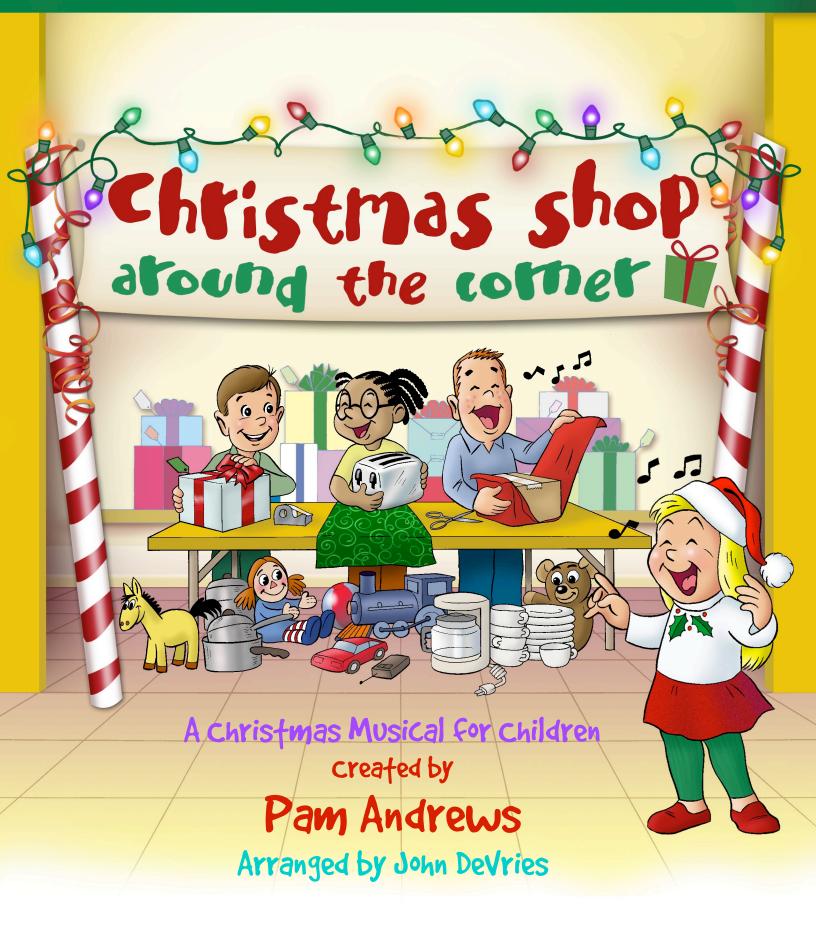
BIG CITY MALL



Foreword

But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny.

Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on."

Mark 12:42-44 (NIV)

Dear Friends:

Welcome to **Christmas Shop Around the Corner!** I am so excited about this new Pam Andrews Music creation. Yes, the PAM team got together and in the midst of lost jobs, illnesses, new jobs, and many life issues too numerous to name, God still provided us with a marvelous Christmas musical that you and your children will love. The story is one that will touch your heart especially when it seems that our world is not so safe and sound for adults or kids. We as Christians must band together and look up when times get low. We must roll up our sleeves and help neighbors in need. Thus, the story found in **Christmas Shop Around the Corner** will relate to everyone.

The story begins with kids from the First Church arriving at Big City Mall ready to Christmas Carol for mall shoppers. Some very colorful mall cops, Officers Randy Baylor and Vern Smythe appear making sure that all is in order and the kids begin their concert in their assigned location in front of Stone's Department Store. Mr. Stone finds the situation disagreeable and wants the choir to move away from his store's entrance. The children discover that Mr. Stone recently lost his wife of many years which has resulted in his saddened heart. Enter Emily Snider...a missing choir member. Emily tells her choir friends that her house burnt the night before and that her family lost everything. She hastily leaves (forgetting her coat) to rejoin her family. The choir decides they must help their friend by creating a make-shift yard sale by gathering items from mall merchants to sell the raise money for the family. Vern and Randy tell them of an empty shop around the corner that they could use for the sale. While the children are away, Mr. Stone reappears and meets Emily who has returned to retrieve her coat. Emily tells him of her friendship with Mrs. Stone who used to meet her in the park. She describes to Mr. Stone the many kind deeds of his wife and how she was a friend to everyone...especially to Emily. Mr. Stone tells her that the choir has gone out on a fundraising mission. Searching in her pocket, Emily gives her Christmas money to Mr. Stone to help out the cause...not realizing that her family was the focus of the fundraiser. Mr. Stone's heart melts and he prays to God that he will remember the true meaning of Christmas. The choir returns and Mr. Stone opens his store giving the day's profits to help the Snider family. His heart is changed and filled with a spirit of love. Christmas is alive in his heart.

