

# YEAR 3 RE INSPIRE WORKSHOP

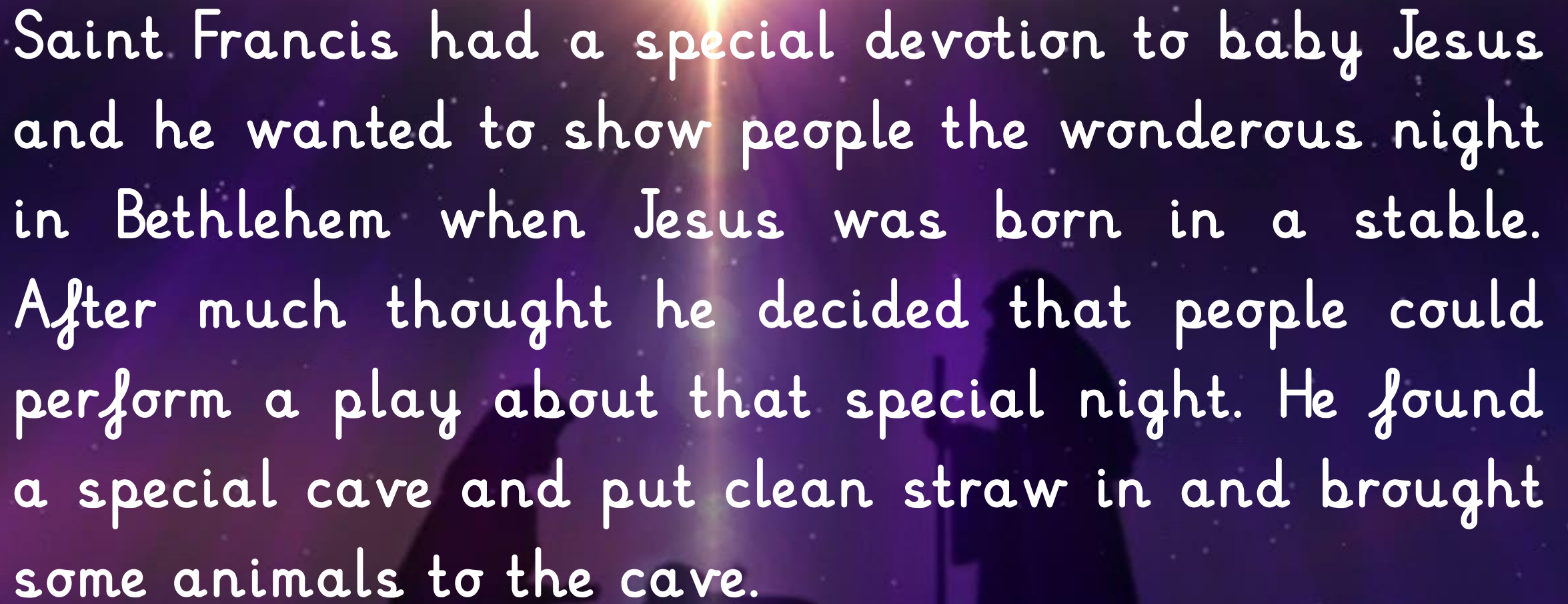
To know the story of St Francis of Assisi and the first crib and to make our own crib.



Light the Advent Candle number one,  
now the waiting time has just begun,  
we have started on our journey's way  
time to think and think of Christmas Day.

*And its candle, candle burning bright,  
shining in the cold winter's night.  
Candle, candle burning bright,  
Fill our hearts with Christmas light.*



The background is a dark purple and blue night sky filled with small white stars. A bright, glowing star is positioned at the top center, casting a vertical beam of light and a horizontal lens flare. In the lower half of the image, there are dark silhouettes of figures. On the right, a figure stands holding a long staff. On the left, there are silhouettes of what appear to be animals, possibly a camel and a donkey, facing towards the right.

Saint Francis had a special devotion to baby Jesus and he wanted to show people the wonderful night in Bethlehem when Jesus was born in a stable. After much thought he decided that people could perform a play about that special night. He found a special cave and put clean straw in and brought some animals to the cave.

