

## “Advent: Joy in the Midst of Struggle”

Isa 7:14; Luke 2:1-20

Pastor Jeff Harrington

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**Joy: Originates in knowing Who the LORD Is & that He is faithful to His Word.**

*Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. (Isaiah 7:14)*

Luke's Themes: A Gospel for ALL People, Concern for the Outcasts, Repentance, & Wealth

\_\_\_\_\_ **contrasted with** \_\_\_\_\_. (vs 1-5)  
(1 Corinthians 1:18-25)

CAESAR AUGUSTUS	JESUS THE CHRIST
Ruled from luxurious palace	Placed in feeding trough, near the farm animals (v. 7)
Human choirs sang his praises in pagan temple for his birthday	Angelic choir sings praises on the night of his birth (v. 13)
Caesar hailed for bringing Pax Romana, Roman Peace	Angelic choir is announced as the One to bring God's peace (v. 14)
Caesar hailed as savior and lord	Gabriel, an angel of the Lord, announces Jesus as Savior and Lord (v 11)
Caesar enjoyed (and demanded) the praise of nobility and the powerful	The shepherds, often lowly and despised, bring praise (v 20)

**God \_\_\_\_\_ His \_\_\_\_\_ within human \_\_\_\_\_.**  
**\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are what feed our \_\_\_\_\_ in all**  
**circumstances.**

**Mary, Joseph & Jesus were not \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_.** (vs 6-7)

**\_\_\_\_\_ is found in \_\_\_\_\_ God the Father loves the \_\_\_\_\_.** (vs 8-12)  
(1 Corinthians 1: 26-31; Psalm 138: 6; Zechariah 9:9; Luke 6: 20-23)

**A \_\_\_\_\_ from God requires a \_\_\_\_\_.** (vs 15)

**Simple \_\_\_\_\_ leads us toward \_\_\_\_\_.**

**Our \_\_\_\_\_, despite our circumstances, \_\_\_\_\_ us to spread the word of**  
**\_\_\_\_\_.** (vs 19-20)