As I write musicals for children, I pray that God will send me stories such as this one which remind us of giving to others and focusing on the good in life. It is very difficult for us all to find the good in a day when there are many clouds looming around us. This musical will help us all seek the silver lining in those clouds.

The songs in **Christmas Shop Around the Corner** are fantastic! What I would call rippin'! You will recognize several Christmas carols which will be easy to learn and yet fun. The **Twelve Days of Christmas** will be a big kid favorite.

Thank you for all you do for kids. You really inspire me to trek on to new heights in music. God has always been there in the midst of the storm...waiting peacefully to love and help me. I guess I am His life-long mission on earth.

Keep in touch and know I am here if you need help in any way. I love you all...and welcome to the **Christmas Shop Around the Corner!**Living for Jesus!

Pam Andrews

PS...I will gladly write your kids a letter about the musical. Just go to my webpage, PamAndrewsMusic.com and press contact...OR just email me at PamAndrewMusic.com.

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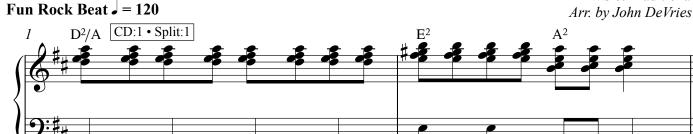
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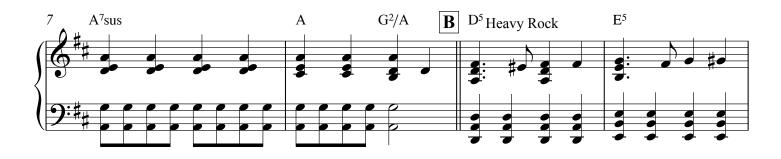
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Christmas Shop Around the Corner—Overture

PAM ANDREWS & Traditional











PamAndrewsMusic.com

Shop Till We Drop



Words and Music by PAM ANDREWS Arr. by John DeVries













Scene 1 CD:3

(At the end of the song, a few children carrying shopping bags should be center stage. On the final beat of the song they should drop to the floor.)

Miss Blass (Cast enters.) Ok, children gather around. We're supposed to begin

Christmas caroling in 5 minutes. I need all the boys over here and

all the girls over here.

Brooke But, Miss Blass, yesterday, you had us stand the other way.

Sean Yeah, Miss Blass. Yesterday we were on that side. (Sean points.)

Rachel I like the lighting here. It shows off my hair.

Miss Blass We must accommodate the acoustics in the mall! Hurry, hurry,

everyone!

Nathan Look, Miss Blass, here comes mall security.

Randy Hello, ma'am, I'm Officer Randy Baylor and this is Officer Vern

Smythe.

Sean Cool! Mall cops.

Vern (interrupting)...mall security officers, and we're just wonderin' what

y'all are doing here in the mall.

Miss Blass We're here to Christmas Carol for your shoppers. My name is Miss

Blass and this is the children's choir from First Church.

Vern Do you have permit XYZ123 which entitles "said" holder the proper

right to sing in "said" mall?

Miss Blass (nervously) Yes, I have the permit somewhere. (Miss Blass

searches in her purse for the form then hands it to Officer Randy.)

Here it is.

Randy See, Vern...I remember seein' that name on the calendar. (to Miss

Blass) We're glad to have you here, ma'am...you and the youngins.

Our shoppers love hearin' the kids singin' especially durin' the

Christmas season.

Vern Miss Blass, I'll have you know that I was the lead singer in my

children's choir when I was a youngin'.

Miss Blass Oh really?

Randy Never you mind, ma'am. Anyway, that was a long, long time ago,

Vern.

Vern Not that long ago, Randy. I can still sing a mean "Fa, Ia, Ia, Ia Ia, Ia

la, la, la!" (Vern sings out of tune.)

Randy Maybe in the shower.

Vern If you ever need any help, Miss Blass, just call on ole' Vern. I will be

glad to fire up the ole vocal chords to lend a hand. (Vern begins to vocalize out of tune) "Mi, mi, mi!" "Hmmmmm."

Children (giggle)

Randy Uh, Vern. Remember, we got that filin' to get to.

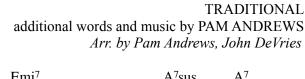
Vern Sorry, Miss Blass. Duty calls. (Vern and Randy exit.) Fa, la, la,

la, la, la, la, la....