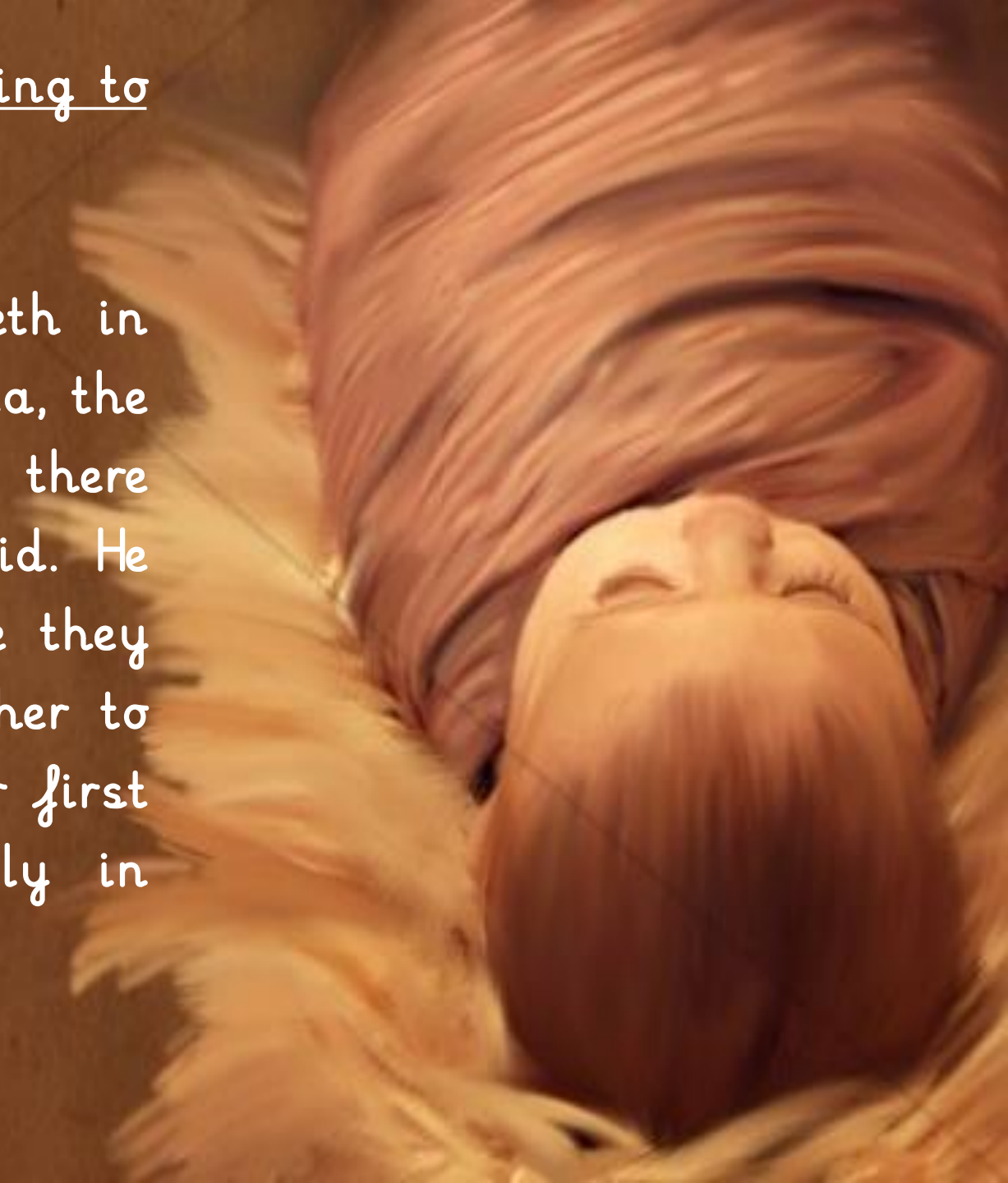
On Christmas Eve, the people gathered for the service with their torch lights to look upon the scene. The ox, the donkey, and the empty manger were all in the cave. With many people crowded around the cave Francis told the story of Jesus' birth.



A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
Luke

Joseph went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the town of Bethlehem in Judea, the birthplace of King David. Joseph went there because he was a descendant of David. He went to register with Mary, and while they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have her baby. Mary gave birth to her first born Son and wrapped him carefully in cloths, and laid him in a manger.'

