

THE GREATEST SHOW

Order of Service | December 21-22, 2019

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| Worship Team | Promises Never Fail |
| Greeting/Welcome | |
| Worship Team | Our God King of Kings |
| Message | Senior Pastor Jay Bruner The Greatest Show: Week 4 |
| Offering/Announcements/Dismissal | |

Living the Greatest Show

*At that time the Roman emperor, Augustus, decreed that a census should be taken throughout the Roman Empire. (This was the first census taken when Quirinius was governor of Syria.) All returned to their own ancestral towns to register for this census. And because Joseph (and Mary) was a descendant of King David, he had to go to Bethlehem in Judea, David's ancient home. He traveled there from the village of Nazareth in Galilee. He took with him Mary, to whom he was engaged, who was now expecting a child. And while they were there, the time came for her baby to be born. She gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him snugly in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no lodging available for them. That night there were shepherds staying in the fields nearby, guarding their flocks of sheep. Suddenly, an angel of the Lord appeared among them, and the radiance of the Lord's glory surrounded them. They were terrified, but the angel reassured them. "Don't be afraid!" he said. "I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people. The Savior—yes, the **Messiah**, the Lord—has been born today in Bethlehem, the city of David! And you will recognize him by this sign: You will find a baby wrapped snugly in strips of cloth, lying in a manger." Suddenly, the angel was joined by a vast host of others—the armies of heaven—praising God and saying, "Glory to God in highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased." When the angels had returned to heaven, the shepherds said to each other, "Let's go to Bethlehem! Let's see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." They hurried to the village and found Mary and Joseph. And there was the baby, lying in the manger. After seeing him, the shepherds told everyone what had happened and what the angel had said to them about this child.*

All who heard the shepherds' story were astonished, but Mary kept all these things in her heart and thought about **them often**. The shepherds went back to their flocks, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen. It was just as the angel had told them. **Luke 2:1-20 (NLT)**

HOW TO BE PART OF THE "GREATEST SHOW" OF ALL ETERNITY

1. Embrace the **Messiah** of life. (the **true star** of the show)

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God." **John 3:3 (NLT)**

If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. **Romans 10:9-10 (NLT)**

2. Embrace **all** He has come to do for **me**.

Forgiveness for my past (Ephesians 1:4-7, 1 John 1:9, Acts 2:38)

Hope for today (Ephesians 1:7-9, John 10:10)

Peace about my future (Ephesians 1:9-14, John 3:16-17, John 5:24)

3. Embrace my place in **His-story** no matter where it **leads me**.

Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you ...!" **Matthew 4:19 (NLT)**

4. Embrace **others** enough to tell them about **Him**.

*But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, **telling people about me everywhere...*** **Acts 1:8 (NLT)**

Going deeper on your own. Read Luke chapter 2:1-40 out loud. Notice the response of each person who came into contact with the Christ. How were their lives different after they came in contact with Him? What did they say? What did they sing about? What does that say to you about who He is? With this in mind, if you were to write a song, a letter, or a note to a friend about who He is and what He has done, what would you say? Why don't you? When you do, send it to someone you love.