

Straight from the "Hart"

Worship Service from December 24, 2021

Christmas Eve Service



Note to me on my copy only: This service was not adjusted to match the recording of what actually transpired...

Welcome and Opening Prayer

Good evening, welcome to our Christmas Eve service. I am glad you are here to worship with us or at home as the Advent Season of preparation gives way to the Christmas Season. We pray all that happens in these days will build your faith in God and in each other. Let's begin with prayer. Heavenly Father, we gather to celebrate Christ's coming. He is the Light that darkness cannot overcome, the Light that enlivens all the world. We gather -- for the good news is about to be proclaimed. We gather -- in expectation for the joy that is about to break forth in our midst. We gather -- in celebration for those who have said yes to the manger, yes to the One who became human for us, yes to the wholeness of God. We gather to rejoice that love's pure light in Jesus Christ is shining on us and in our world tonight. Amen.

The shining light for our world was sung by the angels and predicted by the prophets... Let's sing...

Music (vv 1,4) *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

Call to Worship - A Christmas Affirmation (P - Pastor C - Congregation)

P: Our call to worship is a Christmas affirmation. Let's read responsively.

We believe that God has come to us as a little child, becoming one of us,

C: filling our hearts with a joy to be shared with one another.

P: We believe that God has birthed righteousness and justice into the world, writing his will on our hearts,

C: God calls us to participate in this reality of love,

P: challenging us to see everyone as his beloved children, sending us to announce that his kingdom has come to us, transforming disciples who go into the world to serve, proclaiming Christ's salvation by his birth, death and resurrection.

C: This we seek to embody in word and deed.

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Advent Candles Hope, Peace, Joy, Love (L: Lay Reader)
with response *We Lift the Light of Hope*

Instead of singing to call us to the Advent Candles as we've done this season, on this night we will respond to each candle with the appropriate verse, sung to the tune of O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing.

L: We relight the candle of hope {**Light Candle 1**} because through prayer, the power of the Holy Spirit can make great things happen, and that same power that raised Jesus from the dead lives in us. Hope in Christ makes difficulties easier to bear and motivates us to work with determination to accomplish our God given hopes.

♪ We lift the light of hope, O God,
 Your presence burning bright.
 In praise we sing the gift You bring:
 Our hope complete in Christ.

L: We relight the candle of peace {**Light Candle 2**} because God guards our hearts and minds with his peace, creating the opportunity for inner serenity and harmony with others. When Christ's peace purges us from guilt and shame, he allows us to overcome sin's power, defeats the discord of fear and revenge, ending battles within ourselves and with others, and we experience God's peace.

♪ We lift the light of peace, O God,
 The Lord of truth and right.
 In Your domain let justice reign
 And bring us peace in Christ.

L: We relight the candle of joy {**Light Candle 3**} because our spirits are strengthened when God's joy is in us. Joy is not born in circumstantial feelings but in the soul. It is something we choose and something we give. When we offer a Light to hold on to in joyless times, freely given to people who are not prepared or able to celebrate, we encounter Christ's joy.

♪ We lift the light of joy, O God.
 Your praise is our delight!
 Your blessings flow that all may know
 Unbounded joy in Christ

L: We relight the candle of love {**Light Candle 4**} because Christ's unfathomable love fills us with God's presence. Our love for him drives us to faithfully serve him in whatever he calls us to do. Through that service, we deliver Christ's love to the

hearts of all people -- in lines, in malls, in churches, in homes, and in families -- to every place and throughout every time of year.

♪ We lift the light of love, O God,
Your candle in our night.
You come to give and help us live
The mighty love of Christ.

Thank you to Jerry Weaver, Becky Toth, Terri Priess, and Charles Kirkpatrick for creating the original source for these Advent Candles, from which these abbreviated reviews were taken.



Prayer and Christmas Offering

Heavenly Father, all this is made possible because Jesus came to earth to live as one of us -- among us. This is why we have gathered -- to rejoice in the yearly festival of the birth of your only Son Jesus Christ. As we relive the history of this night, grant that we who have received your redeeming light with joy may also be inspired to continue living in the confidence of your gracious love, and we ask that you bless the gifts we are about to give and that you guide those among us who determine where each dollar needs to go to bring glory and honor to you who so abundantly bless us. Amen.

