



3rd Week of Advent: Joy

**Joy in Unexpected Places**

(Luke 2:1-14)

# Luke 2:1-14

## (English Standard Version)

- **2** In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. **2** This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. **3** And all went to be registered, each to his own town.
- **4** 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, **5** to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. **6** And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. **7** 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.

# Luke 2:1-14

## (English Standard Version)

- <sup>8</sup> And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> 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.
- <sup>10</sup> And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, **I bring you good news of great joy** that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”

# Luke 2:1-14

(English Standard Version)

- <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,
- <sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

# I. A Baby is Born, a Promise is Fulfilled

(Luke 2:1-7)

- **2** In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. **2** This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. **3** And all went to be registered, each **to his own town**.
- **4** 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,** **5** to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.
- **6** And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. **7** 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.



## Micah 5:2

- But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,  
    who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,  
from you shall come forth for me  
    one who is to be ruler in Israel,  
whose coming forth is from of old,  
    from ancient days.

## II. Joy in Unexpected Places

(Luke 2:8-14)

- <sup>8</sup> And in the same region there were **shepherds out in the field**, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> 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.
- <sup>10</sup> And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, **I bring you good news of great joy** that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David **a Savior, who is Christ the Lord**. <sup>12</sup> And this will be a **sign** for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.”
- <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host **praising God** and saying,
- <sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”

# God is With the Humble

- For thus says the One who is high and lifted up,  
who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:  
“I dwell in the high and holy place,  
and also with him who is of a contrite and lowly spirit,  
to revive the spirit of the lowly,  
and to revive the heart of the contrite. (Isaiah 57:15 ESV)

# III. Running to Our Lord

(Luke 2:15-20)

- <sup>15</sup> When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “**Let us go** over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which **the Lord has made known to us.**”
- <sup>16</sup> And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw it, **they made known the saying that had been told them** concerning this child.
- <sup>18</sup> And all who heard it **wondered** at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things, **pondering them** in her heart.
- <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and **praising God** for all they had heard and seen, **as it had been told them.**

# Praising God

- O LORD, you are my God;  
I will exalt you; I will praise your name,  
for you have done wonderful things,  
plans formed of old, faithful and sure. (Isaiah 25:1)

**Let Us Pray**

