

New Song Community Church
December 19, 2021
Pastor Lane Olson
The Gift of Joy

Text: Luke 2: 8-20 The Shepherds and Angels

A. God made the first announcement of the birth of His son to ordinary people.

1. An angel of the Lord appeared to shepherds watching their flocks.
2. They were terrified at the Glory of the Lord.
3. The Angelic choir joined the celebration.

B. Why was the first announcement of Jesus birth first given to shepherds?

1. I believe that these particular shepherds were waiting for the Messiah.
2. God comes to all those who are seeking him.

Jeremiah 29:13 (NIV)

3. God often seeks out ordinary people while they are doing ordinary things.

C. What is the News that would bring Great Joy.

1. That a savior was born.
2. Jesus came to satisfy our longing for relationship with God.
3. He came to bring freedom.
4. Peace with God.
5. That the Gift of Joy is for "All People".

D. The shepherds immediately went to Bethlehem to find the Lord.

1. They worshipped at the Manger.

2. They went back to their flocks rejoicing and praising God.
3. They told everyone that they met what they had seen and heard.

E. What is our responsibility?

1. It's our privilege to spread the good news of great Joy.
2. God will give us the opportunity if we will ask Him.
3. What are you going to do about it for this Christmas Eve service.

Next Steps Today I am:

1. Committing my life to Jesus Christ
2. Asking God to experience the joy of an intimate relationship with Him.
3. Asking God to give me victory over an addiction in my life.
4. Committing to invite at least three people to come to Christmas Eve Service.