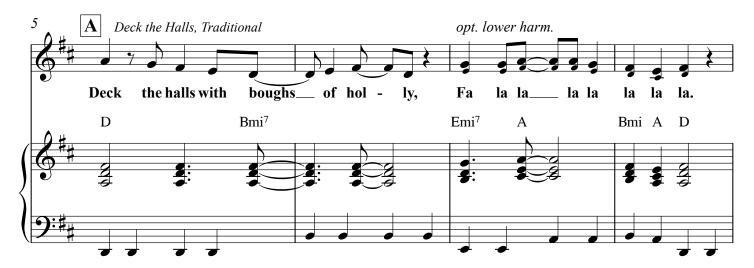
Song 2 Fa La La La Las

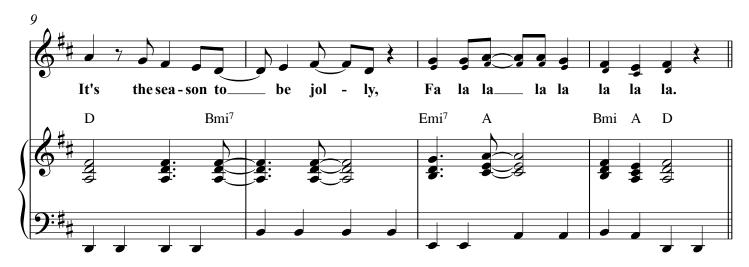
Vocal/Piano

Joyful, with energy = 80

















Scene 2 CD:5

Mr. Stone (Mr. Stone enters.) Ex--cuse...me. What do you think you're doing?

Miss Blass We're Christmas caroling.

Mr. Stone I can see that, but you're also blocking the entrance to my store.

Miss Blass I'm so sorry...

Mr. Stone (interrupting) The name's Stone...Harold P. Stone. I own Stone's

Department Store. See, you're blocking the entrance to my

establishment.

Miss Blass Nice to meet you, Mr. Stone. (Miss Blass shakes Harry's hand.)

We're the Children's choir from the First Church. I believe this is where we were told to sing. (Miss Blass shows Mr. Stone a map.) See this is the map of the mall and it clearly indicates that we are to

sing here...in front of your store.

Mr. Stone Well, we'll see about that. I think it's time I pay a visit to Mall

Security.

Miss Blass I don't think that will be necessary, Mr. Stone. We'll only be here a

short while...and anyway...we're about to sing Joy to the World! Wouldn't you like to stay and listen? We're just wanting to spread a

little Christmas cheer.

Mr. Stone Christmas means sales and sales means customers and you are

blocking the door to my store. SO MOVE! Mall security! Mall

security! (Mr. Stone exits.)

Rachel Wow! What a scrooge.

Brooke Yeah, he sure got up on the wrong side of the bed this morning.

Nathan Who ever heard of someone not liking Christmas Carolers? That

dude is the definition of grouch.

Sean He sure needs to find joy in his world.

Song 3 Joy!

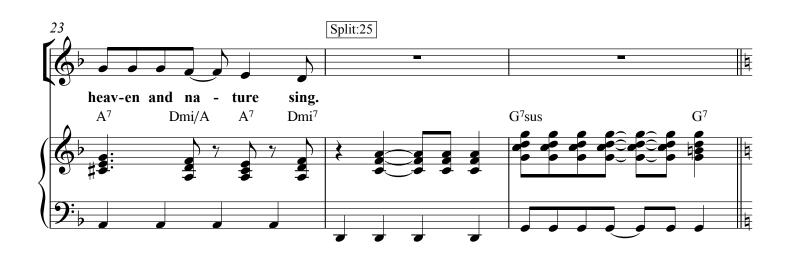
Joy!















Scene 3 CD:7

(Vern and Randy enter carrying boxes of store merchandise. Mr. Stone is walking with them.)

Vern You would think we're mall custodians...not security.

Randy Don't complain, Vern. Remember, we're here to serve. Where do

you want us to put these here boxes, Mr. Stone? (Vern and Randy

set the boxes of store items on the floor.)

Mr. Stone These items are last year's inventory so just put them in the

dumpster out back. Oh, yes, and here they are officers. (Mr. Stone

points to the choir.) Now, make them move.

Randy Now, Harry, I already told you that these youngins have a permit to

sing.

Vern Yeah, Mr. Stone. These kids ain't hurtin' anything.

Mr. Stone Who asked you? I was talking to Officer Baylor. Look here, you

must see they are blocking the entrance to my store.

Randy I've seen customers comin' and goin' all day in and outta your

store.

Vern Permit XYZ123 states "said choir may sing at said location to

Christmas carol for customers at said mall." It's right here in red and green. (to Randy) Don't ya love it how Nelda printed everything

in red and green for Christmas?

Mr. Stone (disgusted) Red and green memos. Has everyone around here

gone Christmas crazy? I tell you...I want these children gone...and

if I have to take this to a higher authority, I will do it.

Randy Go right ahead, Harry. The mall manager's office is that a-way.

