONAL

Arr. John DeVries

Gmi⁷ F/A Gmi/B^b C⁷

The piano introduction consists of four measures in 3/4 time. The right hand plays a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The left hand plays a bass line of quarter notes: G2, Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3. Chord symbols Gmi⁷, F/A, Gmi/B^b, and C⁷ are placed above the right hand staff.

4 **A**

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, The
 (2. Be) near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask Thee to stay Close

F F B^b F

The first system shows the vocal line starting at measure 4. The right hand has a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The left hand has a bass line of quarter notes: G2, Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3. Chord symbols F, F, B^b, and F are placed above the right hand staff.

9

lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet I
 by me for - ev - er, and love me, I

C⁷ B^b/F F

The second system shows the vocal line starting at measure 9. The right hand has a melody of quarter notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, Bb4, A4, G4. The left hand has a bass line of quarter notes: G2, Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3. Chord symbols C⁷, B^b/F, and F are placed above the right hand staff.

EDIT--->

Away In a Manger

EDIT--->

Split: 13

1.

sleep on the hay.
live with Thee

Gmi C7 F

Detailed description: This system contains the first two measures of a musical phrase. The top staff is a vocal line with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It features a 'Split: 13' box above the first measure and a first ending bracket above the second measure. The lyrics 'sleep on the hay.' and 'live with Thee' are written below the notes. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with chords Gmi, C7, and F indicated above the notes.

21

2.

2. Be there.

Gmi7 C7 F Gmi7 C7 F

rit.

rit.

Detailed description: This system contains the second two measures of the musical phrase, starting at measure 21. The top staff is a vocal line with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. It features a second ending bracket above the second measure. The lyrics '2. Be there.' are written below the notes. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves (treble and bass clefs) with chords Gmi7, C7, F, Gmi7, C7, and F indicated above the notes. The word 'rit.' (ritardando) is written above the piano part in both measures.

Scene 4 CD: 8

Dove: Come on Donkey, time to take you home.

Donkey: Will I remember this when I get back?

Dove: Yes! You will remember. And you will tell others about Jesus for the rest of your life!

Split: 14 Song 4: Love Came Down at Christmas CD: 9

Split: 15 Merry Christmas, Sing It Loud!

Split: 19 Bow Music CD: 10

Love Came Down at Christmas / Merry Christmas, Sing It Loud!

CD: 9 Split: 14

Arr. John DeVries

Moderately ♩ = 94

1

D^{6%} A G D

5 **A** *Love Came Down at Christmas, Traditional*

Love came down at Christ - mas, Love all love - ly, Love di - vine;

D Bmi F#mi Emi⁷ D/F# G² A

9 **B**

Love was born at Christ - mas; Star and an - gels gave the sign.

D Bmi F#mi Emi⁷ A G D

Love Came Down at Christmas / Merry Christmas, Sing It Loud!

C Split: 15

13 $C^6/9$ a little faster $\text{♩} = 110$ Dmi^7 G^7

D

17 *Merry Christmas, Sing It Loud!, Ramelle DeVries, John DeVries*

1. Once a year we sing a - long with all the spe - cial Christ - mas songs. It's

C C/B C/A C/G Emi^7 F Bb G^7sus G^7

21

Split: 16

Je - sus' birth - day, we cel - e - brate. It's so much fun we can hard - ly wait!

C C/B C/A C/G Emi^7 Bb G^7sus G^7 C

E

25

Hap - py fac - es eve - ry - where. God loves me, I know He cares. He :

C Emi^7 F G^7 C Emi^7 Bb G^7

EDIT--->

Love Came Down at Christmas / Merry Christmas, Sing It Loud!