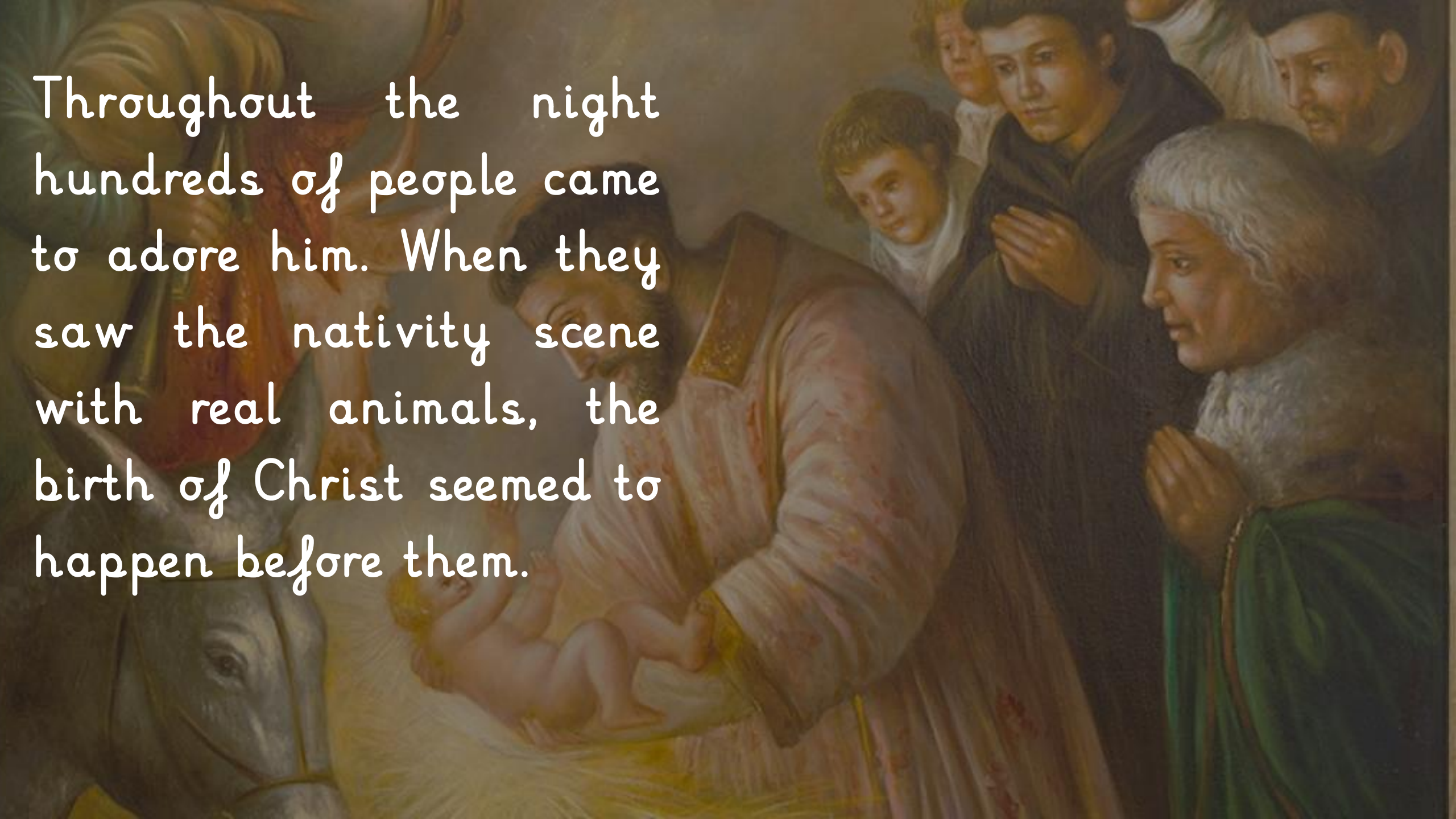
The word of the Lord.