(Randy points) You are welcome to check things out with them. But they'll tell you the same as us. The kids stay! (Mr. Stone exits in a

huff.)

Vern (intellectually) And anyway, a little Christmas caroling adds

ambiance to this mall space, don't you think?

Randy Ambiance...space...where'd that come from, Vern?

Vern I watch that extreme do-over show and that design network.

(proudly) You're lookin' at a man with culture, ya know.

Miss Blass Should we move officers? We're so sorry to be causing such a

problem.

Randy Don't ya worry, little lady. Mr. Stone's really not as bad as he

seems. He used to be "Mr. Christmas" in the mall.

Vern Yep, he and his wife Sarah would decorate his store and give

candy to the kids. He even dressed in red and wore that light up tie

the week before Christmas!

Randy But, a couple of years ago Miss Sarah died. He just ain't been the

same since.

Miss Blass So that explains it. He's missing his wife.

Randy I think you hit the nail right on the head. And Miss Sarah was all

about Christmas. She was famous for her manger scene window

display.

Vern She'd get kids from her church to dress up in biblical costumes...va

know, Mary, Joseph and even shepherds and angels. They would act out the nativity scene. It was truly a sight to see. Mrs. Stone

was a true believer, wasn't she Rand.

Randy Yep, she sure was. But when she passed, Mr. Stone took it real

hard. Seems like he's especially sad at Christmastime.

Vern All this sad talk gets me right here. (pats his heart. Vern blows his

nose.)

Randy Ok, looks like we all need some cheerin' up!

Vern I know! Why don't you tell the youngins your famous Christmas

Story, Rand?

Randy It ain't my story, Vern. It's the Lord's. (Randy picks up a quitar in

Stone's Department Store to "pretend" to play.) There ain't nothin' better than a great Bible Story...and it's all about shepherds,

angels, and Wise men. Let's see, it goes somethin' like this...

(During the song, you could have a mountain band play homemade mountain type instruments. You could also have children portray shepherds, angels, and Wise men.)

Song 4 Shepherds, Angels, & Wise Men

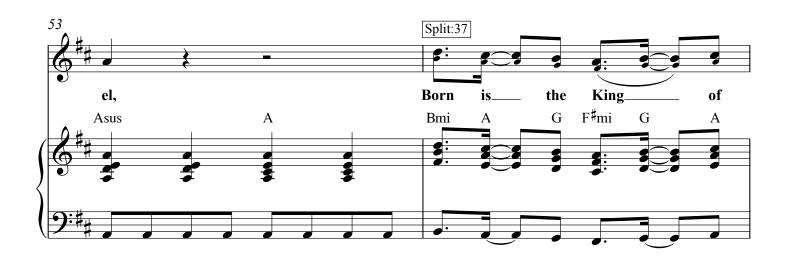
Shepherds, Angels, & Wise Men

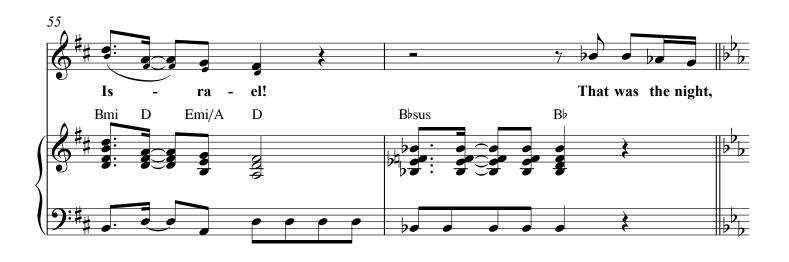




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Shepherds, Angels, & Wise Men



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Scene 4 CD:9

Miss Blass That was great, Officer Randy. Hey kids, has anyone seen Emily?

Brooke She should have been here already.

Nathan I wonder why she's late?

Sean She's always on time.

Rachel Yeah, Em is always here.

Vern (Vern pulls out a notepad and pencil) Missin' person? Do you have

a description? Tall, short, hair color, eyes...green, blue, or brown? Never fear, Miss Blass, we're on the case. Randy, should we set up

a dragnet? How about a road block? Should I load my gun?

Randy Now, Vern...first of all, we're in the mall so we don't need no

roadblock and Emily's not missin'...just late... and that gun you are wearin' is a water pistol. I don't think squirtin' folks with water is

gonna help in findin' Miss Emily.

Vern Well, the least we can do is help the kids out when they are missin'

one of their singers. (Vern moves to talk to Miss Blass.)

Randy Oh no, not again!

Vern Now, Miss Blass, as I said before, I am a PRO—fessional singer

and I will gladly help out.

Miss Blass Sure thing, Vern. Our next song is Jingle Bells.

