

CHRISTMAS EVE

LESSONS AND CAROLS

DECEMBER 24, 2025

*Call To Worship

Isaiah 9:6

**For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given;
and the government shall be upon His shoulder,
and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

*Prayer

Pastor Chris O'Brien

*Hymn

Come, Thou Long- Expected Jesus

#196

The Angel Visits Mary

Responsive Reading

Luke 1:26-38

In the sixth month the Angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary.

And Gabriel came to Mary and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.

And the Angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And you will conceive in your womb and bear a Son, and you shall call his name Jesus.

He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

And Mary said to the Angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the

which He was born and came into this world that He might deliver us from sin. What, then, was it that made us afraid? Were we not afraid of God because we felt that we were lost through sin? Well then, here is joy upon joy. Here is not only the Lord come among us as a man, but made man in order to save man from that which separated Him from God.

I feel as if I could burst out in weeping for some here who have been spending their living in ungodly living and gone far away from God their Father by their evil ways. I know they are afraid to come back. They think that the Lord will not receive them, that there is no mercy for such sinners as they have been. Oh, but think of it — Jesus Christ has come to seek and to save that which was lost. He was born to save. If He does not save, He was born in vain, for the object of His birth was salvation. If He shall not be a Savior, then the mission of God to earth has failed, for its design was that lost sinners might be saved.

God has come; the Infinite, the Almighty, has stooped from the highest heaven that He may pick you up, a poor undone and hopeless sinner. Is there not comfort here? Does not the incarnate Savior take away the horrible dread which hangs over men like a black cloud?



“God Incarnate”

Charles Spurgeon, 1863

Born For This, the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” Luke 2:10-12

Our Lord Jesus Christ is in some senses more man than Adam. Adam was not born; Adam never had to struggle through the risks and weaknesses of infancy. He knew not the littleness’s of childhood - he was full grown at once. Father Adam could not sympathize with me as a babe and a child. But how man-like is Jesus! He is cradled with us in the manger; He does not begin with us in mid-life, as Adam, but He accompanies us in the pains and feebleness and infirmities of infancy, and He continues with us even to the grave.

Beloved, this is such sweet comfort. He that is God this day was once an infant so that if my cares are little and even trivial and comparatively infantile, I may go to Him, for He was once a child. Though the great ones of the earth may sneer at the child of poverty, and say, “You are too insignificant, and your trouble is too slight for pity;” I recollect with humble joy, that the King of heaven did hang upon a woman’s breast, and was wrapped in swaddling bands, and therefore I tell Him all my griefs.

How wonderful that He should have been an infant, and yet should be God over all, blessed forever! I am not afraid of God now; this blessed link between me and God, the Holy Child Jesus, has taken all fear away.

Observe, the angel told them somewhat of His purpose, as well as of His birth. “Unto you is born this day a Savior.” The very purpose for

power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy – the Son of God.

And behold your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” And Mary said, “Behold, I am the slave of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.

Special Music *What Child Is This (Christ The King)*

Lisa VanMeter

Getting to Bethlehem

Responsive Reading

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria.

And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

*Hymn *O Little Town of Bethlehem (vs. 1,3,4)* #201

*Hymn *Away in the Manger (vs.1&2)* #204

Good News!

Responsive Reading

Luke 2:8-14

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over the flock by night. And an Angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear.