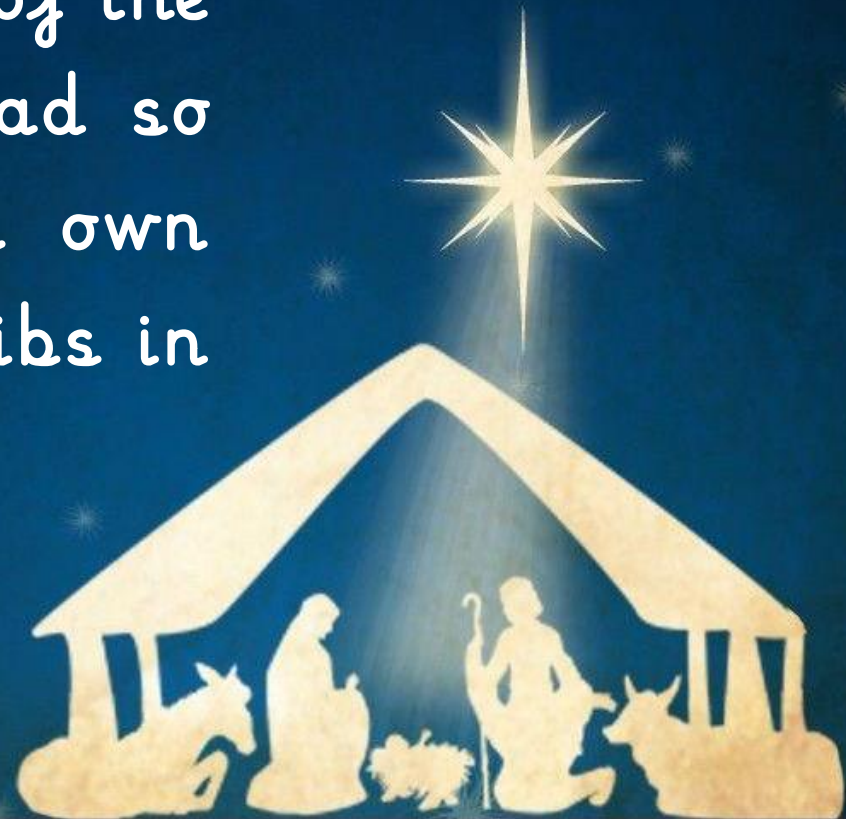
At that moment, Francis laid a figure of baby Jesus in the manger bed. The crowd was still. The child seemed to be surrounded by a brilliant light.

