

The Great Bethlehem Bake-Off

written by Rev. Corey Turnpenny 2019 Whitney Point NY

Cast: Hosts Cindy & Neil, Innkeeper, Mary & Joseph, Angel(s), Shepherd(s) (optional sheep), Baker

Cindy & Neil begin on stage seated next to each other as if in a car

Neil: All set, Cindy?

Cindy: All set, Neil!

Neil: Buckle up, let's get on our way for this special edition of Bake-Off in the birthplace of Christmas!

Cindy: I know! I can't wait to see the reindeer, and the workshop, and SANTA!

Neil: Cindy, we're not going to the North Pole!

Cindy: What do you mean, I thought you said we're going to the birthplace of Christmas.

Neil: We are! The place where Jesus was born! Let's hit it for this special edition of the Great Bethlehem Bake-Off!

Cindy & Neil act like they're speeding away in a car while the rest of the cast come onstage. The rest of the cast should space out evenly across the stage, from left to right: Innkeeper, Mary & Joseph, Angel(s), Shepherd(s) (and sheep), and the Baker. Cindy & Neil stand up and move to stage left in front of the Innkeeper. (Optional: play theme music as the cast moves onto stage.)

Neil: Wow, there sure are a lot of people in town!

Cindy: Yes, Caesar called a census so there are lots of extra visitors here in the City of David to be registered.

Neil: The bread ovens must be working overtime to feed all these extra guests! Since we're here in the 'House of Bread' or Bethlehem as it's known, our special edition of the Great Bethlehem Bake-Off is, of course, going to feature bread! Let's see what our amateur bakers have in store for the judges this week!

Cindy: *(to the Innkeeper)* Ah hello sir, and what kind of bread will you be baking?

Innkeeper: *(arms crossed, gruff)* Inn's full! Barn's out back. *(turns back on hosts)*

Cindy: Ok! Not a competitor!

Neil: Well this girl over here certainly has a "bun in the oven"! Let's see what they're cooking up.. *(to Mary)* What kind of bread will you be baking for the Great Bethlehem Bake-Off!

Mary: aaaAHHH-I'M HAVING A BABY!

Joseph: Uhh.. I'll get some help!

Neil: We'll just let you two work that out. Moving on!

Cindy: *(looking up at the Angel(s) mystified)* Have you ever seen a creature so magnificent?! You must be preparing some incredible bread!

Angel(s): Don't be afraid! I bring good news for all people. Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord. You will find a newborn baby wrapped snugly and lying in a manger. Glory to God and peace on earth!

Cindy: *(amazed, wide-eyed)* Savior bread?

Neil: Uhh I don't think they're talking about bread. Perhaps this guy is competing.. *(to the Shepherd(s))* What kind of bread are you baking for the Great Bethlehem Bake-Off?

Shepherd: You just saw what I saw, and your first thought was bread?! I'm going to see what that angel was talking about!

Neil: Good point. Let's go, Cindy!

Shepherd(s) (and sheep), Neil & Cindy, Angel(s) all walk over to Mary & Joseph and place themselves around them like a nativity. Innkeeper comes over too. Mary is now holding a baby.

This whole time the Baker has been mixing, kneading, and baking bread at a small table on stage right. Baker pulls a loaf of bread out from under the table.

Cindy: Wow, the angel was right! It's not savior bread, it's a savior baby!

Mary: His name is Jesus.

Neil: Well, there you have it! We never did get any bread..

Baker: *(calling over)* I've made some bread!

Neil: but it's clear the winner of the Great Bethlehem Bake-Off is this incredible savior baby!

Baker: What?!

Cindy: I still can't believe we're in the 'House of Bread' and never got any bread.

Baker: I MADE SOME BREAD!

Neil: That's OK, Cindy. We don't need any bread, the promised Messiah has finally come! This is God's great gift for all people!

Cindy: You're right, Neil. Who needs bread?!

Baker: I THOUGHT THIS WAS A BAKING COMPETITION!

Neil: Well, folks, thanks for joining us for this very special edition of the Great Bethlehem Bake-Off!

Baker: Is anyone even going to TRY my bread?!

'Hark! the Herald Angels Sing' begins to play. Cast exits while congregation sings. Baker storms off with their bread.

The End

Text: Corey Turnpenny, 2019

The Great Bethlehem Bake-Off is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/).