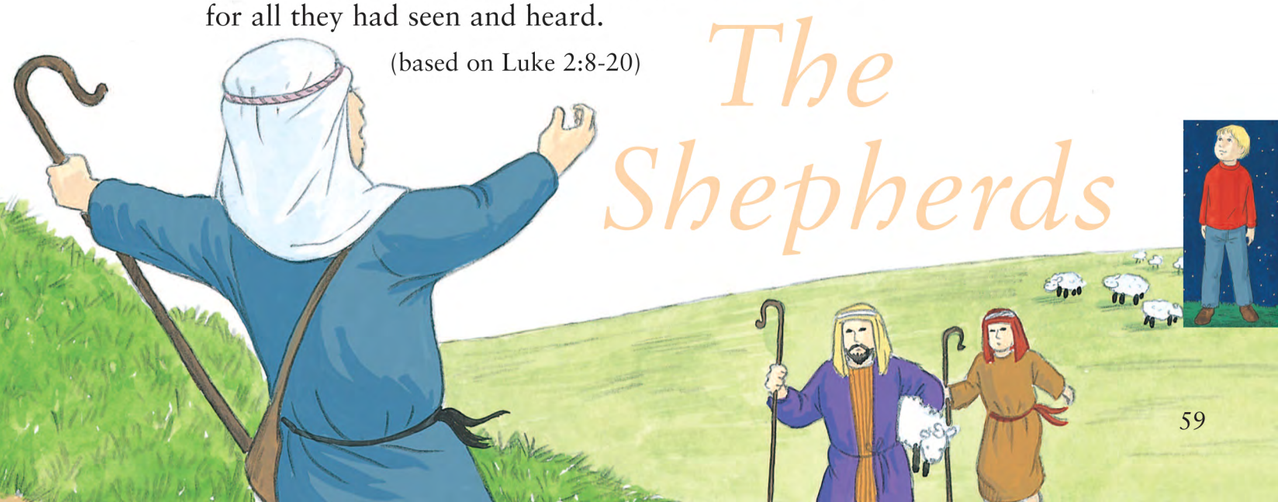
Luke's story of the birth of Jesus

The Roman Emperor,
Caesar Augustus,
wanted to know how many
people lived in his empire.
Everyone had to go back to
the place where their
families came from
to sign their name in a big
register.
Joseph and Mary had to go
to Bethlehem

While they were in Bethlehem
Mary's baby was born.
She had a little boy.
She wrapped him in swaddling clothes.
She put him in a manger, because
that was the safest place for him to be.
There was no room in the house for
Mary and Joseph and their baby,
so they stayed in the place
where the animals were kept.
(based on Luke 2:1-7)

The Shepherds

On the night when Jesus was born,
there were some shepherds in a field nearby looking after their sheep.
Suddenly there was light everywhere
and a messenger from God appeared.
The shepherds were terrified,
but the messenger said, "Don't be afraid!
God has sent me to bring you news of great joy.
This is a special night for everyone on earth.
Tonight a baby called Jesus has been born in Bethlehem.
You will find him wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger."
Then the shepherds could hear the sound of many voices praising God.
"Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth."
The shepherds said to one another,
"Let us go to Bethlehem to see this wonderful thing."
So they hurried away and found Mary and Joseph,
and the baby lying in the manger.
They told everyone what had happened
and everyone was amazed.
Mary remembered all this and thought about it often.
The shepherds went back praising and thanking God,
for all they had seen and heard.

(based on Luke 2:8-20)