



PASTOR: All who need the Savior, all who long for comfort:

PEOPLE: Come and worship, come and worship Christ, the newborn King!

God's Greeting

Opening Song:

Angels, from the Realms of Glory LUYH 81

The Story of the Birth of Jesus: Luke 2:1-21

Song of Praise:

O Come, All Ye Faithful LUYH 76

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE:
A SAVIOR MADE KNOWN**

**Christmas Reading & Lighting of the Advent
Candles and the Christ Candle**

Special Music: *Bethlehem Treasure*

GOD COMES TO US IN HIS WORD

Readers' Theater: Simeon Blesses

GIRL: *Wasn't it fun at the temple today? I love it when we get to go there, there's so many people and different things going on. I especially like going when parents bring their first-born baby boys to the temple to give the offerings to buy their baby back from God.*

SISTER: Why do they have to buy the oldest baby boy back again from God?

GIRL: *Remember the stories of Moses and his fight against Pharaoh, how Moses finally won when God sent his angel to kill all the oldest sons in Egypt?*

SISTER: Yes! That's the Passover story, I love the Passover and the supper and having the whole family over. I remember the story, but not why we sacrifice for the babies still.

GIRL: *To keep their children safe, God told them to kill a lamb and put its blood on the door posts and the angel would fly over that house.*

SISTER: Is that why some of our neighbors do that just before Passover?

GIRL: *That's right. And because the lamb saved the babies then, God reminds us that the oldest sons are still his and we have to offer a sacrifice*

[CHRISTMAS DAY PRELUDE SONGS](#)

[VIDEO OF WORSHIP SERVICE](#)

***Live-stream video is unavailable for December 25/20.** *The worship service will be video recorded and will be available in the VIDEO LINK or on the "Bethel CRC Lacombe" Youtube channel after the Worship service at approximately 12:00 p.m. on Friday.

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO WORSHIP

Welcome

Christmas Prayer: Litany of Hope

PASTOR: We pray to Jesus, born in a stable,

ALL: bring hope to the homeless.

PASTOR: Jesus, child of Mary and Joseph,

ALL: bring hope to all families.

PASTOR: Jesus, light of the world,

ALL: bring hope to this world's dark places.

PASTOR: Jesus, bearer of peace,

ALL: bring hope where there is war.

PASTOR: Jesus, who fled to another country,

ALL: bring hope to all refugees.

PASTOR: Jesus, who showed us how to live,

ALL: bring hope to your church.

PASTOR: Jesus, who died for us,

ALL: bring hope to a broken world.

PASTOR: Jesus, Son of God, Messiah,

ALL: bring hope this Christmas.

Call to Worship Litany

PASTOR: All God's people - boys and girls, women, men:

PEOPLE: Come and worship!

PASTOR: Shepherds, Magi, saints, and angels:

PEOPLE: Come and worship! Come and worship!

for them to give thanks and to remember how he saved us.

SISTER: But some of the parents only gave 2 small birds. Those parents by the old man Simeon only offered 2 pigeons.

GIRL: *That's right. Richer people still give a lamb, but poorer people could give 2 birds instead. Those parents must be poor.*

SISTER: I see. Do those sacrifices mean anything else?

GIRL: *The sacrifices also mean that the oldest boy is supposed to serve God for the rest of his life. For the Levites that is so for them, but that boy from that poor family, he is supposed to serve God his whole life.*

SISTER: I wonder what he will do to serve God when he grows up?

Scripture: Luke 2:25-35

Sermon: Simeon Blesses

Prayer of Application

WE RESPOND IN HOPE

Song of Response:

Joy to the World LUYH 92

Offering for Lacombe Food Bank

Prayer for Offering

What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.

If I were a wise man, I would do my part. Yet what I can, I give him, give him my heart.

CHRISTMAS BLESSING:

Based on Titus 2:11-13 NRSV

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. Live now in the power of Christ, to the praise of his name!

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior's birth, fill you with joy and make you heralds of the gospel. Amen.

Closing song:

Glory to God (Ere zij God) LUYH 84