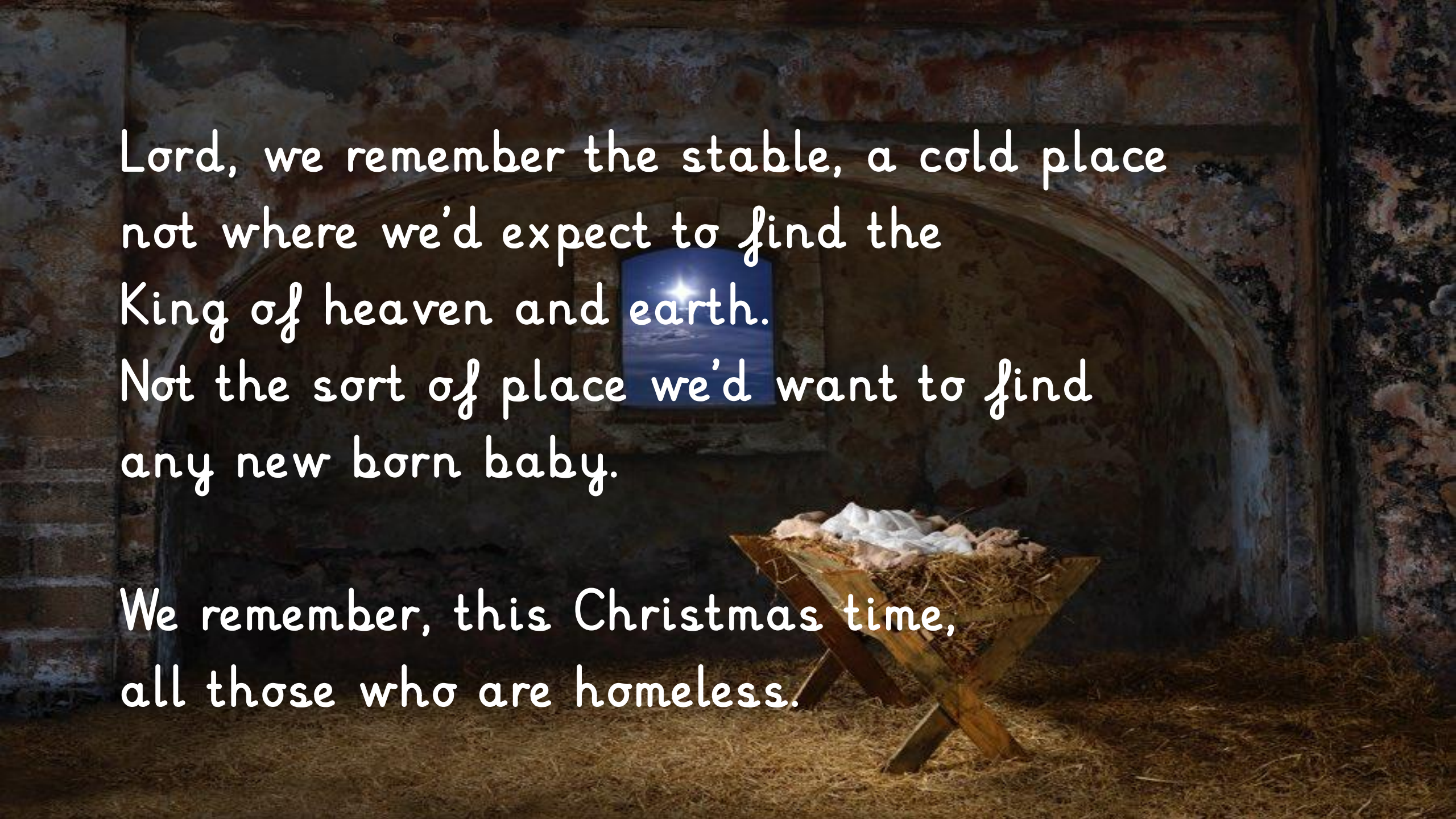


Throughout the night hundreds of people came to adore him. When they saw the nativity scene with real animals, the birth of Christ seemed to happen before them.



The people who crowded into the cave for the first performance were so impressed that they wanted to see it again. Later, a craftsman made a miniature version of the manger scene and the tradition spread so that every Church in Italy had its own nativity scene. People began to put cribs in their homes.



A photograph of a nativity scene set in a rustic stable. In the foreground, a wooden manger is filled with straw and contains a baby wrapped in white cloth. The manger sits on a bed of straw. In the background, a stone archway frames a small window that looks out onto a bright, blue sky with a sun or moon. The walls of the stable are made of rough, textured stone.

