

Adventure Christmas Service 2024 – “Journey to the King”

(Christmas Eve is a Tuesday, Christmas day is a Wednesday)

Journey to the King - What a trip!

Four pre-recorded Announcement Skits for each week:

Dec 1st

“Invite EVERYONE”

(Sermon: Prophets/Israelites Journey)

Dec 8th-

“Pack Light”

(Sermon: Mary & Joseph’s Journey)

Dec 15th-

“In Jerusalem”

(Sermon: Shepherds)

Dec 22nd

“On The Road to Bethlehem

(Sermon: Our Journey)

December 29th *One very short live skit

“Perfect Timing...always worth the trip”

(Sermon: The Magi’s Journey)

MAGI SKIT CAST

Mr. Magi- Russ

Magi She-la- Shelly

Aunyel (Aunyel Son)- Moses (wears headband similar to Karate Kid.)

Noah tall - Zeke (he’s available for filming but will be gone Dec 22nd & Dec 29th)

Magi dancers ages 8 and up?

Sunday Filming Dates:

Skits & Announcements for Dec 1st AND 8th - **both** to be FILMED on Nov. 3rd

Skits & Announcements for Dec 15th AND 22nd - **both** to be FILMED on Nov. 10th

Live Skit Rehearsal Dates:

Russ, Shelly, Moses & Pastor Jodi

-Rehearsal ON STAGE after church on Dec 22nd and morning of Dec 29th.

One children’s dance to be performed December 15th and again on Christmas Eve.

SONG: "Following a Star" by Scott Prudence from *Let the Good News Ring* album

***Dance rehearsals** in Kidventure begin Sunday October 20th and continue every Sunday through November. *Dress rehearsal on stage immediately after church Sunday Dec 8th and in Kidventure at 9am morning of performance on Dec 15th.*

Skit # 1 "Invite EVERYONE"
Shown on Dec 1st (Filmed on Nov. 3rd)

Magi skit & announcements

CAST *The two wise leaders of the Magi Tribe and the young apprentices*

- **Mr. Magi**- Russ
- **Magi She-la**- Shelly
- **Aunyel**- Moses (Karate Kid "Danielson" character with headband)
- **Noahtall**- Zeke (The over confident "know it all" tribe member)

MR. Magi: (mid conversation to *Magi She-lah*) Yes, I agree, it's only fair we invite the entire Magi tribe.

Aunyel: (*enters*) I gathered the tribe as you asked. (handing MR. Magi a scroll) Here are this weeks tribal announcements.

Mr. Magi: Thank you Aunyel

(*Magi She-la and Mr. Magi proceed to read Adventure Announcements to tribe - can read from the scroll*)

Magi She-la: and finally, many of you noticed just as the Israelites' prophesy foretold, a new star has appeared—

Noahtall: (*interrupts*) I knew it would, I just knew it and of course I saw it first!

Magi She-la: (*with a fake grin*) Yes Magi Noahtall we are so grateful you woke us all up in the middle of the night to point it out.

Mr. Magi: We have decided to follow the star to further investigate this new King they call Messiah. Who'd like to come along?

(*Aunyel, who is standing next to Mr. Magi, jumps up & down in front of them with hand raised ecstatically*)

(Mr. Magi and Magi Shelah survey their tribe with wide eyes)

Magi She-la: Okay then, everyone! Let's start packing.

Aunyel: (runs off camera, puts on a satchel & immediately approaches them) I'm ready--lets go! [Satchel prop](#)

Mr. Magi: (putting a hand on Aunyel's shoulder) Patience Aunyelson, we must wait until dark so the star can guide us.

Aunyel: Aaaaawww riiiiight... well I can wait. (immediately starts pacing)

Mr. Magi: (to *Magi She-la*) It's going to be a long day isn't it?

Magi She-la: (whispering to *Mr. Magi*) I have an idea.

Magi She-la: (crosses to *Aunyel*) Aunyel take this and go purchase gifts for this New King, if he is truly coming and we actually find him, we don't want to arrive empty handed.

Skit #2 "Pack Light"
Shown on Dec 8th (Film on Nov. 3rd)

Magi skit & announcements

CAST

- *Mr. Magi*
- *Magi She-la*
- *Noahtall*
- *Aunyel*

Mr. Magi: I know it has been a long journey everyone. Hopefully you were able to find shade and rest. We have decided to push forward to Jerusalem; it is the closest city to the East.

Noahtall: I am telling you HE is there I just know it.

Magi She-la: We know, you've said it a million times, Noahtall, and maybe you're right. Everyone! be sure and refill your waters before we depart at dusk. But a few announcements before we go...