EDIT--->

43

Chord labels: C^{6/9}, G⁷, C

Love Came Down at Christmas—Bow Music

CD: 10 Split: 19

Moderately ♩ = 110

Arr. John DeVries

1 $C^{\flat 9}$ Dmi^7 G^7

A
5 C C/B C/A C/G Emi^7 F Bb G^7sus G^7

9 C C/B C/A C/G Emi^7 Bb G^7sus G^7 C

B
13 C Emi^7 F G^7 C Emi^7 Bb G^7 Ami G

Love Came Down at Christmas—Bow Music

18 F C²/E C/E Dmi⁷ C/E Emi⁷ A⁷ Dmi⁷ C/E

optional repeat
(CD track has no repeat)

22 G⁷ C C⁶/₉ G⁷ C

Flute (Violin, Oboe, Handbells)

Love Came Down at Christmas—Overture

Arr. John DeVries

Moderately ♩ = 94

1 *mf* *tr* *tr*

5 **A**

9

B
a little faster ♩ = 110

13

19

Flute (Violin, Oboe, Handbells)

The Friendly Beasts

TRADITIONAL
Arr. John DeVries

Moderately ♩ = 130

1

mf

5 **A** play all times

↓ play 1st and 3rd x only

13

21 1.2. (play both times) 3.

25 **B** play both times

↓ play 2nd time only

33

41 1. (play) 2.

V.S.

Flute (Violin, Oboe, Handbells)
The Friendly Beasts

Flute (Violin, Oboe, Handbells)

Love Came Down at Christmas

TRADITIONAL
Arr. John DeVries

Moderately ♩ = 94

The musical score is written for a single melodic instrument in treble clef, with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'Moderately' with a quarter note equal to 94 beats per minute. The dynamics are marked 'mp' (mezzo-piano) at the beginning and 'rit.' (ritardando) at the end. The score consists of ten staves of music, each containing a different section labeled A1 through A4 and B1 through B4. Section A1 is the first line, starting with a melodic phrase and ending with a double bar line and a fermata. Section B1 is the second line, continuing the melody. Section A2 is the third line, starting with a double bar line and a fermata. Section B2 is the fourth line, continuing the melody. Section A3 is the fifth line, starting with a double bar line and a fermata. Section B3 is the sixth line, continuing the melody. Section A4 is the seventh line, starting with a melodic phrase and ending with a double bar line and a fermata. Section B4 is the eighth line, continuing the melody. The final line (ninth staff) starts at measure 40 and ends with a double bar line and a fermata. The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and dynamic markings.

mp

rit.

Flute (Violin, Oboe, Handbells)

Away In a Manger

TRADITIONAL
Arr. John DeVries

Moderately ♩ = 90

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 3/4 time signature. It consists of four staves of music.

- Staff 1:** Starts with a dynamic marking of *mp*. The first measure is a whole note Bb. The following three measures each contain a half note and a quarter note beamed together, with a slur over the pair. The notes are: (A, Bb), (G, A), (F, G), and (E, F).
- Staff 2:** Measure 5 is marked with a box containing 'A' and the text '2nd time only'. The first measure is a whole rest. The second measure is a half note Bb. The third measure contains a half note and a quarter note beamed together (A, Bb) with a slur. The fourth measure is a half note G. The fifth measure is a whole rest. The sixth measure contains a half note and a quarter note beamed together (F, G) with a slur. The seventh measure is a half note E. The eighth measure is a whole note Bb. The text 'play both times' is written above the final two measures.
- Staff 3:** Measure 13 is marked with a box containing 'B'. The first measure is a half note and a quarter note beamed together (A, Bb) with a slur. The second measure is a half note G. The third measure contains a half note and a quarter note beamed together (F, G) with a slur. The fourth measure is a half note E. The fifth measure is a whole note Bb. The sixth measure contains a half note and a quarter note beamed together (A, Bb) with a slur. The seventh measure is a half note G. The eighth measure contains a half note and a quarter note beamed together (F, G) with a slur. The ninth measure is a half note E.
- Staff 4:** Measure 20 is marked with a box containing '1.'. The first measure is a half note and a quarter note beamed together (A, Bb) with a slur. The second measure contains a half note and a quarter note beamed together (G, A) with a slur. The third measure contains a half note and a quarter note beamed together (F, G) with a slur. The fourth measure is a half note E. The fifth measure is a whole rest. The sixth measure is marked with a box containing '2.' and the text '(opt. 8va)'. The seventh measure is a whole note Bb. The eighth measure is a whole note Bb. The text *rit.* is written above the final two measures.