Responsive Bible Reading (L - Lay Reader, C - Congregation)

L: At that time... an order [was sent] to all people in the countries that were under Roman rule. The order said that they must list their names in a register.

C: Everyone went to their own towns to be registered.

L: Joseph left Nazareth, a town in Galilee. He went to the town of Bethlehem in Judea. This town was known as the town of David.

C: Joseph went there because he was from the family of David.

L: Joseph registered with Mary because she was engaged to marry him. (Mary was now pregnant.) While Joseph and Mary were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have the baby.

C: She gave birth to her first son.

L: There were no rooms left in the inn. So she wrapped the baby with cloths and laid him in a [manger] where animals are fed. From Luke 2:1-8 (ICB)

Meditation: The Journey Home -- Arrival (1)

Sometimes we need something practical, but it isn't necessarily what we want for Christmas. Sometimes we want a newest and splashiest new techie gizmo, but we

may not need another device. But sometimes, what we need and what we want come together in one great gift. One person talked about college days when he needed a new printer. His father graciously said he would get one and ship it to him. He had already picked out the one he wanted, so he figured that when it came, he would go to the store and trade it in for the one he wanted. But when he removed the wrapping from the box, he discovered his dad had already sent the very printer he wanted.

We are here tonight because we've waded through many other things – some of them very good things – because we crave to hear and know again the central message of Christmas. But even though we recognize Christ's birth (and death and resurrection and sending of the Holy Spirit) as the most important moments in history, many of us have heard the stories year after year from about every angle we can possibly hear it. So while it is one thing to recognize its importance, it is quite another to wade through the sentimental and beautifully romanticized, polished, febrezed images of barn and animals and shepherds and candles and stars -- and to be startled, surprised, or stirred by this major event.

We find in tonight's story a parallel to the spiritual journey. A journey toward home, which in this season has been used to describe that place -- whether we experienced it in our own lives or not, as that place where we feel we can love and be loved, we can trust and be relied on, it is where we feel secure, where we are safe to relax and be ourselves, where we can be comfortable in our own skin, where all is well... and nothing outside can even threaten to take that away from us. That is -- home.

This first journey in the reading is a little bit about Joseph and Mary heading to Bethlehem, but it is more about God's Jesus' journey from heaven to earth to live with us to give us not only what we need, but what we want – that community of “home” we are longing for. Have you ever gotten one of those gifts that you didn't know you needed or wanted until after you received it? Those are the best gifts of all, usually given by the people who know you better than you know yourself. God knows us better than we know ourselves, knows what gift we need and want, even if we don't. He sent Jesus, and hopes that as we open ourselves up to him, we will recognize in Jesus a gift that is even beyond all what we need, want, or could even imagine. This is why we are called to rejoice in who God has given.

Let's stand as comfortable and sing Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Music ***Good Christian Friend, Rejoice***

Responsive Bible Reading (L - Lay Reader, C - Congregation)

L: That night, some shepherds were in the fields nearby watching their sheep.

C: An angel of the Lord stood before them.

L: The glory of the Lord was shining around them, and suddenly they became very frightened. The angel said to them, “Don’t be afraid, because I am bringing you some good news.

C: It will be a joy to all the people.

L: Today your Savior was born in David’s town.

C: He is Christ, the Lord.

L: This is how you will know him: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a [manger].” Then a very large group of angels from heaven joined the first angel. All the angels were praising God, saying:

C: “Give glory to God in heaven, and on earth let there be peace to the people who please God.”

L: Then the angels left the shepherds and went back to heaven.

From Luke 2:9-14 (ICB)

Meditation: The Journey Home -- Arrival (2)

This journey is the angel and heavenly host to the shepherds to announce the news of the birth of this special baby, God’s gift to humanity. Shepherding was not only a common profession; it was a common image of priests, of spiritual leaders through the ages, for their role was very similar – caring for the people and leading them toward God’s nourishing spirit, guiding them away temptations that may lead to a barren life, and rescuing them when they do wander into the troubles off the path.

