

Worship ~ 10:30 am

# **Morning Worship**

December 26, 2021

### Reflections

The story of peace that is conveyed throughout the Gospel of Luke—indeed, throughout the Bible—is the story of a peace that is brought about by the intervention of God himself. This is a peace that isn't found in something; it's a peace that is found in someone. And it is a peace that pursues us, seeks us, comes knocking on the door of our lives through books we read and friends who talk to us, and every so often through a sermon that's preached. We try to find peace in our own way: peace through stuff, peace through a bottle, peace through whatever it might be. You'll fill your emptiness up with something. But your substitute gods will never satisfy you. You were made for a relationship with God himself. He calls out to you. He loves you.

~Alistair Begg

Approach to God

## **Prelude**

### Welcome

# Call to Worship — Isaiah 52:7-10 (responsive)

<sup>7</sup> How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news,

who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation,

who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

- The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the LORD to Zion.
- <sup>9</sup> Break forth together into singing, you waste places of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people;

he has redeemed Jerusalem.

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

## **Prayer of Adoration**



# **Hymn of Praise** — Angels from the Realms of Glory



## **Scripture Reading** — Psalm 23 (in unison)

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

<sup>3</sup> He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness

for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil,

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

# Children's Message — The Shepherds' Response

## **Songs of Response** — God Made Low

Prophets promised long ago, a King would come to bring us hope And now a virgin bears a son, the time to save the world has come

Humble shepherds run in haste to see the One the angels praised In cattle stall they find a girl who holds the hope of all the world

#### **CHORUS**

Emmanuel has come to us The Christ is born, Hallelujah! Our God made low to raise us up Emmanuel, has come to us

As He sleeps upon the hay, He holds the moon and stars in place Though born an infant He remains the sovereign God of endless days (chorus)

For all our sins one day He'll die to make us sons of God on high Let every heart prepare Him room, the promises have all come true (chorus)

# Thou Who Wast Rich Beyond all Splendor



**Offering**\* — Proverbs 3:9 <sup>9</sup> Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce;

<sup>\*</sup>You can give on-line at the New Hope website: www.newhopeopc.org and click on the green "give" button in the corner.

# **Congregational Prayer**

### Sermon Text — Luke 2:8-20

<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!"

<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.

**Sermon** — Rejoice the Savior is Born!

~ Pastor Francis VanDelden

Closing Song — Joy to the World (page 9)

**Benediction** 

**Postlude** 

1. Joyful Proclamation (vs 8-12)

2. Thunderous Exultation (vs 13-14)

## Closing Song — Joy to the World



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Important Dates to Know:

- Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible Study: Regular meetings restart on Jan. 5, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. - a time for Bible Study, prayer and fellowship.
  Please note: we will be using the upper conference room in C8. All ladies are welcome.
- Sunday School, begins January 9th
- Men's Ministry, viewing and discussion of "Dust to Glory," January 8th from 8-10 am.
- Congregational Meeting, Sunday, January 30th, following the worship service.

Children's Church Starts January 9, With the start of Sunday School and Children's Church just around the corner, we wanted to let you know about some changes you can expect to see. In addition to the regular check-in for Sunday School on KidCheck, there will be an option to also check your kids into Children's Church. Children between the age of 4 and 6 may be checked into Children's Church at the same time as Sunday School, or as soon as they arrive at church. After the Congressional Prayer, kids will be dismissed to Children's Church. At the end of the service, please pick you your children from their classroom.

Men's Ministry, Men of New Hope OPC, set your alarms for a weekly Saturday morning R.C. Sproul video series "Dust to Glory" Starting January 8th from 8 to 10 am. The plan is for an informal time of fellowship and growth in knowledge and understanding of our faith and to become more like Christ. The Sproul series is a survey of New Testament topics critical to our understanding of scripture and the truth of the gospel. All men are welcome. If you have any questions, ask Pastor Francis, David Porter or Monte Festog. See you on Jan 8th.

#### Serving Today (12/26):

- Welcome Team: Jim Washburne, Ron Oakes, Valory Snyder, Moses Vidal
- Toddler & Infant Nursery (Worship service): Monica Laird, Lauren Burden, Jack Socash, Annie Kim
- Sound: Jim Washburne
- Livestream: Jim Washburne

#### Serving Next Week (01/02):

- Welcome Team: Ron & Gingy Socash, Calvin Wright
- Toddler & Infant Nursery (Worship service): Josie O'Shea, Ronnie Socash, Emma VanDelden, Ann Burden
- Sound: Jim Washburne
- Livestream: Craig Lalley

#### **Outreach Opportunities!**

**Frederick Rescue Mission Table Ministry**, From the rescue mission: "We need volunteers who have a heart for Jesus and would share the Gospel and pray with our guests who come in to eat breakfast and lunch. Volunteers introduce themselves to the guests, sit with them, listen to them, get to know them, offer prayer and share Jesus with them." Anyone interested can contact: Carolyn Chandler, Volunteer Coordinator 301-695-6633 ext. 221 <a href="mailto:cchandler@therescuemission.org">cchandler@therescuemission.org</a>

