"Twas the 'Time' Before Christmas"

When did Jesus "get started"? Bethlehem? Let's look at some passages together that will help us answer this question:

- * John 17:5 "And now Father, glorify Me in Your presence with the glory I had with You before the world began."
- * John 1:3,10 "Through Jesus Christ all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made...the world was made through Him."
- * Hebrews 1:2 "Jesus Christ (the Son)...through whom He made the universe."
- * Genesis 1:26 "Let Us make man in Our image."
- * <u>Hebrews 10:5,10</u> "When Christ came into the world He said: 'Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a <u>body</u> You prepared for Me.'...We have been made holy through the sacrifice of the <u>body</u> of Jesus Christ once for all."
- * <u>II Corinthians 8:9</u> "You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor that you through His poverty might become rich."
- * Philippians 2:3-12 "You should look out not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Jesus Christ, who, being in very nature God...made Himself nothing...made in human likeness and being found in appearance as a man He humbled Himself and became obedient to death...even death on a cross!"
- * John 10:18 "Nobody takes My life from Me but I lay it down on My own accord."

Conclusion:

We began by asking the question: When did Jesus "get started"? In Bethlehem?

These passages inform us that:

- * He always existed with the Father and the Holy Spirit
- * He was very much a part of creating everything
- * He changed form by leaving heaven and entering a body so that He could die
- * He voluntarily went to the cross to pay our eternal penalty as a substitutionary sacrifice for our sins

"Let every heart prepare Him room."

"Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in."

"Come into my heart, Lord Jesus. There is room in my heart for Thee."