A Birthday Story

transcribed by Josh Thompson, from many children’s stories

A long time ago,

Before there were dinosaurs or dining chairs,

Before balloons or stars or a man in the moon,

God thought a thought,

And he smiled a smile,

Bigger than the dome of our church,

Bigger than the highest mountain,

Or the deepest sea.

God smiled a smile,

Because he thought about you,

He thought about me.

God smiled a smile,

Because he thought what a blessing you’d be to all God’s holy church in the world.

God looked at the world he was making,

And he wondered –

Where could he put you?

Where would he put me?

In Africa, with the elephants?

In Asia, amidst bamboo, or Australia near an ocean breeze?

How about Antarctica where it’s always cold, or Central America where it’s sometimes not?

Europe, maybe so? Or South America? North? On the east coast or the west?

Perhaps in Texas, is that best?

Out of all the wonderful places in the world, God did it!

He chose just the right spot for you,

And just the right place for me to be born.

Then God wondered –

When should you come?

When should I appear?

A long time ago, before Jesus,

When men wore robes,

And women always covered their heads?

Or a long time from now

When people will zoom around in the blink of an eye

And just think and they’re there

Without even leaving their beds?

Nah – God did it – he chose this time for you, and this time for me.

And what about our families?

Did God let you choose your parents?

Did he ask you if you had a preference for many brothers or none?

Younger sisters, or an older one?

Did he ask you about the special needs you would bring?

No he didn’t ask,

Though he knows our every need even before we ask.

And he planned to meet our needs,

Every one,

Using our own family as his first plan of provision.

So out of all the wonderful families in the world,

God did it!

He chose just the right family for you,

And just the right family for me.

Turn now to your mother and father,

Whether here close by, near and dear,

Or far away, or gone on before,

Turn to them now,

And thank God for choosing them,

Just the right family for you,

And just the right family for me,

In a special place,

In this certain time.

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