

the

# song of the manger

Third Week of Advent

(Candle - Joy)

Song: "Joy" (God of Wonders)

Sing through Coda to measure 78.

At key change in measure 78 begin Reading for Candle lighting

Vamp until end of Reading

Reading:

The birth of Jesus was announced by angels saying: "I bring you good news of great JOY that will be for all people." That means great joy for you and for me. The joy of Jesus' birth wasn't just for the shepherds and the people of long ago, the joy of Jesus coming to earth is for us today. Jesus came so that we would have joy, and our joy would be complete in knowing him. 1 Peter 1:8 says "Though you do not see him now, you believe in Him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy." When we believe this Christmas story is true and Jesus is the son of God, we receive Joy. We light the third candle of advent to remind us that the manger held our joy, and still sings of that joy for our lives today.

Song: Pick-up at Measure 82 and sing to the end.

Staging Notes: One actor to walk to CS and give dramatic reading.  
Separate Candle lighter to light candle during reading.