



# WHO IS HE?

**A Children's Christmas Service**

**Abiding Word Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Maineville, Ohio  
December 19, 2021**

**INVOCATION**

Minister: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
Congregation: **Amen.**

**RESPONSIVE READING**

Psalm 24:7-10

Minister: Lift up your heads, you gates;  
*Children: be lifted up, you ancient doors,*  
Congregation: **that the King of glory may come in.**

Minister: Who is this King of glory?  
*Children: The LORD strong and mighty,*  
Congregation: **the LORD mighty in battle.**

Minister: Lift up your heads, you gates;  
*Children: lift them up, you ancient doors,*  
Congregation: **that the King of glory may come in.**

Minister: Who is he, this King of glory?  
All: **The LORD Almighty — he is the King of glory.**

**SERMONETTE**

## INTRODUCTION

### **Narration: (Emma)**

Have you ever had a person tell you that someone is coming to visit, but doesn't reveal the visitor's name? Instead, you're given descriptions or clues to the visitor's identity. As long as the identity is unknown, one question is foremost in mind: Who is he or she? We will look at some of the descriptions, or clues, God gave to his people about a man who was to come into the world. His identity is important to us too. So we also ask, "Who is he?"

## PART ONE: WHO IS HE? THE PROMISED ONE

### **Narration: (Karl)**

In Genesis chapter 1 we read,

### **Recitation: (Travis)**

God saw all that he had made, and it was very good. And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day (Genesis 1:31).

### **Narration: (Karl)**

God created a perfect world for humankind. And he put the crown of his creation—humans—in the Garden of Eden, where he had placed the Tree of Life. When they ate from this tree, it gave them eternal life. God intended for them to live in his perfect creation forever. But God also placed another named tree in the garden, and with it came a command.

### **Recitation: (Harry)**

The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. And the LORD God commanded the man,

### **Recitation: (Titus)**

"You are free to eat from any tree in the garden; but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for when you eat from it you will certainly die" (Genesis 2:15-17).

**Narration: (Karl)**

For a time, Adam and Eve obeyed this command. However, the devil came and led Adam and Eve into sin by enticing them to eat from the forbidden tree.

**Recitation: (Eleanor)**

Now the serpent was more crafty than any of the wild animals the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden, but God did say, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree that is in the middle of the garden, and you must not touch it, or you will die'" (Genesis 3:1-3).

**Recitation: (Cathrine)**

"You will not certainly die," the serpent said to the woman. "For God knows that when you eat from it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it (Genesis 3:4-6).

**Narration: (Karl)**

Adam and Eve disobeyed God's command. And because of their sin, they would die. They had separated themselves from God, but God, out of great love for his creation, did not abandon them. He had a plan, already from eternity, that would save the human race from its sin. God promised to send a Savior.

**Recitation: (Titus)**

"I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel" (Genesis 3:15).

**Narration: (Karl)**

Who is he? All we know is, God promised that when this man came, he would destroy the power of the devil.

## **PART TWO: WHO IS HE? THE PROPHESED ONE**

### **Narration: (Rachel)**

From God's description of the one who was to come, given in the Garden of Eden, believers could not yet answer exactly the question, "Who is he?" So throughout the Old Testament, God gave further descriptions concerning this Promised One. God inspired the prophet Micah to reveal where this man would be born.

### **Recitation: (Shelby)**

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times" (Micah 5:2).

### **Narration: (Rachel)**

Through Jeremiah and Isaiah, God foretold that this man would belong to the line of King David and would reign on his throne forever.

### **Recitation: (Cate)**

"The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is just and right in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior" (Jeremiah 23:5,6).

### **Recitation: (Emma)**

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.

### **Recitation: (Amelia)**

Of the greatness 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 9:6,7).

**Narration: (Rachel)**

Isaiah also reveals that this man would suffer for us.

**Recitation: (Cate)**

Surely he took up our pain and bore our suffering, yet we considered him punished by God, stricken by him, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was on him, and by his wounds we are healed.

**Recitation: (Shelby)**

We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all (Isaiah 53:4-6).

**Narration: (Rachel)**

Who is he? We still do not have a complete description of this man. However, these prophecies fill in greater detail about him and his mission.

# **PART THREE: WHO IS HE? THE NEWBORN ONE**

## **Narration: (Sebastian)**

For thousands of years, God provided prophecy after prophecy about the one he had promised to send to save humankind from their sin. The world was now ready. Peace prevailed in the Roman Empire. God sent his angel to a virgin named Mary, a descendant of King David's family who was living in the lowly town of Nazareth, to give her some wonderful news.

## **Recitation: (Eleanor)**

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said,

## **Recitation: (Hunter)**

"Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

## **Recitation: (Eleanor)**

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her,

## **Recitation: (Hunter)**

"Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end" (Luke 1:26-33).

## **Narration: (Sebastian)**

Mary lived in Nazareth, about 90 miles from Bethlehem where the Promised One was to be born. But God used the Roman emperor to get Mary to Bethlehem so she would give birth to the Savior there, just as Micah had prophesied.

**Recitation: (Amelia)**

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) And everyone went to their own town to register.

**Recitation: (Titus)**

So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

**Recitation: (Jude)**

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them (Luke 2:1-7).

***HYMN: O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM***

**333**



**Narration: (Hunter)**

The one promised in the Garden of Eden finally came into this world! But how would people know that he had come? There were no news agencies to get the word out. The message could not be tweeted to the world in an instant. But God had a plan. He sent an angel to a small band of shepherds to announce the birth of the Savior.

**Recitation: (Shelby)**

There were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them,

**Recitation: (Harry)**

"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord.

**Recitation: (Travis)**

This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger" (Luke 2:8-12).

**Recitation: (Joe)**

Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests."

**Recitation: (Cathrine)**

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger (Luke 2:13-16).

## **PART FOUR:           WHO IS HE? THE ONE TO BE SHARED**

### **Narration: (Cate)**

The Savior had come. And what wondrous news this was! The shepherds believed the message of the angel. So they left their sheep to see their Savior. They were so excited that the long-awaited one had finally come! And they could not help but tell everyone they met what they had witnessed.

### **Recitation: (Jude)**

When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.

### **Recitation: (Travis)**

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

### **Recitation: (Joe)**

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told (Luke 2:17-20).

### **Narration: (Cate)**

Now we have the answer to the question "Who is he?" He is Jesus—Christ the Lord come to save us from our sins. That is good news! Like the shepherds, we want to share that news with others so that they also may have the peace the angel spoke of—peace between God and sinners. Jesus himself tells us how, and what, we are to share.

### **Recitation: (All Children)**

Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you (Matthew 28:19,20).

Song by Children: "*Angels We Have Heard on High*"

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

*Refrain:*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo; Gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?  
Why your joyous strains prolong?  
What the gladsome tidings be  
Which inspire your heav'nly song?  
Refrain*

*3 Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
Refrain*

### **Prayer:**

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true light. Grant that as we have known on earth the wonder of that light, we may also behold him in all his glory in the life to come; through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### **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 thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Song by Children: "Away in a Manger"

*1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where they lay,  
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.*

*2. The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.  
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

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

**Blessing**

Minister:

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

Congregation:

**Amen!**