The prophets often moaned of these leaders’ corruption and called them back to pure practices -- and even then, the author of Hebrews reminds us that even good shepherds could not completely deal with the stone-cold darkness of our hearts. Therefore, the prophets predicted a Good Shepherd, God’s anointed one, who would cleanse corrupt practices and deal with our heart problem once and for all. He wrote of Jesus as a priest:

Such a high priest truly meets our need — one who is holy, blameless, pure, set apart from sinners, exalted above the heavens. Unlike the other high priests, he does not need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. He sacrificed for their sins once for all when he offered

himself. For the law appoints as high priests men in all their weakness; but the oath [God's promise], which came after the law, appointed the Son, who has been made perfect forever. (Hebrews 7:26-28 (NIV))

Jesus did what no other spiritual leader could do once or perfectly, and that is why in him we find the home we are longing for.

What is interesting is that this grand announcement of possible peace with God and the world was not to the Emperor Caesar Augustus, the Roman emperor known for bringing the peace of Rome. The peace that passes understanding would instead come from a baby born in a stable, and it was announced to the shepherds – the angel says – he is born TO YOU (shepherds),

as the hymnwriter suggests – first to the common working man – and the follow up hymn anticipates the next steps... Let's sing the first verse of The First Noel and then Hark! the Herald Angels Sing...

Hymn (v 1) *The First Noel*

Hymn *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

Responsive Bible Reading (L-Lay Reader, C- Congregation)

L: The shepherds said to each other, "Let us go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened. We will see this thing the Lord told us about." So the shepherds went quickly and found Mary and Joseph.

C: And the shepherds saw the baby lying in a [manger].

L: Then they told what the angels had said about this child.

C: Everyone was amazed when they heard what the shepherds said to them.

L: Mary hid these things in her heart; she continued to think about them. Then the shepherds went back to their sheep, praising God.

From Luke 2:15-20 (ICB)

Mary Jo is going to give us the commentary on Mary and her ponderings as she heard what the angel had told her, the shepherds told her, and later, what Simeon and Anna said about Jesus, and her experience with the Magi...

Special Music *Mary, Did You Know?*

Meditation: The Journey Home -- Arrival (3)

Now let's back up to the early part of that reading. They shepherds heard the news – but it was not enough to hear the news – they had to see it for themselves.

Our third journey is the shepherds to the manger. Likewise, it is not enough for us to know the news, or hear it again, each of us needs to experience Christ for ourselves, and to seek him daily.

Sue Monk tells about how her 6-year-old tucked two gifts under the tree for her daddy and for her. They were both puzzled by what they could be. On Christmas morning they opened the gifts, his -- a navy tie with tan ducks, and hers -- some slightly familiar earrings. "Where did you get these?" she asked. Her daughter answered, "The old chest in the attic". Then mom recognized the items that had been put in storage some ten years earlier. For we who have been around the Christmas story a long time, experiencing the gift of Jesus is not meant to be a did and done kind of gift – each Christmas is about reawaking to what God's grace has already given us.

One of my favorite stories for why Jesus came is about the farmer on a blistering cold winter night. He looked out and saw birds -- walking around. The howling winds were too strong for flight. If they did not find shelter they would not survive the night. The compassionate father bundled up and went to his barn. He opened the door. There was salvation if he could only get them to go in. He called to them from the doors. But they could not understand. He tried running around and waving his arms – shooing them toward the barn doors – but that only scared them away and forced them to be even more exhausted in the severe weather. Nothing worked. The farmer sadly thought, "if only I could become one of them, then I could make them understand their danger and where they could find life..." What the farmer could not do, God did in Jesus. Since it was brand new, God sent his angels to announce it to the shepherds. But when the shepherds got the message, it was up to the shepherds to broadcast the news – and they did – and today it still remains the task of God's people to share the news... Let's sing,

Music (vv 2,3) *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

**The Christ Candle (P - Pastor, C - Congregation)
with response **We Lift the Light of Hope****

P: From that mountain, the Word echoes how we should live because God's grace has come to set up its home among us.

