

A Simple & Sacred Christmas
Part III; December 14, 2025

“Third Sunday of Advent: Joy”

Luke 2:8-20 (NLT)

Joy is a gift of God.

“Don’t be afraid!” he said. “I bring you good news that will bring great joy...” – Luke 2:10 (NLT)

It’s not dependent on circumstances.

Around midnight, Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. – Acts 16:25 (NLT)

It’s not dependent on possessions.

And the star...went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. **When they saw the star, they were filled with joy!** – Matthew 2:9-10 (NLT)

It’s not dependent on popularity.

You will have a joy that no one can take away. – John 16:22 (ERV)

You don’t have to worry about who likes you when you know The One who LOVES you!

It’s a joy that is offered to ALL of us!

I bring you good news that will bring great joy to **ALL PEOPLE**. – Luke 2:10 (NLT)

It’s a joy offered to the worst of us.

It’s a joy offered to the least of us.

It’s a joy offered to the most religious of us.

It is a life-changing joy!

The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them. – Luke 2:20 (NLT)

It was a joy that’s meant to be shared!

After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child. All who heard the shepherds’ story were astonished. – Luke 2:17-18 (NLT)

**Joy isn’t just a gift that God gives to us.
It’s a gift He wants to share **THROUGH** us!**