Vern My personal favorite. AND I just happen to have my own set of

jingle bells right here in my pocket. (Vern pulls out a set of jingle bells from his pockets. These are bells that he puts on his wrists and ankles. He plays the bells throughout the next song.) OK, I'm

ready. Hit it, Miss B!

Song 5 Carols of the Bells

Vocal/Piano

Carols of the Bells







Carols of the Bells





PamAndrewsMusic.com

Scene 5 CD:11

Miss Blass Now, that was fun. You are simply wonderful.

Vern Ah, shucks ma'am.

Miss Blass Hey, kids, I'm still a little concerned about Emily.

Brooke I tried to call her before I left home to see if she needed a ride, but I

got no answer.

Nathan Yesterday at school she said she was coming.

Miss Blass Sean, you live near Emily. Have you heard from her?

Sean No, Miss Blass, but last night when my dad came home from work

he said he saw fire trucks on her street.

Rachel Hey, look, Miss Blass! Here comes Emily, now.

Emily (*Emily enters.*) Hello, everyone. I'm sorry I'm late.

Miss Blass We're so glad you're here, Emily. We were worried about you. Let

me take your coat. (Miss Blass takes Emily's coat and lays it down.)

Emily My house caught fire last night.

Kids (Sigh.) Oh, how terrible! That's just awful!

Nathan Oh no, how did it happen, Emily? Was anybody hurt?

Emily We're all ok. Just tired. We think that some lights on our Christmas

tree shorted out and caught our house on fire. We lost everything.

But, like my dad says...we have tons to be thankful for.

Rachel We're so sorry, Emily.

Emily My dad keeps saying...God will take care of us. I'm sorry, but I

can't stay. I need to help my mom and baby-sit my little brother.

Miss Blass Don't worry about a thing, Emily. Just know we'll be praying for you,

dear...you and your family.

Emily See you later guys. (*Emily exits, leaving her coat.*)

Rachel How terrible! To lose everything!

Nathan I wish we could do something to help.

Miss Blass Let's put on our thinking caps.

Sean I wish we could at least buy her family some Christmas presents,

but that would involve money...of which we have none.

Brooke Hey, when my mom wants to raise extra money she has a yard

sale.

Randy How about this stuff? Mr. Stone gave us all this perfectly good

merchandise from last year's stock to put in the dumpster. And there's an empty store right over there...you could set up sort

of Christmas Shop around the corner.

Vern Mr. Stone is not gonna like this, Randy.

Randy Let me take care of Harry. Everything'll be OK...just wait and see.

Vern There're some tables in the storage room. I'll get 'em.

Brooke Great. I can make a sign out of this poster board.

Rachel Let's call our store the "Christmas Shop Around the Corner."

Miss Blass Great idea. Rachel, but we'll need more items than this. Let's

spread out and go through the mall asking for donations.

Randy And we will forego the "no solicitation rule for the mall."

Vern Forego...solicitation?

Randy You ain't workin' with no dummy either.

Miss Blass Ok, everyone...Operation Help Emily's Family is underway.

Vern Let's get "Christmas Shop Around the Corner" open for business.

Song 6 Christmas Shop Around the Corner

Christmas Shop Around the Corner





Christmas Shop Around the Corner





Scene 6 CD:13

Vern Well, looks like my idea is really workin' out.

Randy (sarcastically) Your idea? Uh oh, here comes Harry and he don't

look happy.

Mr. Stone (Mr. Stone enters.) What do you think you're doing?

Vern (frightened) It was his idea. (Vern points to Randy.)

Randy (sarcastically) Thanks, Vern. Yes, sir, Mr. Stone. We allowed these

youngins to set up this little "Christmas Shop Around the Corner."

Ain't it nice?

Mr. Stone No, it ain't nice. This is in direct competition to my store. And look

these are the items I told you to put in the dumpster. What is it with you, Officer Randy? Are you wanting to put me out of business?

Randy Absolutely not, Mr. Stone. You see, the youngins are tryin' to raise

money to help the Snider family whose house burnt to the ground

last night.

Mr. Stone Well, I must admit that is sad, but my business is what I'm worried

about. Stone's Department Store has always had a heart.

Vern A Heart of stone.

Mr. Stone This store cannot operate in the mall...for any reason. The mall

management will need to hear about this. (Mr. Stone exits.)

Miss Blass It seems we continue to upset Mr. Stone.

Vern Never you mind, little lady. We'll take care of Mr. Stone.

Miss Blass Children, I think it's time we take a break. Let's hit the food court for

a snack...my treat.

Randy Don't you fret...Vern and I'll watch the store.

Kids Yea! I'm hungry! Let's eat! (The cast exits. The lights go dim on the

choir as if they exit or if the choir is small, they could even move off

stage.)

Mr. Stone (Mr. Stone enters carrying a paper. He walks to Randy and Vern.)

