“The Messenger”
by Cara Walter

What
In this humorous look at the first Christmas, a novice angel is sent to deliver God's message to the shepherds.

Themes: Christmas, Comedy, Angels

Who
Angel
God's Secretary
*Either can be played by men or women

When
The First Christmas

Costumes and Props
The Angel is a novice; it can be funny to have wings that appear too small, or a tilted halo. Secretary in professional business attire.

Desk
Phone or Inner Office Speaker
Notepad or Clipboard with work orders

Why
Luke 2:8-14

How
A traditional comic scene, this plays well with a quick, energetic pace, and it is also a good one for exploring physical comedy. The Angel should be sincere, if over-eager, and the Secretary should be firm, but never mean or angry.

Time
Approximately 2.5 minutes
The Secretary, holding a clipboard with work orders, is standing in front of her desk, watching live action from earth playing out on a screen in front of her (on the 4th wall). She bites her lip and returns to her desk and begins to take notes. The Angel charges into the office, practically crashing into the Secretary's desk.

Angel: Hi! Is the Big Guy in?

Secretary: Of course, Almighty God is always in, but He's rather busy right now. Do you have an appointment?

Angel: Uh… I was sent for…um…that is…Gabriel's on vacation and I'm his assistant!

Secretary: Hmm. This is a very important assignment. What kind of experience do you have? (brief pause as Secretary waits for Angel to answer, and then Secretary stands and crosses to point to the earth screen) Have you ever gone down there before?

Angel: Oh, sure… I got to watch when Gabriel told young Mary she was chosen to be the Lord's mom! What a special moment…she cried…I cried…Beautiful!

Secretary: Well, I suppose it's alright then…

Angel: Great! Where do I get to go? I'd love to appear in someone's dream! Am I to visit King Herod? (heading towards the exit) I'll start polishing my trumpet right away…

Secretary: Now, wait just a minute! You're to go to the shepherds living out in the fields near Bethlehem.

Angel: The shepherds? Are you sure?

Secretary: Ours is not to question God Almighty. He has a perfect plan for everything.

Angel: But the shepherds…they smell bad, and they're a little loony. No one from down there even listens to them!

Secretary: God wants you to share the good news of baby Jesus with the shepherds. Do you want the job or not?

Angel: Ok, ok…I want it. What's the message?

Secretary: (reading from a work order)"I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people."

Angel: You mean for the chosen ones of Israel, right?
Secretary: No, it says here “for ALL people.”

Angel: Hey, this might be kind of fun, after all!

Secretary: (continuing) “Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.”

Angel: I think I’m going to cry!

Secretary: Just get going. (Angel begins to run towards the exit) Oh and remember to appear gently. The shepherds are humble folk; the Lord doesn’t want them to freak out.

Angel: Don’t worry! His message is in good hands.

Secretary: I hope so. You-know-who will be watching from up here.

Angel: Oh…right! Well, I’m off!!

Angel exits.

Secretary watches the earth view screen on the 4th wall (or towards audience), sighs when scene below isn’t going well…answers phone/buzzer.

Secretary: Yes Sir? … Yes Sir, the shepherds do look “sore afraid…” (watching more of the scene below) The speech is going well, now, don’t you think? … Yes, Sir … I’ll send down reinforcements … How about a heavenly host to accompany your messenger angel? … They can praise You and show the shepherds how to glorify You for good measure … Yes, Sir, right away, Sir! (Secretary ends call. Muttering during rapid exit) Oh, I’m going to get demoted this time for sure…

Lights out.