C: That grace can save every person.

P: It was by grace that he came to be born and to live and give himself for us; it was by grace that he frees us from all evil. It was by grace that he died to make

us a pure people who belong only to him

C: — a people who are always wanting to do good, thus creating a home on earth that all people long for.

P: Grace teaches us not to live against God and not to do the evil. Grace teaches us to live in a wise and right way—

C: Living in grace is a way that shows that we serve God, replacing fear with hope, anger with peace, sorrow with joy, and hate with love.

P: Live graciously while we wait for the coming of our Savior Jesus Christ.

(Light Christ candle as the people speak next line.)

C: He is our hope, our peace, our joy, our love, our home; and he comes with grace and glory.

P: We will sing this response to the tune of Amazing Grace.

♪ We lift the light of Christmas day [night]
and greet eternal life.
Now hope and peace and joy and love
are born in Jesus Christ.

Hope peace joy and love are born in Jesus Christ -- through his grace to us. Although some may want to distract and divert us with the question of whether or not this is really true, the burning question is not whether Christ was born, or what was birthed into the world because of him, but whether or not we will allow Christ to be born in us. Our drama team addresses this topic for us now...

Dramatic Presentation Hope in the Night

by Mary Jo Bell

Man played by Charles Kirkpatrick

Angel played by Terri Priess

The stage is set with chair, small table, radio, money. As the scene opens, man is asleep in chair. Suddenly the radio blares out with Christmas music, man slams the top of the radio twice to shut it off.

MAN: (to audience) What are you all staring at? Can't a man have some peace and quiet when he wants it? Why do I have to be subjected to all that holiday racket? I get enough of that at my office. Even though there is no Christmas celebration or bonuses they still have the holiday spirit. It makes no sense to me. What is all the excitement about anyway? Spending money they don't have to make other people happy? Celebrating the birth of a baby born centuries ago? Who needs it?! BAH (sits. pause and look at audience with disdain))

I suppose people look at me and think because I am successful that I must have a great life. I didn't grow up wealthy or privileged. Everything I have is because I have worked long and hard. Well, money doesn't buy everything. Truth is, amid all my success, I have not been a good person in my life. I am tough and unrelenting, and I expect the people that work for me to make sacrifices just like I had to do. People call me unkind, a scrooge, and a miser. Well, that is just fine with me. I am alone now because of the way I chose to live my life. I lived it for me. I have chosen to not let people get close to me so there are no disappointments, no expectations. I have lived a solitary life since I was very young. There is absolutely no one who cares about me. (pause) Perhaps it has left me empty on the inside. (pause) But it is the life I deserve, and I am fine with that, truly-except at Christmas time. That's the one time a year people absolutely cannot help themselves. They are filled with hope and wonder, and joy and love and they want you to be a part of it. Everywhere you turn it is Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, Seasons Greetings. BAH! Why can't they just leave me alone? It's overwhelming and makes me want to stay in bed and pull the covers over my head until it is all over. (Pause)

But something happened last night that has shaken me to the core. I had the most frightening dream, and it was so real. I am afraid to close my eyes for fear it will happen again. In this dream, a shadowy figure appeared to show me what is yet to come in my life if I continue the way I am. The figure never spoke, and the silence made me feel so uneasy. He left me feeling such emptiness and despair. What was he trying to tell me? What did he want from me? How do I find hope and joy? Why did he come to me now when I am so far gone into this life?

ANGEL: The questions you are asking should be more about whether the visions you had were on things that *will* be or of things that only *may* be. You have the opportunity to let God in to your heart so that you can become a whole person instead of the shell of a man that you are.

MAN: who- who are you? My eyes are open and I am awake? Why is this happening to me?

ANGEL: I have been sent to help you see. How your future will happen depends solely on you and what you open your heart to.



MAN: open my heart? Haven't you heard? I don't have one. Open it to what? To who?