"Adventure announcements" (*can read from the scroll*)

(Aunyel crosses in front of them after announcements with a cart or **large bag full to the brim and a lantern prop**)

Mr. Magi: Aunyel what is all this?

Aunyel: Gifts, Mr. Magi! I couldn't decide so I bought them all! And then while I was waiting, I kept thinking of things I might need on the journey...Like water...I brought a LOT of water. **Leather canteen prop**

Magi She-la: (to Mr. Magi) Well that explains the constant potty breaks!

Aunyel: ...Extra sandals...and some scrolls... I must keep up on my magirial studies... **Sandals and scrolls props??**

Mr. Magi: Aunyelson, did you not hear me say pack light??

Aunyel: OOOH I thought you meant pack **A** light (**holds up lantern prop**)

Magi She-la: (Sighs)...You know the Jews believe their God will provide what they need. I guess we shall find out because I didn't pack any of those things.

Mr. Magi: Danielson please run back & tell Noahtall to stop the tribe once they reach the gates of Jerusalem and to wait for us there.

Aunyel: Yes Mr. Magi.

Skit # 3 “In Jerusalem” (Two Parts)
Shown on Dec 15th- (Film on Nov 10th)

CAST

- *Mr. Magi*
- *Magi She-la*
- *Magi Noahtall*
- *Aunyel*

Part 1

Aunyel: (running in from stage right to Noahtall) Mr. Magi said to stop the tribe just outside the city gates and wait for them there.

Noahtall: Thank you Aunyel I will let the tribe know. (turns to his left as if addressing tribe) Not much further tribe. We will stop outside the city gates and rest. Let us carry on...

Video stops and intro to “Oompa Loompa” music begins as Magi tribe enter stage We need something on screen during song (Image of Jerusalem gates??)

Magi tribe Dances toFollowing The Star by Scott Prudence

dance ends with Magi dancers all sitting down to rest facing the back screen on stage.

Announcement video starts again

Part 2

(Magi Leaders return from secret meeting with Herod)

Mr Magi: So Magi Noahtall was wrong after all; this Jewish King is not in Jerusalem.

Magi She-la: Nope. And...did you catch that King Herod said “CHILD”? “Go and search for the CHILD so I too can worship him”...strange.

Mr. Magi: Yes, yes, very curious, so the Jews are going to be ruled by a child?...Strange and was it just me or did Herod seem a little paranoid about the whole situation?

Magi She-la: Oh quite! Borderline obsessive I’d say and he doesn’t really seem like the type to worship anyone else.

Mr. Magi: True, we need to consider this further but first we better give the others this news along with the rest of the announcements.

Magi She-la: They won't be thrilled our journey is not complete so let's save that one for last.

Mr. Magi: and Magi Noahtall wont be thrilled he was wrong...(with a smirk) mention that first!

Aunyel runs up to them as they begin to walk towards "tribe"

Aunyel: Uhhh fiiiiinally--where have you been?

Magi She-la: Aaaaawe did you miss us young Magi? (she gives him a wink) go sit with the tribe—we will tell you all.

Aunyel runs towards camera and sits below out of shot

Mr. Magi: Sorry to keep you all waiting. We have just returned from a secret meeting with King Herod. He has shared another Jewish prophecy...

Magi She-la: but first the bad news. The Jewish King is NOT in Jerusalem.

Noahtall runs into shot

Noahtall: WHAT? No, it can't be. I calculated...but the star... I triple checked. I even—
(Mr. Magi interrupts)

Mr. Magi: (patting Noahtall on the back) Of course you did, it seems you were mistaken though. It is okay Magi Noahtall - you got us very close. Go sit down. You will understand soon.

Magi Shela: Before we reveal the prophecy, a few tribal announcements

they give Adventure Announcements

Magi She-la: Now Mr. Magi please share the prophecy we were told of.

Mr. Magi: (unrolls scroll and reads) [Scroll prop](#)

“But you Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
Are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
For out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people, Israel.”

Noahtall: (again approaches leaders) Aaawe yes Bethlehem! I KNEW IT! I always said if it wasn't Jerusalem, it was Bethlehem!!

She-la and Mr. Magi glance at each other, smirk and shake their heads

Aunyel: (running into the shot) Soooo close... we're almost there guys!

(Magi dancers on stage begin to stand and shout throwing up hands & walking off stage complaining...)

“Almost there?!?”

“That’s at least three more days of travel”

“No way, I’m out!”

