

**Encounter Christmas
Shepherds Encounter the Christ
First Christian Church—December 2, 2018
Chuck Foreman, Teaching/Missions Pastor**

Underdressed and out of place...

GOD's Story: Shepherds Encounter the Christ, Luke 2:1-21

The Christmas Story is far more amazing and profound than the holiday tale it has become...

1. Off to Bethlehem? Luke 2:1-7

2. The Shepherd's Sign, Luke 2:8-14

3. At the Manger, Luke 2:15-21

***"Ox and ass before him bow, for he is in the manger now."* Good News!**

**Even shepherds were welcome at the Messiah's manger.
The song of angels was sung to those thought most unwelcome.
The unclean were considered clean.
Outcasts were honored guests.
The unforgivable found forgiveness.
And the manger was *their* sign!**

If you're looking for a Savior whom you don't have to impress, who came for all people—the poor, the lowly, the outcast, the rejected, the wise, the wealthy and those thought to be *unforgiveable*—Jesus is your Savior. Let him do what he came to do—for *you* this Christmas.

Right On!

Greeting: Merry Christmas, Our Savior is Born!

Response: He is born in a manger—for us all!