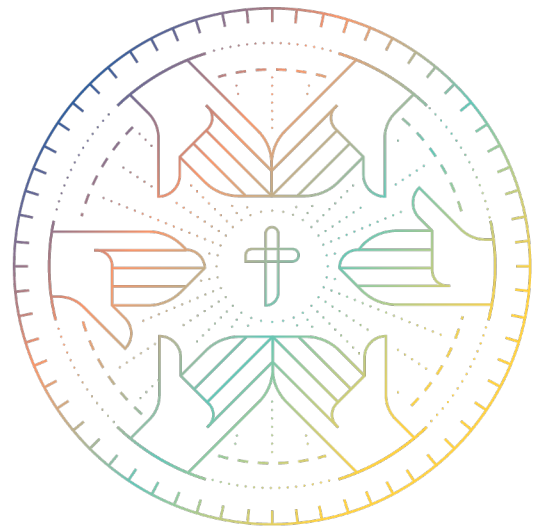


Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



ICEBREAKER

What is the most surprising or unexpected good news you've ever received? How did it impact you?

INTRODUCTION

What stands out to you from Pastor David's message?

The announcement of Jesus' birth to the shepherds is one of the most remarkable parts of the Christmas story. God chose unlikely messengers—shepherds—to hear and proclaim the “good news of great joy.” David made the point that shepherds were not held in as low regard as we may have imagined. Nevertheless, the announcement of the Christ child to shepherds in a field by a host of angels, was both unique and divine. How does this aspect of the Christmas story encourage our own hearts?

INTO THE WORD

Read John 10:11-15. Jesus declares, “I am the good shepherd.” How does this passage enhance your understanding of God's character and why He might have chosen shepherds first to receive the message of Jesus' birth?

Read Isaiah 61:1-2 and Luke 2:10-11. Both passages emphasize the proclamation of good news. How does the “good news of great joy” announced to the shepherds relate to the prophecy in Isaiah, and how does it apply to us today?

Read Revelation 7:9-10. The angel's message to the shepherds was for “all the people.” How does this vision in Revelation show the fulfillment of that promise, and how should it shape the way we live and share the good news?

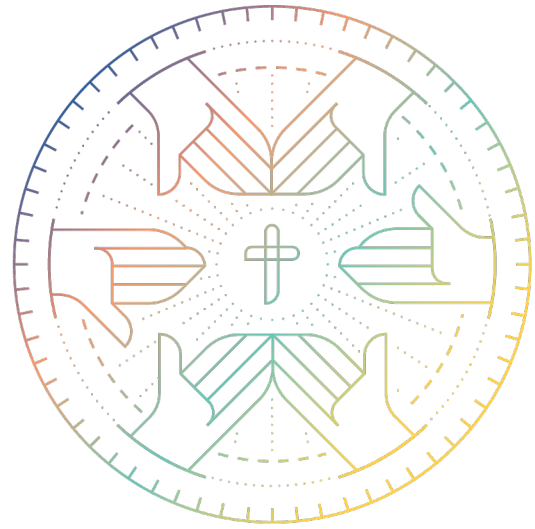
APPLICATION

Make God Known: Reflect on how the shepherds responded to the good news by immediately making Him known to others (Luke 2:17-18). Who might need to hear this message of hope and joy, and how can you share it this week?

Worship God: Take time this week to celebrate the Savior and focus on the significance of Jesus as “Savior, Christ, and Lord” (Luke 2:11). How can this truth bring joy and perspective to the chaos or challenges you may face this Christmas season?

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Experience the Good News: The angel described the news as “great joy.” Have you experienced God's great joy through Jesus? If not, that's your next step. Perhaps to place your faith in Jesus as Savior or reframe your life through the lens of God's greater work in the world and in you. God wants you to embrace and embody His hope and joy today!

As David closed his message, “What do you need to be reminded of this Christmas?” May God meet you in your need.

PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank You for sending Your Son, Jesus, as the Savior, Christ, and Lord. Thank You for choosing to share this good news with shepherds, reminding us that Your message is for everyone. Help us to live in the joy of this good news and share it with others. Let our lives reflect Your light and love, especially during this Christmas season. May we be bold like the shepherds, proclaiming the hope and salvation of Jesus to the world. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.