“Me too, I’m exhausted!” *This is all on video but dancers will still be on stage and can jump up at end saying these statements*

On pre-recorded video announcement, Aunyel, Noahtall, She-la and Mr. Magi all mimic watching tribe members focusing on different people leaving, reaching out to try to stop them and then waving goodbye.

Mr. Magi: (nodding to his three companions) And then there were four.

Skit # 4 On the Road to Bethlehem
Shown Dec 22nd (Film on Nov. 10th)

CAST

- *Mr. Magi*
- *Magi She-la*
- *Noahtall*
- *Aunyel*

Opens with Mr. Magi and She-la walking in and sitting down to rest. Aunyel follows and sets down his satchel, Noahtall right behind him

Mr. Magi: (to Aunyel) where is our cart of gifts?

Aunyel: When you two snuck off to your secret meeting with King Herod, the elder Magi sent me into town looking for you. I ran into a young shepherd who had already met the Messiah!! I had so many questions and was so excited to hear...and (*looking down and shuffling feet*)...well...while I was talking to him my bag was stolen.

Noahtall: (throws up arms and crosses them) Good grief! Not sure which we lost more of on this trip: Magi or gifts.

Aunyel: (*reaches into satchel and hands the three Magi each one gift*) I only have these three small gifts of gold, frankincense & myrrh left which means I will have nothing to offer.

Noahtall: (patting Aunyel on the back) Aunyelson these are lovely gifts, you did well taking special care of them. (*Aunyel raises his head and puffs his chest*)

Mr. Magi : So many did not make the journey but you did. You are showing up for this Jewish King and that counts.

Magi She-la: And you will not be empty handed for if you choose to, you will be one of the first to offer him worship. (to Mr. Magi) Speaking of the many who didn't make the journey we should get a message to them with the tribe announcements.

Mr Magi: Yes good idea. Noahtall please write this down and send it out immediately...

(They give Adventure Announcements-can read from the scroll)

Skit #5 “Perfect Timing” (LIVE SKIT with Pastor Jodi) on Dec 29-Family Sunday)

Cast

- Mr. Magi
- Magi She-la
- Aunyel

No Magi announcement instead at the start of Sermon the 4 Magi cross in front of Pastor Jodi on the stage, she stops them and asks if they found the baby Jesus?

Jodi: Oh, hey guys-did you find Jesus, the new King?

Aunyel: We sure did, He was what I expected...MUCH smaller but somehow even GREATER! So cute too... I will miss him.

Mr. Magi: There is clearly something different about Him - so much light in his presence—like he could change the world!

Magi She-la: Yes, yes precious in deed, we just love Him...we will never be the same....I think the world will never be the same!

Jodi: I felt the same way when I encountered him!! Hey, by the way- what happened to the tall Magi that was with you?

Magi She-la: AAAWE yes Noahtall! He wanted to know AALLL he could about Jesus so stayed behind.

Mr. Magi: I can't blame him. I wish we had found Him sooner. But when we did, it felt perfect and was definitely worth the journey.

Jodi: So now you're headed back to Jerusalem to report to Herod?

Aunyel: Nooo way! we had a drea— (Magi She-la covers his mouth and forces his head to nod yes) along with the rest of them.

Mr. Magi- (forcing a laugh) Such a silly boy... always yapping about dreams and such, (talking faster and backing away) Well...we must be on our way. Don't want to keep Herod waiting. *(They start to scurry off)*

Jodi: Wait!!! *(they stop and slowly turn)* You're going the wrong way! Jerusalem is that way.

Mr Magi: *(with a stiff smile)* Oh is it?...*(another awkward glance between the 4 of them then they suddenly burst into a run and disappear out the sanctuary doors.)*

***Interesting Magi Facts

Magi, Astronomers, Kings Advisors, Zoroastrian Priests of Meeds tribe =Magi Tribe

- Zoroastrian-false pagan religion that believed in one God plus other similarities to Christianity. Literally false prophets. Some genuinely seeking knowledge and truth some were charlatans.
- High Ranking In the Eastern Empires Rome Greece definite prominence
- Came from Persia 800 to 900 miles away
- Knew of Daniel's prophecy
- There were at least 2 of them, quite possibly more, even up to 12 as they were a tribe.
- It is very possible that some were women as the term Magi is a non gender term
- Herod knew **where** but not when
- Magi knew to watch for star (**when**) but not exactly where
- They were not there at Jesus birth. They visited him in a HOUSE not a stable. Still an infant and still in Bethlehem possibly 2 to 6 weeks old
- After God warned them in a dream, the Magi decided not to go through Nazareth and inform Harrod