Flute (Violin, Oboe, Handbells)

Love Came Down at Christmas / Merry Christmas, Sing It Loud!

Moderately ♩ = 94

Arr. John DeVries

1 *tr* *tr*

5 **A** *mf* 2

9 **B**

13 **C**

17 **D** 3

25 **E**

32 **F** 4

39 D.S. al Coda

43

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a first-measure rest and trills on the first and second notes. The score is divided into sections A through F, with section F containing a repeat sign and a four-measure rest. The piece concludes with a double bar line and a coda symbol, followed by a final melodic phrase starting at measure 43.

Love Came Down at Christmas—Bow Music

Moderately $\text{♩} = 110$

Arr. John DeVries

mf

1

5 **A**

9

13 **B**

17

21 optional repeat

Detailed description: The score is written for a single melodic line in 4/4 time. It begins with a first-measure rest (marked '1') and a dynamic of *mf*. The first line contains measures 1-4, featuring eighth notes with accents. The second line (measures 5-8) is marked with a boxed 'A' and contains quarter notes. The third line (measures 9-12) contains quarter notes. The fourth line (measures 13-16) is marked with a boxed 'B' and contains quarter notes with accents. The fifth line (measures 17-20) contains quarter notes with accents. The sixth line (measures 21-24) contains quarter notes with accents, followed by a double bar line and a repeat sign, then another four measures of quarter notes with accents.

Guitar

Love Came Down at Christmas—Overture

Moderately ♩ = 94

Arr. John DeVries

1

D A G D

5

A D Bmi F#mi Emi⁷ D G A

EDIT

The Friendly Beasts

TRADITIONAL
Arr. John DeVries

Moderately ♩ = 130

1

D A⁷ D G A

5

A D A⁷ D

1. Je - sus our broth - er, kind and good, Was
2. "I," said the don - key, shag - gy and brown, "I
3. "I," said the cow all white and red, "I

9

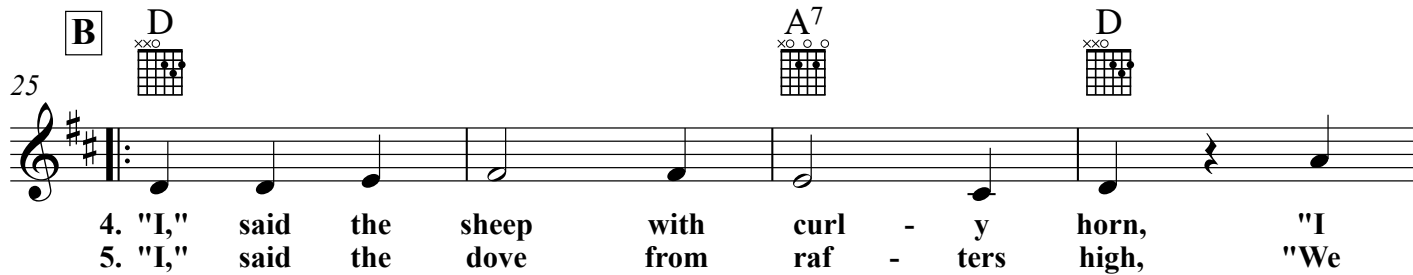
D G A⁷ D

hum - bly born in a sta - ble crude, And friend - ly
car - ried His moth - er up - hill and down; I car - ried His
gave him my man - ger for His bed, I gave Him my

