

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Living out the gospel with
one another in our homes

Date: 12/14/2025

Sermon: Phil Demeter

Text: Luke 2:1-20

Questions: Phil Demeter

This week, Ted looked at the third weekend of Advent which is Joy. What better place to find this than Luke 2 where we learn about our savior's birth! But why would God use a stable instead of a palace for Christ's birth? And what is it about such low places that our God would prefer to work? Let's read through Luke and chat!

- 1) Why does God use a manger in Bethlehem as the birthplace for Jesus? Contrast that with Caesar Augustus, or any royal figure. How would you have imagined The Messiah coming at this time? What is the purpose of using such a humble setting for Jesus' birth?
- 2) How were the shepherds thought of by society per our sermon on Sunday? When they share their testimony of what happened to them on the hillside to Joseph and Mary, what did the shepherds do next? What is your reaction after an encounter with Jesus?
- 3) Read 2 Corinthians 12:9 and 4:7. Can you think of someone in your life that God has used to encourage yourselves or others, but is the last one in your mind who is qualified? Why should we rejoice in our weaknesses?
- 4) This Joy and Peace will manifest itself in two ways from the sermon Sunday: It should make us "Peace Makers" and it should make us "Celebrate Peace". Please read Isaiah 40:1-5. What would being a Peace Maker look like? And how do you Celebrate that Peace?