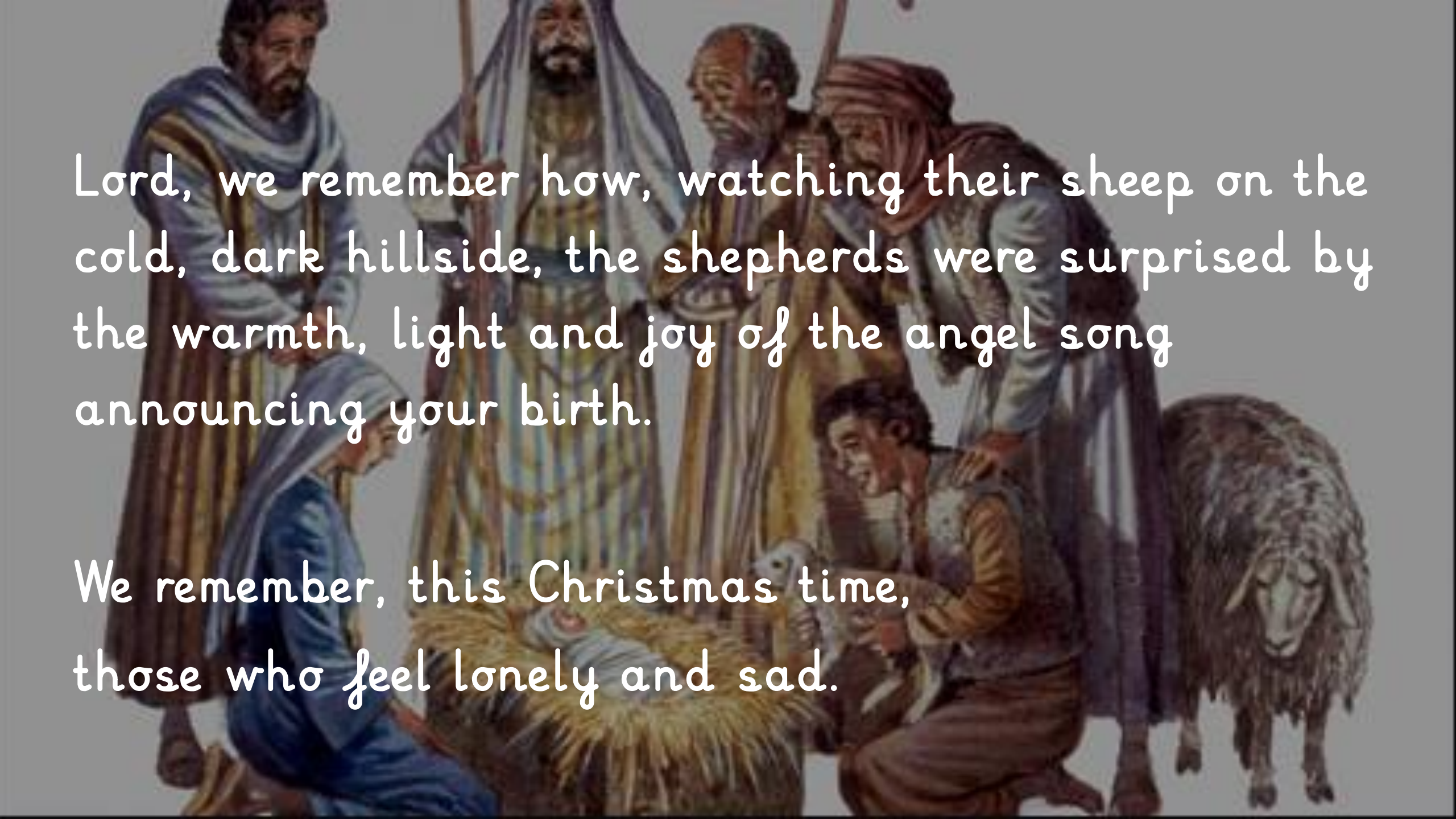
Lord, we remember the stable, a cold place  
not where we'd expect to find the  
King of heaven and earth.  
Not the sort of place we'd want to find  
any new born baby.

We remember, this Christmas time,  
all those who are homeless.

A photograph of a nativity scene. Mary is seated on the left, holding the infant Jesus wrapped in white swaddling clothes. Joseph is kneeling on the right, looking at the baby. They are in a manger filled with straw, with a stone wall in the background.

