

Welcome Families!



Infant to preschool. Opens 15 min before service



K-5th dismissed during service

Join us

Christmas Eve

Candlelight Communion Service

5:00PM

Nursery will be open for little ones

**CARE
CORPS**
INTERNATIONAL

CHRISTMAS OFFERING

**COFFEE
FELLOWSHIP**

Sign up to bring goodies for fellowship on the board in Butler Hall

THANK YOU! Your tithes and offerings support TPC's ministries and day-to-day operations. Contributions can be made online: templetonpres.org/giving or by cash or check to TPC.



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TEMPLETONPRES.org

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**TEMPLETON
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

LOVE

DECEMBER 22, 2024 10:00AM

Order of Worship

Ringing of the Bell

***Opening Song** *Good Christian Men Rejoice*

Lighting of the Advent Candle and Building of the Creche

Welcome and Announcements

***Song of Praise** *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*

Call to Confession of Sin

Prayer of Confession

Merciful and loving God, You reveal Yourself to us in the person of Jesus Christ. We confess we are often unable or unwilling to see You revealed in this way. We are busy, distracted, and often burdened by our many demands and difficulties of life. Forgive us, Father, for failing to see You as being present even in the humble and simple parts of our lives. Like the shepherds of long ago, help us to boldly and proudly proclaim how great and wonderful You are.

(Please take this time to offer your own silent prayers and petitions)

Leader: Let the people of God say together.

People: In the name Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Offertory

Instrumental

*Doxology

Children's Christmas Special

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

Scripture Reading *Luke 2:1-22*

Message "The People of Christmas Part IV: Shepherds" Pastor Roger Patton

Invitation to Discipleship

***Closing Song** *Angels We Have Heard on High*

*Benediction

**Indicates congregation standing*

The People of Christmas Part IV: Shepherds

Luke 2:1-21

I. Who were they?

- a. Biblically they were esteemed.
 - i. Abraham, Moses, David.
 - ii. Description given to God (Psalm 23, Isaiah 40:11, Ezek. 34:12).
 - iii. Jesus is the Good Shepherd (Jn. 10:11).
 - iv. Pastors/leaders of the early church are called shepherds (Acts 20:28, I Peter 5:2).
- b. Socially they were looked down upon.
 - i. Considered a poor job at the bottom of the social ladder (dirty, lonely, isolating).
 - ii. Often at odds with more conventional industry and commerce.
 - iii. Were viewed with prejudice by religious and political leaders.
 1. Were called "sinners" and comparable to "tax-collectors."
 2. Could not hold public office or admitted in court as witnesses.

II. Why did God choose them?

- a. If God is going to reveal Himself as a Savior in the form of a Good Shepherd, who better to announce it to first?
- b. God often chooses those whom the world looks down upon (I Corinthians 1:26-29).
- c. God's mission was to reach and save the lost (Mark 2:17).

III. What did they do for us to emulate?

- a. After receiving the message from the angel, they went with haste and found Mary, Joseph, and the baby (vs. 16).
- b. They made known the saying that had been told them concerning the child (vs. 17).
- c. They glorified and praised God for all they had heard and seen (vs. 20).

*The mission of Templeton Presbyterian Church is "to cultivate a community of people who know they **Belong** to Jesus Christ to help them **Believe** in who He is and **Become** who He is calling them to be!"*

GOOD CHRISTIAN MEN REJOICE

Good Christian men rejoice
With heart and soul and voice
Give ye heed to what we say
News news Jesus Christ is born today
Ox and ass before Him bow
And He is in the manger now
Christ is born today / Christ is born today

Good Christian men rejoice
With heart and soul and voice
Now ye hear of endless bliss
Joy joy Jesus Christ was born for this
He has opened heaven's door
And man is blessed evermore
Christ was born for this / Christ was born for this

Good Christian men rejoice
With heart and soul and voice
Now ye need not fear the grave
Peace peace Jesus Christ was born to save
Calls you one and calls you all
To gain His everlasting hall
Christ was born to save / Christ was born to save

ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Gloria in excelsis Deo / Gloria in excelsis Deo

Shepherds why this jubilee
Why your joyous strains prolong
What the gladsome tidings be
Which inspire your heavenly song

Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing
Come adore on bended knee
Christ the Lord the newborn King

See Him in a manger laid
Whom the choirs of angels praise
Mary Joseph lend your aid
While our hearts in love we raise

IT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEAR

It came upon the midnight clear
That glorious song of old
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold
Peace on the earth good will to men
From heaven's all gracious King
The world in solemn stillness lay
To hear the angels sing

Still thro' the cloven skies they come
With peaceful wings unfurled
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world
Above its sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing

And ye beneath life's crushing load
Whose forms are bending low
Who toil along the climbing way
With painful steps and slow
Look now for glad and golden hours
Come swiftly on the wing
O rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing

For lo the days are hastening on
By prophet bards foretold
When with the ever-circling years
Comes round the age of gold
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long
Beneath the angel strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong
And man at war with man hears not
The love song which they bring
O hush the noise ye men of strife
And hear the angels sing