Officer Randy...see this store must go. The mall manager sent you

this note. (Mr. Stone hands Randy the note.)

Randy (disappointed) Harry, I hope you're proud of yourself. This little

store wasn't hurtin' anybody. The youngins were just wantin' to help

out a friend.

Vern Well, I guess we better go tell the kids. (Vern and Randy put the

"closed" sign on the "Christmas Shop Around the Corner table then

exit.)

Mr. Stone Finally, alone at last. Now, I can have some peace.

Emily (*Emily enters.*) Excuse me, sir.

Mr. Stone Yes?

Emily My name is Emily. Do you know where the kid's choir went?

Mr. Stone Are talking to me?

Emily Yes, sir.

Mr. Stone I believe they are all at the food court. They had this big idea for

raising money to help a family out this Christmas. Did you say your

name was Emily?

Emily Yes, Emily Snider. I was here a few minutes ago and left my coat.

Oh, there it is. (*Emily picks up her coat.*) Hey, are you Mr. Stone?

Mr. Stone Yes, I'm Harry Stone.

Emily I know you. Your wife was my friend. She used to meet me for what

she called a "feel better" lunch in the park. She was so nice.

Mr. Stone (whimsical) Yes, Miss Sarah was a good ole gal.

Emily I truly think Miss Stone was one of the best ladies I have ever

known. One time I saw her give her coat to a homeless person.

Mr. Stone I wondered what happened to her coat. She told me she left it in the

park.

Emily We always met at the park bench under the big oak tree. She

would tell me stories and we would eat her homemade oatmeal

cookies.

Mr. Stone Yes, they were my favorites.

Emily I heard she died. Miss Sarah had a heart filled with Christmas. But

for her, Christmas lasted 365 days of the year. I hope I'm like her

when I grow up.

Song 7 The Heart of Christmas

Vocal/Piano

The Heart of Christmas



The Heart of Christmas





Scene 7 CD:15

Emily Because of Miss Sarah, I have Jesus in my heart. She told me how

to become a Christian one day in the park. So, I guess the good thing is that I will see her again someday. Well, I better be going. My mom is waiting for me. Hey, Mr. Stone...will you do me a favor?

Mr. Stone Sure.

Emily Here's 10 dollars my grandma gave me for Christmas. I have to go,

but if my friends are raising money to help someone...give them this 10 dollars. See you later. Hey, would you like to meet me later in the park around noon? Sort of...a feel better lunch like Miss

Sarah and I used to have?

Mr. Stone Maybe. It was nice to meet you, Emily.

Emily Same here. Hope to see you later in the park, Mr. Stone.

Mr. Stone (Mr. Stone moves center stage. He speaks toward heaven.) Lord,

it's me, Harry. I just wanted to speak to you for a minute if you don't mind. I'm so sorry about the way I've been actin'. I've been so sad about Sarah that I seem to have turned away from You. Please forgive me, Lord. Help me find the heart of Christmas. By the way,

tell Miss Sarah hello for me. Amen.

(The children enter.)

Rachel Thanks for the snack, Miss Blass.

Nathan Yeah, it was great.

Brooke Let's get back to work...the more money we raise...the more we

can help Emily and her family.

Miss Blass (The children and Miss Blass notice the "closed" sign.) Look, the

store is closed. I wonder what happened?

Sean I thought Officer Randy was gonna take care of the store while we

were gone.

Vern (Randy and Vern enter) Hey Miss Blass...kids. We've been I

lookin' for y'all everywhere.

Randy I'm afraid we have some bad news. While y'all were in the food

court, Mr. Stone brought me a letter from management sayin'...

Mr. Stone (Mr. Stone quickly walks up.) That you have to move your store...

Vern What???

Mr. Stone Move the Christmas Shop Around the Corner into my store.

Randy But Harry, I thought you said...

Mr. Stone Never mind what I said. Get the move on, officers!

Miss Blass But, wouldn't that interfere with your customers, Mr. Stone?

Mr. Stone No way. It would be good for business...and I've decided that all

the money from today's sales will go to help your cause.

Vern Mr. Stone? Is that really you?

Mr. Stone Absolutely. And here is a \$10 donation from one customer and I'm

also putting in a donation. Hey, you know what might bring in more customers? I still have those old nativity costumes in my back closet. Would any of you kids be up for creating a manger scene?

Rachel Sounds great, Mr. Stone.

Nathan Sure thing...a manger scene would be awesome.