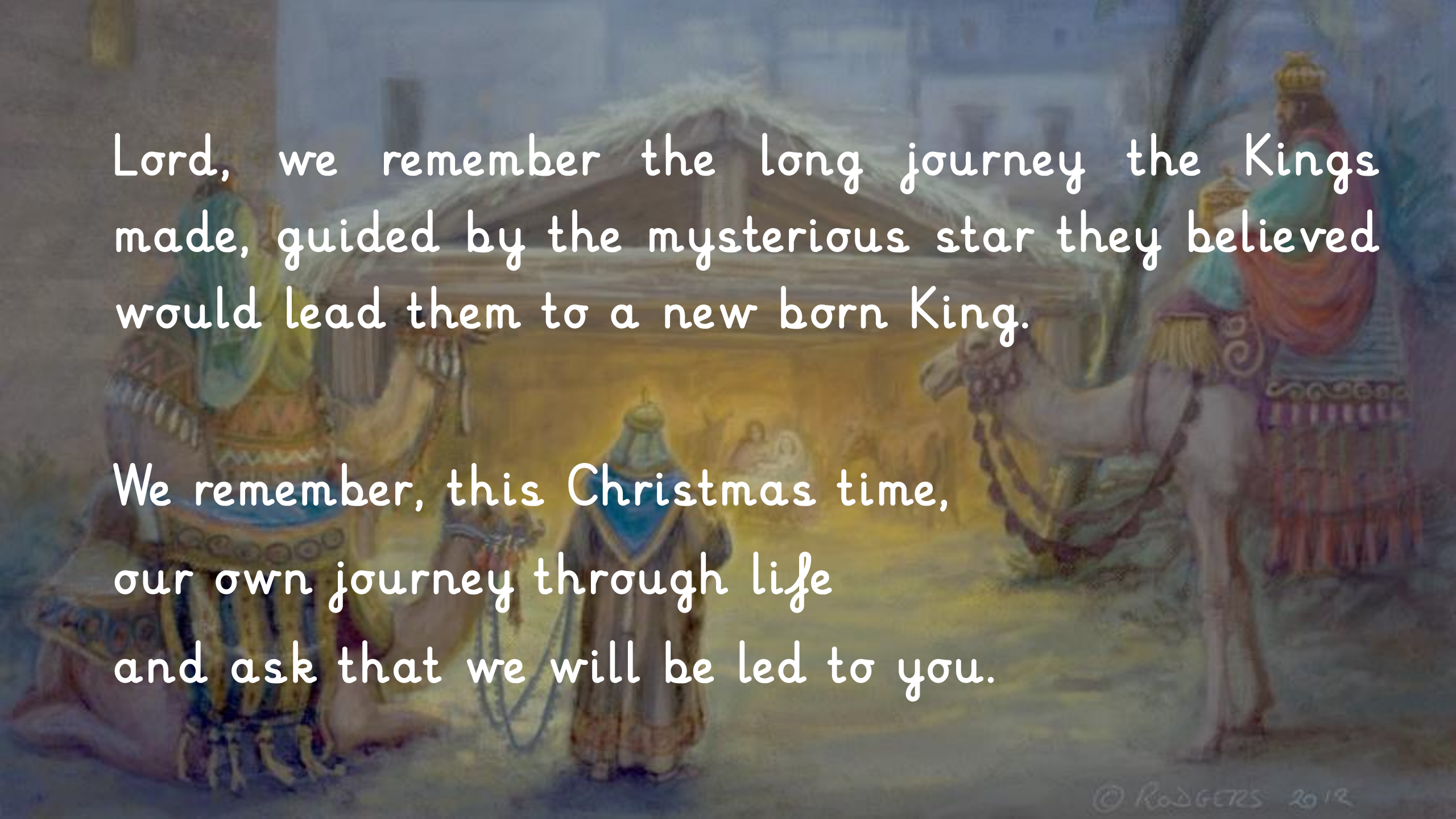
Lord, we remember Mary and Joseph on their journey to Bethlehem, their worry at finding no room at the inn; the excitement at the forthcoming birth; their hopeful longing for your coming.

We remember, this Christmas time, those who are anxious, who long for your hope to come into their lives.

An illustration of the Nativity scene. In the center, the infant Jesus lies in a manger filled with straw. To the left, a woman in a blue robe and headscarf kneels in prayer. To the right, a man in a brown tunic kneels, holding a small white lamb. Behind them, several men in traditional robes and head coverings stand, some holding long wooden staffs. One man in a purple and gold robe stands prominently in the background. To the far right, a large, woolly sheep stands facing the group. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.


Lord, we remember how, watching their sheep on the cold, dark hillside, the shepherds were surprised by the warmth, light and joy of the angel song announcing your birth.

We remember, this Christmas time, those who feel lonely and sad.

A painting depicting the journey of the Three Kings. In the foreground, a camel is kneeling on its right knee, facing a shepherd in a blue and white robe who is leading the way. To the right, another camel is standing, carrying a king in ornate, colorful robes. In the background, a manger scene is visible with the infant Jesus lying in a manger, surrounded by Mary and other figures. The scene is set in a desert landscape with a simple building in the background.

Lord, we remember the long journey the Kings made, guided by the mysterious star they believed would lead them to a new born King.

We remember, this Christmas time, our own journey through life and ask that we will be led to you.

A newborn baby is lying in a nest of straw, wrapped in a white cloth. The baby's face is visible, and they appear to be sleeping peacefully. The background is dark, making the white cloth and the straw stand out.

Lord, we remember your coming into our world as a tiny, helpless child. We thank you that you came to share our joys and sorrows.

We remember, this Christmas time, all the children of our world, in need of love, food, and freedom.

A blue-toned illustration of a nativity scene. In the center, a wooden manger is silhouetted against a bright blue background. Inside the manger, a figure is kneeling, and another figure stands to the right holding a staff. To the left of the manger, a donkey is silhouetted. To the right, an ox is silhouetted. In the background, several camels are silhouetted against a bright blue sky. A large, bright star with a long horizontal tail is positioned in the upper center of the sky. The overall scene is set against a dark blue background with silhouettes of palm trees and hills.

ENJOY MAKING YOUR OWN NATIVITY SCENE