Guitar
The Friendly Beasts

25

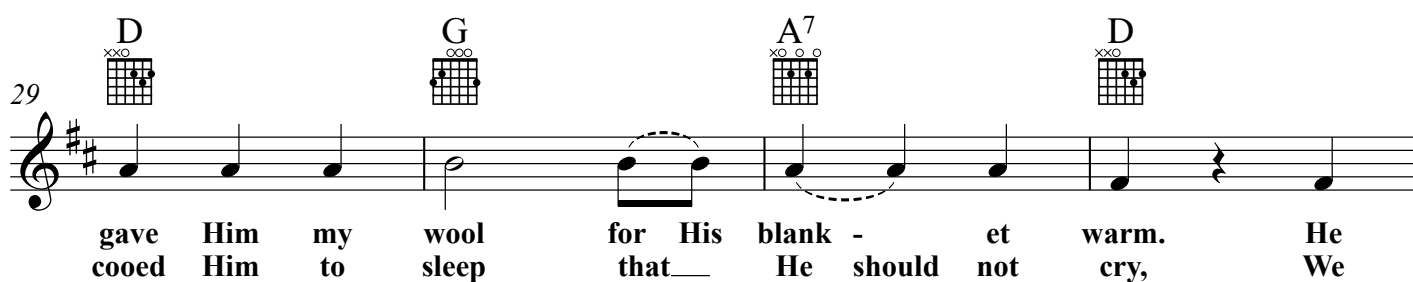
B **D** **A7** **D**



4. "I," said the sheep with curl - y horn, "I
 5. "I," said the dove from raf - ters high, "We

29

D **G** **A7** **D**



gave Him my wool for His blank - et warm. He
 cooed Him to sleep that_ He should not cry, We

Guitar
The Friendly Beasts

61

D Bmi A⁷ D

The gift he gave Em - man - u - el.

65

rit. G D Emi D

rit. G D Emi D

The gift he gave Em - man - u - el.

Guitar

Love Came Down at Christmas

TRADITIONAL,
Verses 2 and 3, Ramelle DeVries
Arr. John DeVries

Moderately ♩ = 94

CAPO FRET 2

I

C G F C A C Ami Emi

1. Love came down at Christ - mas,
2. Praise God in the high - est,
3. Son of God, my Sav - ior,

Away In a Manger

TRADITIONAL
Arr. John DeVries

Moderately ♩ = 90

CAPO FRET 3



1. A -
(2. Be)

5

way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed, The lit - tle Lord
near me, Lord Je - sus, I ask Thee to stay Close by me for -

Guitar

Love Came Down at Christmas / Merry Christmas, Sing It Loud!

Arr. John DeVries

Moderately ♩ = 94

1

D A G D

Love Came Down at Christmas, Traditional

5

A D Bmi F#mi Emi7 D G A

Love came down at Christ - mas, Love all love - ly, Love di - vine;

Love Came Down at Christmas / Merry Christmas, Sing It Loud!

Guitar

40

Ami⁷ Emi⁷ B^b Dmi⁷ G⁷ C

God loves you, Mer - ry Christ - mas God loves me. **D.S. al Coda**

43

C G⁷ C

Guitar

Love Came Down at Christmas—Bow Music

Moderately ♩ = 110

Arr. John DeVries

1

C Dmi⁷ G⁷

5

A C Ami⁷ Emi⁷ F Bb Dmi⁷ G⁷

9

C Ami⁷ Emi⁷ Bb Dmi⁷ G⁷ C

13

B C Emi⁷ F G⁷ C Emi⁷ Bb G⁷

17

Ami G F C Dmi⁷ C/E Emi⁷ A⁷

21

Dmi⁷ C/E G⁷ C C G⁷ C

optional repeat

Production Notes

Option 1—Drama

With this version, teach the children the songs and tell them there will be special story between the songs. The children are less likely to be restless during the drama if it is new to them.

Cast: Donkey and Dove.

To be performed by two older children or adults.

Costuming

Donkey: Long sleeved brown shirt and pants. Ears on headband or a hat with ears, tail, brown faux fur tunic, etc.

Dove: White pants, and white long sleeved shirt, beak, ears, wings, white faux fur tunic, etc.

Children:

1. Ask parents to participate by dressing their children in one of several colors, beige, brown, red, etc.
2. T's—all the same or a mix of a few colors.
3. T's—Have the children paint shirts as described in the activities.
4. T's—Cut hearts from “Peel and Stick Fun Foam” and attach to front of the shirts just before performance.