ANGEL: to everyone. You were wrong when you said that there is no one in your life that cares about you. God has always loved you no matter what you have done in the past. You have the most incredible opportunity to change the course of your journey here on earth.

MAN: no, it's too late for me. I have done nothing good in my life for anyone but myself. Why would God spend one minute caring about me. I do not deserve it.

ANGEL: you are wrong again. God's Grace doesn't allow God to give up on you. The birth of Jesus is why forgiveness is possible. God's love can help you heal things from long ago and set you free from it. IF you trust in God, all things are possible. He has always been with you.

MAN: I don't understand. My life story cannot be re-written so how can God say He loves me and is always with me?

ANGEL: your story is far from over, it is still being written. All you have to do is allow God to be a part of it.

MAN: There is not much in my life that I can say that I am proud of. I certainly have not acted like someone that God should want to know. I deserve to be alone and miserable.

ANGEL: Your past made you who you are now, but you can change the way you continue to be by allowing God to guide you in the right direction. You need to embrace the past, present and future because they are all part of you.

MAN: I don't know why God would want to waste His time helping me. There are so many other people in the world that are more deserving. (BEAT) But, there is a part of me that truly wants to believe all that you are saying is true and that I can somehow achieve some redemption and become worthy in the eyes of God. But I am afraid and I certainly don't trust easily.

ANGEL: How do you think that Mary and Joseph felt when they were chosen by God to be the earthly parents of Jesus? They were not special and yet He entrusted them with the tremendous honor of fulfilling the most important task of all, bringing forth the Messiah in order to save us all. They were fearful and yet they listened and trusted. Because Mary had conceived by the Holy Spirit before she and Joseph were married, they were under much strife and surely felt

unworthy. They both had to put their complete trust in God that He would be with them every step of the way and He did not let them down. He guided and protected them through it all. Because of their trust we have hope and belief the world can know the hope, joy, peace and the love of God.

MAN: I don't even put trust in the people on earth, how am I supposed to trust someone I cannot see or hear?

ANGEL: God is always speaking; you need to learn to hear. God created all and so you need to learn to see.

MAN: Why do you talk in riddles?

ANGEL: (Put your hand on his shoulder) Bow your head and listen to your heart, hear the words God is speaking to you. Open your mind and allow the grace to fill your heart. It's all there if you will humble yourself and receive the Holy Spirit completely. Only in Jesus can you truly be a whole person, the person God meant for you to be- a man of goodness and great love. Trust your heart; believe it is all possible for you. (EXIT once man is in prayer)

MAN: (very uneasy at first) God, are you there? It's me. (Pause) What am I saying? Of course, you know it's me. I don't know what you want from me. I don't know why you would choose to care about me when there are other people in the world more deserving than I, but here I am. (Pause) I want to trust that you are here - no, I am trusting that you are here with me. I am opening my heart to you so that perhaps I can change. Boy, this is so hard for me. I always told myself that living the way I have is just fine, that I don't need anyone or anything in my life. But, I was so wrong. I am empty inside and I need to be filled.

I realize now what you are trying to tell me. My life, my future, depends on my choices on my actions. I need to stop closing myself off to the world so that I can live a complete life. I want to see the world through your eyes and see all the possibilities that await me. I want to know love, (Pause) I want to know joy, (Pause) I want be able to have hope and feel peace. (Pause) I want to know Jesus and to live my life in a way that is pleasing to You. The story of Mary and Joseph has really made me think about the amazing things that are possible through you. They were so brave and must have been so afraid. But, they had You to believe and trust in. I see now that because of them, HOPE was born that night for the whole world. I see now that today is a new day, and I will not spend one more day not feeling worthy. Starting today I am going to be a man that You can be proud of. I

have so much that I can give and I can already feel the warmth beginning in my heart. Thank you, Lord, for never giving up on me and for sending your Son to save us all. (Opens eyes, looks around for the angel, realizes he is alone - look up to the sky and say) "Boy, you're good"

MUSIC- Hope was Born This Night During song interact with the congregation. You will be handing out chocolate coins to the people.

