

Set out the Advent Wreath and the Nativity characters in the brown bag. Purple cloth.

**(1. Dismissal from the Assembly)**

**2. Light all of the candles on the Advent Wreath.**

**3. The Advent Wreath Song #17 on the CD "Sing With Joy"**

Sitting with my brothers,  
Sitting with my sisters,  
Sitting by the Advent wreath....

Waiting with my brothers,  
Waiting with my sisters,  
Waiting by the Advent wreath....

Why are you waiting, boys?  
Why are you waiting, girls?  
Who are you waiting for?

(All stand) Stand up and sing!  
He is the King!  
He is the Lord of Lords!  
That's who we're waiting for.  
That's who we're waiting for.

**4. Proclamation of the Gospel (Green children's lectionary, page 9 Luke 1:26-38.  
Included in a separate attachment so leader can see it in advance.**

**5. Reflection time:**

- a) In our gospel story that we just heard, who came to visit Mary? (An angel)
- b) What was the angel's name? (Gabriel)
- c) What was the first thing Gabriel said? (Do not be afraid)
- d) Then what did the angel tell Mary? (That she was to have a baby)
- e) What would she name the baby? (Jesus)
- f) What would be special about this baby? (He would be God/God's son/do great things/etc.)
- g) Why do you think God picked Mary to be the mother of Jesus? (Because she loved God so much)
- h) Who was the baby's father? (God was Jesus' father. Joseph was not really Jesus' father, but after Jesus was born Joseph was like his stepfather.)

- i) How do you think Mary felt? How would you feel if you saw an angel come into your room? (Afraid)
- j) Did Mary say yes or no to God? (Yes!)

6. Celebration of the gospel message Teach the children this poem w/actions. Repeat it several times until they have it memorized.

While maiden Mary sat one day  
(bend at knees and place hands on knees)

God's angel, Gabriel, flew her way  
(flap arms like an angel flying)

"I have a secret that will bring you joy  
(cup hands around mouth and loudly whisper this line)

"You're going to have a baby boy!" (Shout this line joyfully)

7. Creed

8. General Intercessions: Pass the soft figure of Mary (from the Nativity scene) around the group. Each child may offer a petition and then pass it on, or just pass it on if they don't have a petition.

9. Closing prayer In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Hail Mary, full of grace, ... (pray the Hail Mary very slowly and the children will join in on the words they know.) In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit! (Do this a few times until they seem to know response.)

10. Return to the Assembly with a handout to take home