

# Christmas Day Worship

December 25, 2007

Pastor Mark Voss



## Invocation

*He was light*                      *coming into a world of darkness.*  
*He was love*                      *coming into a world of hate.*  
*He was life*                      *coming into a world of death.*  
*He was peace*                      *coming into a world of strife.*  
*He was righteousness*      *coming into a world of sin.*  
*He was hope*                      *coming into a world of defeat.*  
*He was God*                      *coming into a world of humanity.*  
*He is our Savior*                *and we begin in his name.*

## Musical Selection – Treble Choir

“On Christmas Night”  
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## Confession of Sins

P: Jesus, our Immanuel, you dwell with us, but how can we abide your dwelling?

**C: For we are sinful people, unworthy of your presence, unready for your coming, undeserving of your mercy.**

P: We are guilty by thought, word, and action, and deserve only death and misery.

**C: Confessing our sin and our unworthiness, we ask your mercy and forgiveness, for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh to dwell among us, full of grace and truth.**

**Sing:**                **Your little ones, dear Lord, are we And come your lowly bed to see;**  
(CW46)                **Enlighten every soul and mind that we the way to you may find.**

P: God has forgiven your sin for Jesus’ sake. Jesus has redeemed you from death and sin. An eternity in God’s presence is yours. Peace be with you. Amen.

**Sing:**                **Oh, draw us wholly to you, Lord, And to us all your grace accord;**  
**True faith and love to us impart That we may hold you in our heart.**

## Prayer of the Day

*Christmas Carol – 57 v 1*

“Go, Tell It On the Mountain”

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**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.**  
**Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills, and ev'rywhere;**  
**Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.**

**Old Testament Lesson – Isaiah 52:7-10** How beautiful on the mountains are the feet of those who bring good news, who proclaim peace, who bring good tidings, who proclaim salvation, who say to Zion, "Your God reigns!" Listen! Your watchmen lift up their voices; together they shout for joy. When the LORD returns to Zion, they will see it with their own eyes. Burst into songs of joy together, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD will lay bare his holy arm in the sight of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth will see the salvation of our God.

**Christmas Carol – 57 v 3**

*“Go, Tell It On the Mountain”*

**Down in a lowly manger The humble Christ was born;  
And God sent us salvation That blessed Christmas morn.  
Go, tell it on the mountain, Over the hills, and ev'rywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain That Jesus Christ is born.**

**Epistle Lesson – Titus 3:4-7** But when the kindness and love of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life.



**Christmas Creed** *(spoken by all)*

**I believe in God the Father, Creator of all things, who sent his Son as my Savior.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, announced by angels, worshiped by the Wise Men, who lived to suffer, die, and rise again, to free me from sin, death and the power of the devil.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, who has brought me to faith in Christ. By his continuous work in my heart I rejoice in my salvation, show forth his praises, and will one day live and reign with him in all eternity. Amen.**

## ***The Christmas Story***

***Part One – Luke 2:1-7***

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being

great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

*Part Two – Luke 2:8-20*

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.



*Christmas Carol CW53*

*“To Shepherds As They Watched By Night”*

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**To shepherds as they watched by night  
Appeared a host of angels bright;  
"Behold the tender babe," they said,  
"In yonder lowly manger laid,  
"At Bethlehem, in David's town,  
As Micah did of old make known.  
It is the Christ, your Lord and King,  
Who will to all salvation bring."  
Oh, then rejoice that through his Son  
God is with sinners now at one;  
Made like yourselves of flesh and blood,  
Your brother is the eternal God.  
You shall and must at last prevail.  
God's own you are; you cannot fail.  
To God forever sing your praise  
With joy and patience all your days.**

*Christmas Meditation*

*“A Little Baby Changed Everything”*

<sup>2</sup>The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. <sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.

*Isaiah 9:2, 6-7*

*Offering*

*Christmas Prayer*

*Benediction*

P: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

**C: Alleluia!**

P: To us a child is born,

**C: to us a son is given.**

P: Sing to the Lord a new song,

**C: for he has done marvelous things.**

P: Let the peace of Christ rule in  
your hearts.

**C: Alleluia! Alleluia!**

P: Go forth in the name of the Father and of  
the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

*Closing Carol CW 63*



*“Angels We Have Heard On High”*

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**Angels we have heard on high,  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply,  
Echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav'nly song?  
Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo;  
Gloria in excelsis Deo.**