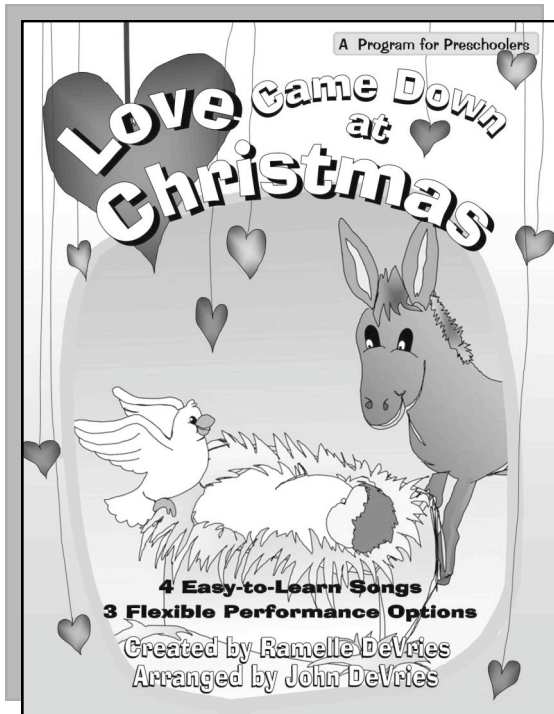
Set

No special backgrounds needed.

Use risers if available to elevate the children for the sake of the audience.

Create a simple elevated stage where Dove and Donkey will perform all their scenes. Add steps if needed. Position the stage so the children as well as the audience can see the drama.

Donkey and Dove will speak as though they are watching a scene in the distance while describing it to the audience.



Love Came Down at Christmas

is a delightfully simple, easy-to perform, Christmas program for preschoolers.

Three flexible performance options.

Drama

Join Dovey as she shows Donkey his important role in the Christmas story.

or

Narrations

or

Simple speaking parts for your preschoolers

songs

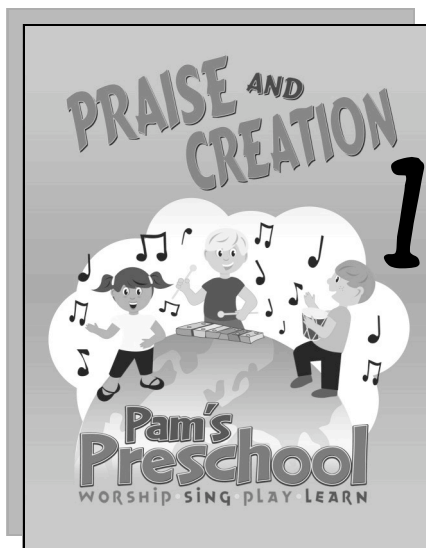
The Friendly Beasts

Love Came Down at Christmas

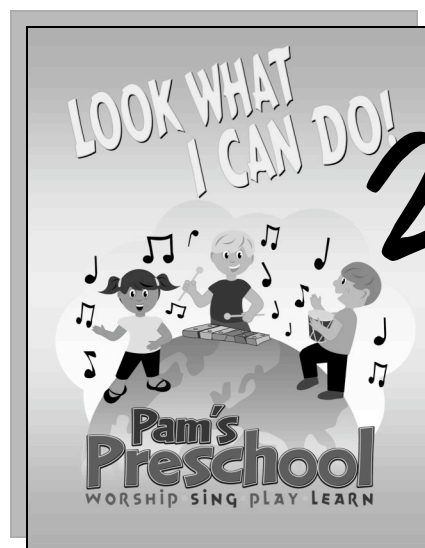
Away In a Manger

Love Came Down at Christmas/Merry Christmas Sing It Loud!

