

Christmas 2000



In the Shadows of the Night

In the shadows of the night
In little Bethlehem,
A weary couple seeks a place
To rest inside an inn.

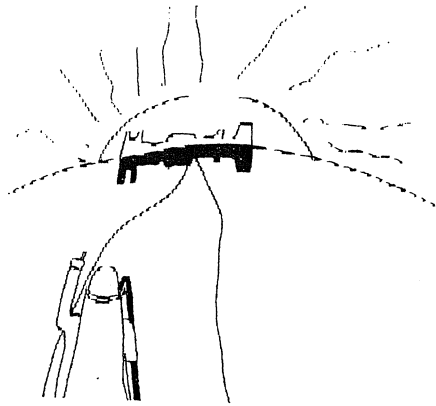
There is no place for them to stay
Where they can rest their heads.
The inn is full, no rooms are left.
There are no empty beds.

The poor beleaguered man and wife
Are weary to the bone.
They've come afar from Nazareth
To their ancestral home.

In great duress they've come this way
An order to obey.
"A census we must have," says Rome,
"And taxes you must pay."



Drawing by Beth, 1986



Drawing by Tim, 1999

The burden of the trip was hard
Upon the lowly two
For as they walked the rocky roads
The woman's time was due.

She walked the way to Bethlehem
A full nine months with child,
And never once did she complain
Her temperament so mild.

But now they stand outside the inn
Seeking place to stay.
"Please, sir," said the humble man,
"Even on some hay"

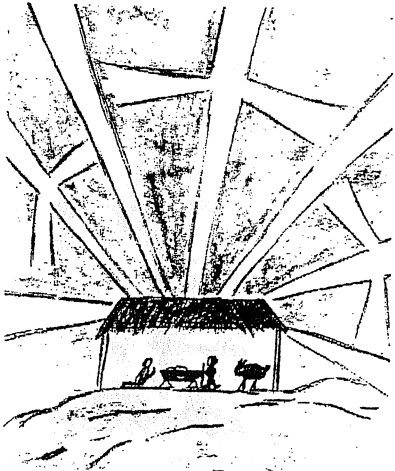
So to the stable they are led
To bed down for the night.
Allowed they are to stay within
Until the morning light.

'Tis in the shadows of the night
In a stable stall,
A miracle of life and love
Unfolds to save us all.

In pulsing glow of candlelight
Is born the precious boy
To be the savior of the earth
And fill us all with joy.

As Mary looks upon her son
With mother's gentle love,
She celebrates with humble joy
This gift from God above.

Joseph bows his head in prayer,
His brown eyes filled with tears,
And contemplates what lies ahead
For child in coming years.



Drawing by Tim, 1996



Drawing by Beth, 1989

The father and the mother both
Have heard the angel say
This is the chosen Son of God
Who comes to win the fray.

As he grows in years to come
He'll be the Holy One
Who battles evil to the end
Until our lives are won.

From manger cradle to the cross
Is his destiny.
From life to death to life again
He comes to set us free.

In the town of Bethlehem
Midst shadows of the night
The Son of God was born that day
To save us from sin's plight.

C. Handlee Vige
Christmas 2000



It was to the humble shepherds that God first revealed the Messiah's birth . . .

We wish you all the joy and blessings promised in the birth of the Christ-child. May the coming year bring you an awareness of God's presence and love each and every day.

*The Vigas
Pastor, Lynne, Beth and Tim*



. . . and Jesus' death and Resurrection were the fulfillment of all that He had promised