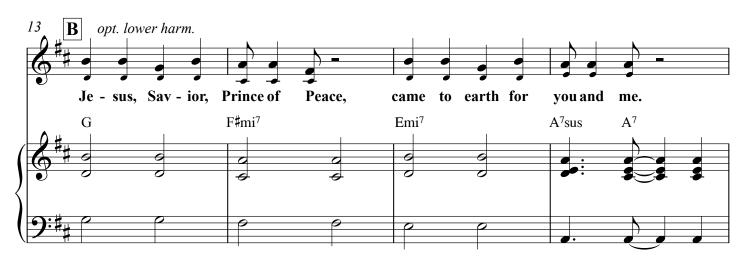
Vern Harry, what on earth has happened to you?

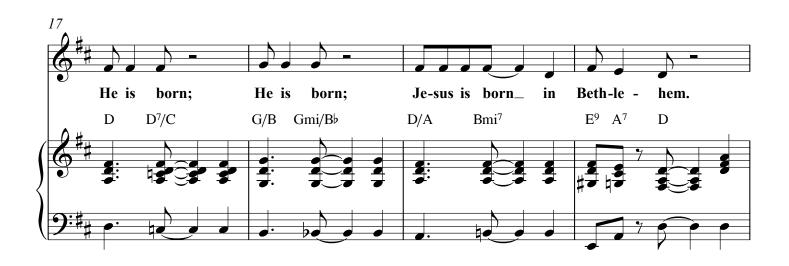
Mr. Stone Let's just say...I had a visit from an angel that reminded me what

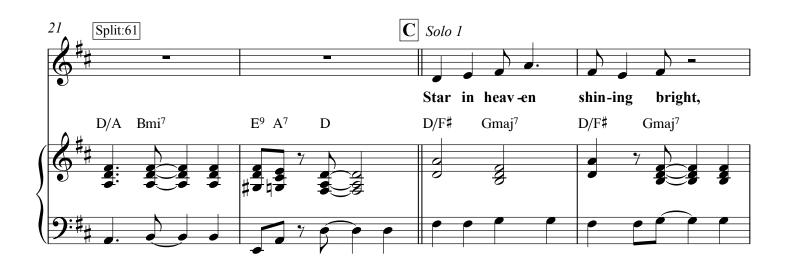
Christmas is all about. Kids, let's get out those costumes. Time's a

wastin'! Jesus is born and it's time we celebrate!