# COMMUNITY IN PRAYER

### **Our Church Family**

- Give thanks for the birth of Jesus Christ who, came to save us from our sin and give us eternal life. Pray that throughout the year we will remember His great love and sacrifice for us.
- Pray for those in leadership at New Hope that the Lord would give them wisdom and hearts of service.
- Pray for those who struggle with loneliness or sadness during the holiday season. Pray that we will be mindful of those around us and look for ways to care for those who are struggling.
- Pray for New Hope as we look ahead to the new year. Pray for clear vision for the future, a continued reliance on God and His wisdom, hearts of service for those around us, and a desire to share the gospel to give hope to the lost.
- Pray for Jyl Mixon who is expecting a new little one. Pray for the continued health and safety of both mom and baby.
- Continue to pray for those who are struggling: the Nichols family, Tyler Beck, Dawn Myers, Phyllis Brinson, Scott Innes, Barbara & Charles Ruch, Jeff & Patti Deschamps, Jen Bridenbaugh, Christopher Burden, the Vidal family, the Wright family, Bill Wright, Ron Oakes, Ed Rodatus and those who are grieving from the loss of loved ones. Pray for strength to bear their difficult trials.

#### Frederick Area

- Pray for the missions that we support financially: CareNet Pregnancy Center, Child Evangelism Fellowship, and the Frederick Rescue Mission.
  Pray that God will continue to provide for all their needs.
- Pray that the Lord would bring about volunteers to help staff a group to serve at Child Evangelism Fellowship at Ballenger Elementary School.
  Pray that He would use this ministry to bring young hearts to life through the hearing of the word.

### **Missionaries & Others**

- Pray for our mission of the month the Frederick Rescue Mission who serves the Frederick area by providing warm meals, clothing, food and other basics to those who are in need while offering hope by sharing the love of Christ. Pray that during these cold weather months that they will be able to help many in Frederick that are struggling.
- Pray for the missionaries that have gone out (or are going out) from our midst: Kristen Lalley in Europe, Claire Hall in Scotland, and Luke Hake heading to east Asia. Give thanks that the Lord has called these folks to serve Him oversees by sharing the gospel with those who don't know Him. Pray that they will be strong in their prayer life, dedicated to the study of the Word, and humble in their service as they love and witness to those around them.

# DAILY DEVOTION

**Memory Text** — Isaiah 9:7 <sup>7</sup> Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Heidelberg Catechism 31: Why is he called "Christ", that is anointed? Because he is ordained of God the Father, and anointed with the Holy Ghost, to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, who has fully revealed to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our redemption; and to be our only High Priest, who by the one sacrifice of his body, has redeemed us, and makes continual intercession with the Father for us; and also to be our eternal King, who governs us by his word and Spirit, and who defends and preserves us in that salvation, he has purchased for us.

**Monday:** Read Luke 2:8-14. How does the Christ's birth (v 11) give "glory to God in the highest"? What attributes/characteristics of God does Jesus' birth magnify? Think about the importance and wonder of each attribute of which you thought.

**Tuesday**: Think about Luke 2:11. What does it mean that Jesus is Savior (Titus 2:13-14)? Christ (Mk 15:32, Lk 23:35)? Lord (Lk 6:47)? How do you try to function as your own Savior, Christ, Lord? The angel says this is good news of great joy for "unto you..." Is the Savior, Christ, Lord, good news and great joy to you? Why?

**Wednesday:** Luke 2:10-11. For many people Christmas is not very joyful, or their joy is tinged with sadness, grief, or loss. How does Christ's birth bring hope (Rom 8:20-25, 12:12), comfort (Heb 13:5, Rev 7:17), and lasting, ultimate joy (1 Pet 1:6-9) in this sin-stained and broken world? How does this temper grief?

**Thursday:** Read Luke 2:8-14 and Rev 5:9-14. How does Christ's work bring peace between God and sinners (Rom 5:1)? How does this spread between Christians and others? What part of both these relationships is reserved for full reality in heaven? Where in the church or at home are you "pasting over" issues that need true peace brought to bear (Rom 14:19, 2 Cor 13:11)? How will you do this?

**Friday:** Read Luke 2:8-20. Note how the shepherds respond in v 18, 20. Is your life typified by glorifying and praising God? Spend a moment pondering/ treasuring the highlights of vv 8-16. Where would you be if God's glory had not shone on you? What would your life be if Christ hadn't redeemed you? If he wasn't ruling over you? If you were your own king? May these reflections move you to glorify the Triune God.

**Saturday:** Read Psalm 37:1-12. How do you develop a heart that does not fret?