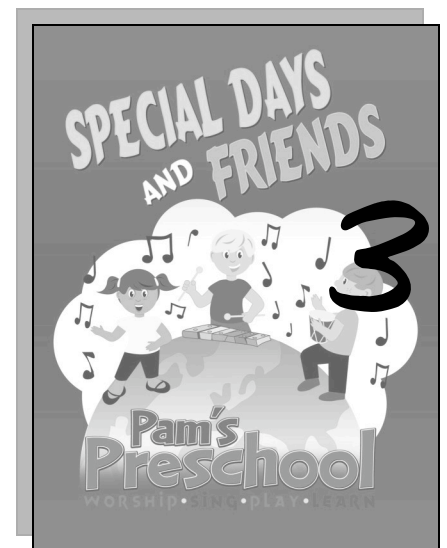
Collections



Teach your young children the truths of God's Word through these 10 easy-to-sing songs just for them.



Teach your young children about living in God's world. Get the wiggles out with these 10 easy-to-learn, clap, snap and sing songs.



Teach your young children principles of the Christian life through these 10 easy-to-sing songs about friends, family and special holidays.

Easter Musicals

- Stereo Listening CD ● Split Track ● Piano/Vocal ● Choral Books ● Kids' Scores
- Production Notes ● Running Script ● Spiritual and Musical Lessons
- Devotional Lessons ● Movement Scripts ● Movement DVD

Involve your preschoolers in the telling of the greatest story ever!

IMAGINE EASTER

An Easter Musical for Children

Nine songs with narration.
Unison with optional solos and harmony.
Features the song by "Mercy Me,"
"I Can Only Imagine."

The Easter Story is like no other ever told.
Though it's been heard for over two thousand years,
we still delight in its message of hope and renewal.

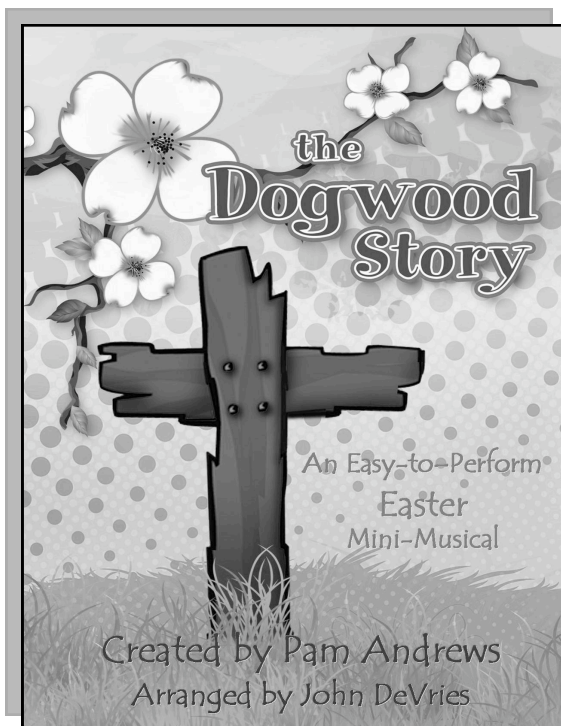
It's a true story of God's wondrous
love for you and me.

It's full of excitement and suspense, adventure,
betrayal and deception.

And just when you think the bad guys have won ...
there's a surprise ending!

Easter is a story of great mystery, intense
excitement, and betrayal.

But most of all, it's the story of a miracle ...
the miracle of salvation.



the Dogwood Story

An Easy-To-Perform
Easter Mini-Musical
for Children

The Dogwood Story,
a mini-musical for children,
is perfect for every size
choir and any budget,
big or small.

Allow your children
to explore the meaning
of Easter through the
story of the
dogwood tree.



**Love Came Down
at
Christmas**

is a delightfully simple, easy-to perform,
Christmas program for preschoolers.

Three flexible performance options.

Drama

Join Dovey as she shows Donkey his
important role in the Christmas story.

Or

Narrations

Or

Simple speaking parts for your preschoolers

**The Friendly Beasts
Love Came Down at Christmas
Away in the Manger
Love Came Down at Christmas/Merry Christmas Sing It Loud!**