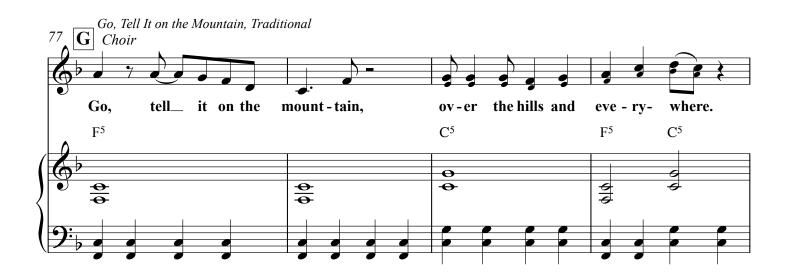


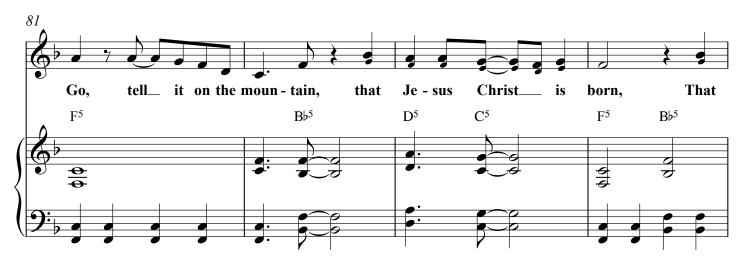




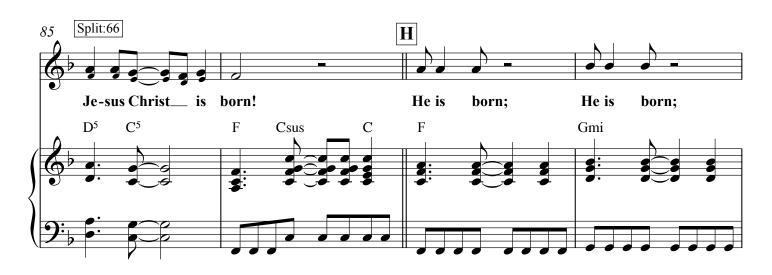


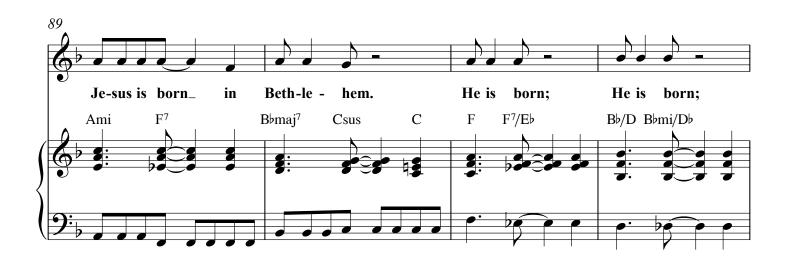


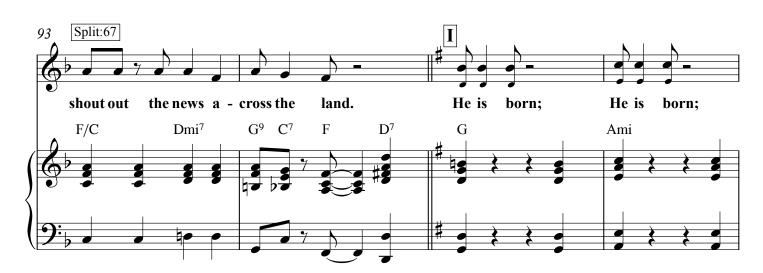




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Scene 8 CD:17

Miss Blass Great news, kids, with the money we raised in the Christmas Shop

Around the Corner and Stones Department Store, we have enough to buy the Snider family Christmas and even give them a Christmas dinner. I'm heading over to Wright's Grocery Store to get a box of

food. Would any of you kids like to come along?

Brooke Sure thing, Miss Blass.

Rachel I'm always up for shopping.

Nathan And I'm for anything when food is involved.

Sean (Sean walks to Mr. Stone and shakes his hand.) Mr. Stone...You're

a cool dude.

Randy (Harry and Vern walk to Mr. Stone.) Harry, kinda nice to see that

sparkle back in your eyes.

Vern (*Vern blows his nose and wipes his eyes.*) Ok, enough already.

Mr. Stone (Mr. Stone looks at his watch.) Look at the time...it's almost noon.

Can you all handle things for a while?

Randy Sure thing, Harry. Where're you off to?

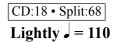
Mr. Stone The park. I have an important lunch date. Be back in an hour.

Song 9 Glory / Reprise

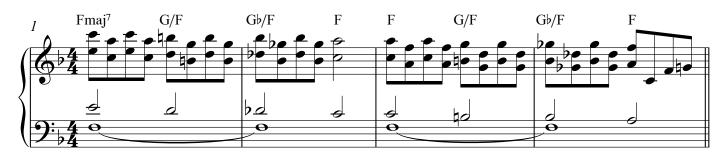
Song 10 (optional) Christmas Shop Around the Corner

-Bow Music

Glory / Reprise



Words and Music by PAM ANDREWS, Traditional Arr. by John DeVries

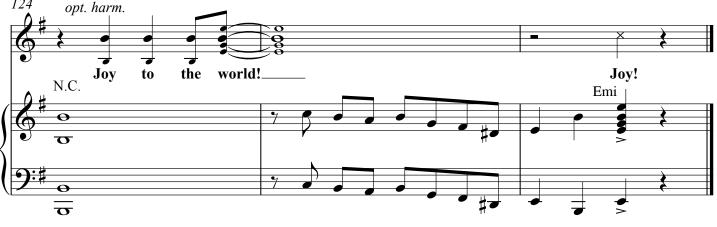






Glory / Reprise





Christmas Shop Around the Corner—Bow Music



Christmas Shop Around the Corner—Bow Music







is a wonderful story presenting the joy of giving at Christmastime.

The story begins with the children of First Church caroling at Big City Mall in front of Stone's Department Store. The owner, Harry Stone, has lost his heart for Christmas due to the recent passing of his wife.

Emily Snider, one of their choir members, arrives late and tells the children she cannot stay because she has lost her home in a fire. With the assistance of two colorful mall cops, the children decide to open the **Christmas Shop Around the Corner** to raise money to surprise Emily's family with Christmas gifts.

Emily returns to retrieve her coat and meets Mr. Stone. She shares that she was friend of his wife's and tells him stories of Sarah's kindness to others. Unknowingly, Emily even donates money to the cause providing a wonderful display of Mark 12:42-44. Mr. Stone prays for forgiveness and once more has a "heart of Christmas."

Christmas Shop Around the Corner has a great message of giving.

You will love the living Nativity Scene and songs that are both hip and fun. Come join us in the Christmas Shop Around the Corner!

You will find the best gift ever...Jesus!

Shop Till We Drop fa La La La Las Joy!

Shepherds, Angels, & Wise Men

carols of the Bells

christmas Shop Around the corner

The Heart of Christmas

He is Born / Go, Tell If on the Mountain

Glory / Reprise

Staging suggestions, lesson plans, movement scripts, and so much more is available in the Christmas Shop Around the Corner Resource Materials

