

# According to the Scriptures



**GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**120 West Gano Chance Road**  
**Centralia, Missouri 65240**  
**Third Sunday in Advent**  
**December 14, 2025**

**Children's Christmas Program**

**Presented by: Wiley Rojas as Joseph; Leah Cochran as Mary; Anna Cochran, Elizabeth Lanning, Katy Lanning and Lilianna Rojas as Sheep; Abigail Rainey as angel; Carson Robertson, Colton Rainey and Jacob Cochran as Wisemen; Ben Robertson as Shepherd**  
**Accompanist: Donna Hoek**  
**Sunday School Superintendent: Kim Rainey**

**WELCOME**

**Pastor James Lanning**

## **OPENING PRAYER – Pastor Lanning**

Heavenly Father, as we gather together this day to hear again the story of our Savior's birth, we thank you for the gift of your children among us. By your Holy Spirit, let their voices in Word and song bring you glory and praise, that we may experience the promise of Christ shining out like the star above Bethlehem, pointing to our Lord and King. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## **OPENING HYMN – "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem" (Congregation)**

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond'ring love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth!

How silently, how silently, the wondrous Gift is giv'n;  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His Heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel

### **LESSON 1: Luke 2:1-7 – Wiley Rojas**

#### **SONG 1: Away in the Manger** (verse 1 children; verses 2 & 3 congregation)

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head.  
The stars om the sky, looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love you Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me Lord Jesus; I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with Thee there.

### **LESSON 2: Luke 2:8-14 – Abigail Rainey**

#### **SONG 2: Hark, the Herald Angels Sing** (verse 1 Abigail Rainey, verses 2 & 3 congregation)

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" **Refrain**

**Refrain Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see, Hail the incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as Man with man to dwell, Jesus, our Immanuel! **Refrain**

Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness  
Light and life to all He brings, Ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays his glory by, Born that man no more may die,  
Born to Rais the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth. **Refrain**

### LESSON 3: Luke 2:15-20 – Ben Robertson

#### SONG 3: O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come and behold Him  
Born the king of angels: **Refrain**

**refrain O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord!**

Highest, most holy,  
Light of Light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, a mortal He comes;  
Son of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing! **Refrain**

4 Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father  
Now in flesh appearing! **Refrain**

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God  
In the highest: **Refrain**

### LESSON 4: Matthew 2:1-6 – Carson Robertson

#### SONG 4: We Three Kings (verse 1 children, verses 2-5 congregation)

We three kings of orient are  
Bearing gifts we traverse afar  
Field and fountain  
Moor and mountain  
Following yonder star **Refrain**

**Refrain O Star of wonder, star of night,  
Star with royal beauty bright;  
Westward leading, still proceeding  
Guide us to thy perfect light.**

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain  
gold I bring to crown him again  
King forever, ceasing never  
over us all to reign. **Refrain**

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume  
breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,  
sealed in the stone-cold tomb. **Refrain**

Frankincense to offer have I;  
incense owns a Deity neigh;  
prayer and praising, voices raising,  
worshiping God on high. **Refrain**

Glorious now behold Him arise  
King and God and Sacrifice!  
Heav'n sings alleluia:  
Heaven to earth replies **Refrain**

### LESSON 5: Matthew 2:7-11 – Jacob Cochran

#### OFFERING

**OFFERING HYMN: “As With Gladness, Men of Old”** (verse 1 - children; verses 2 – 5 congregation)

As with gladness men of old, Did the guiding star behold  
As with joy they hailed its light, Leading onward, beaming bright;  
So, most gracious Lord, may we, Evermore be led by Thee.

As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to Thy lowly bed,  
There to bend the knee before Thee whom heav’n and earth adore;  
So may we with willing feet, Ever seek Thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare, At Thy cradle, rude and bare,  
So may we with holy joy, Pure and free from sin’s alloy,  
All our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to Thee, our heav’nly King.

Holy Jesus, every day Keep us in the narrow way;  
And when earthly things are past, Bring our ransomed souls at last  
Where they need no star to guide, where no clouds Thy glory hide.

In the heavenly country bright need they no created light;  
Thou its light, its joy, its crown, Thou its sun which goes not down.  
There forever may we sing Alleluias to our King.

**CHILDREN’S SERMON “Joy to The World”**

**Pastor Lanning**

**CHRISTMAS PRAYER - Colton Rainey**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For this is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

May the Lord bless us and keep us.  
May the Lord make his face shine upon us and be gracious to us.  
May the Lord look upon us with favor and † give us peace.

**CLOSING HYMN: Go Tell It On the Mountain**

***Refrain* Go tell it on the mountain, Over the hills and ev’rywhere;**

**Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

While shepherds kept their watching, o’er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens, There shone a holy light. (*Refrain*)

The shepherds feared and trembled, when lo, above the earth,  
Rang out the angel chorus, that hailed our Savior’s birth. (*Refrain*)

Down in a lonely manger, the humble Christ was born;  
And God sent us salvation, that blessèd Christmas morn. (*Refrain*)