## CHRISTMAS EVE 2018

**Welcome** to family and friends as we come to celebrate the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ! God moved to change the world through a baby born is a stable! The mighty eternal God is the orchestrator of this humble birth. Therefore we need to pay close attention to this unique and unusual act of God. Listen closely to the words of the Scripture and the words of the songs. Plus enjoy the children's embracing the entire event!

## **Program**

The words that were just read were from the Bible in Is.9:6 which were written 800 years before the birth of Jesus. The birth of Jesus in the stable was not random or accidental. Jesus' birth was in God's mind 800 years before the physical event. In fact Jesus' birth was in God's mind before the creation of the world.

Jesus' humble birth in a stable was divinely planned by God that Jesus would be identified with "all" mankind. By identifying with "all" mankind Jesus also would provide forgiveness and eternal life for "all" mankind.

Jesus brought Joy to the World: That is why we say, "Merry Christmas" or Merry Christ day" celebrating Jesus' birthday. We are actually saying, "Joy to the world" because Jesus came into the world to declare:

You are **Forgiven**! (Explain why.) **Good News!** You are **Accepted**! (Explain why.) **Good News!** You have **Eternal Life**! (Explain why.) **Good News!**  Each Christmas we are saying, "God loves you!" We are saying, "Jesus loves you!"

Isn't this a wonderful message for our children! In this uncertain world, our children love to hear that Jesus loves them! They love to know they have hope eternal beyond this chaotic world. This truth is the greatest gift you can give your children!

Jesus brought the message, but HE left the message with us HIS people and told us to share HIS message with others. The wonderful message that God loves us; Jesus loves us!

God looked on the world and HE saw spiritual darkness. God sent Jesus into the world to bring light, spiritual light. In fact Jesus said, "I am the Light of the world!" Then Jesus gave HIS message to HIS people to share that light with others. In fact Jesus said to us, "You are the Light of the World!"

Jesus left us this Good new message. This Good news message says, "God loves us," meaning we are forgiven, accepted, and have eternal life!

Just as Jesus share the good news we also are to share the good news!

**To demonstrate** this truth of God, we are going to have the lighting of the candles!

But first, I need to give you a few **instructions**. #1 the **lighted** candle is to **always** remain **upright**.

#2 the **unlighted** candle is turned **sideways to be lighted**.

#3 when you **blow** the candle out hold your free hand behind the candle.

God looked upon the Earth and saw darkness!

**CANDLE LIGHTING** 

**Jesus** 

**Disciples** 

World

**Light To The world** 

Blow out the candles

**Pray** 

**Children Enter With Electric Candles** 

**Children - Silent Night** 

**Raise Lights** 

**Closing Remarks - Merry Christmas; God Loves You!** 

Song - Joy To The World!