## What a Beginning!

Almighty, Holy, **Transcendent God** entered His created world in total helplessness and deep shame. He came as the apparently-illegitimate child of an unmarried peasant girl, born as the lowest of the low in a filthy stable, with only a borrowed feeding trough for a cradle. Poor shepherds and pagan foreigners were the only invited guests. Surely the whole idea seemed ridiculous to those who for centuries had been anticipating the arrival of their Glorious King and Mighty Deliverer. But those who know and love this surprising, even shocking, God find it entirely in character. The Omnipotent Source of All is endlessly creative and stunningly, endearingly humble. Such an entrance is exactly His style! From the very beginning of His incarnation, He was telling us about Himself in delightfully vivid, even charming ways that all could understand. He wanted everyone to know Him and trust Him naturally, warmly, wholeheartedly. This was only the beginning of His

astonishing self-revelation. And O what a beginning it was!

## Hymn: The Birthday Party

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