Communion

Invitation Faith is believing in awe that which we cannot see. So if any of you don't know, or have never experienced the light of Christ in your lives - I invite you, on this Eve of his celebrated birth, to turn towards His flame. Through His suffering, dying, and grace, he offers each one of us the fullness of life right here -- right now -- in this place -- and a joy that will pass all understanding.

If you desire to experience these qualities, or to experience them more deeply in your lives, then this Communion table is open for you to receive, the bread and cup, the body and blood of Jesus; his hope, peace, joy, and love.

To help us prepare to come to Jesus through Communion, let's sing just verse of **Music (v 1) *Angels From the Realms of Glory***

Confession Let's continue to prepare our hearts by a time of confession. Lord, in a few moments we will be lighting personal candles representing your light in our life. We will sing to you. But then the songs will end and we will extinguish our candles and leave without them. They will be thrown out or boxed up for another year waiting for another night to shine.

We confess that we cannot wait for that. We cannot rely on the wax and wick of Christmas Eve to carry us through the year. We ask you light a candle within each of us this night. Fill us with your presence, and let the splendor of your love flow to us.

On this most holy of nights, as we travel to the manger and then into the new year, we confess that we need you to rekindle --- or spark for the first time ---- within us -- a faith that empowers us to follow you, so that we may fully experience in each day of our lives a peace that passes understanding, a hope that brings confidence in a future not yet seen, a joy that radiates to others, and a love that will ultimately engulf the world.

Assurance Even in the darkness of our world, the faithful Light of Christ never stops burning for each of us, and you promise that if we confess our sins and offer our lives to you, that you will come and be born in our hearts, burn away our sins,

and you will continue to transform our lives into something new. It is your presence that we need. Therefore,

The Great Thanksgiving (P - Pastor, C - Congregation)

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them up to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: It is right....and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth. You brought forth life and love on earth. When we were faithless, you remained faithful; and in the fullness of time you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior. At his birth the angels sang glory to you in the highest and peace to your people on earth, and so, with you people on earth and with all the company of heaven we praise you name and join their unending hymn.

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

P: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, who came in Your name. Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem, but they found no room and Jesus was born in the poverty of a stable. Then as a man, Jesus traveled from Galilee to Jerusalem and again found no room, dying despised and rejected. Yet through his suffering, death, and resurrection; you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin's power and eternal death, and made with us a new covenant. Therefore, we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

C: Christ has died, Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

P: Pour out your Holy Spirit... on us gathered here and at home and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

As you partake, remember what God has done for you; reaching out to you, drawing you back to him, claiming you as his own; giving you the right to be called his own, enabling you, as God's children to pray, **Lord's Prayer**

The Bread and Cup As the Word became flesh, born of woman on that night long ago; so on that night some 30 years later, the night in which he gave himself up for us, he gathered his disciples into an upper room, he took the bread, lifted it up and gave thanks for it. He broke it saying, "This is my body, broken for you. As often as you eat it, eat it in remembrance of me." (Take and eat).

And when the supper was over, he took the cup and lifted it up and gave thanks for it, then he gave it to his disciples saying, "This is my blood of the new covenant, shed for the forgiveness of your sins and for the sins of many. As often as you drink it, drink it in remembrance of me." (Take and drink).

And now, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Candle Lighting

His light continues to burn in our world -- it spreads only as each of us receive his light and walks in it. It is only as we receive the Christmas message into the passion, the fire, of our own hearts, it is only as we take that flame and walk with it **from** these holy halls in which we have gathered and move out into the streets and byways and highways, and pass the flame of his light in us on to others... it is only then that the world will begin to see a real hope in Christ, It is only then that our world will begin to see the inklings of peace. It is only then that joy will begin to flood hearts; and it is only then that our world will love as it was created to love. All revealed to us by a holy light in that holy night so long ago, and night of stillness - - yet also a night of joy. Let's sing as we receive the light of this holy child, this Christ the king...

Hymn (v 1) *What Child is This*

Hymn *Silent Night*

Blessing

Now as you go silently into the night, may you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. May the Almighty Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forevermore. Amen.

