



## *Echoes From the Past, 4* by Pastor Glenn Huebel

Introduction: Christmas has been a very special time for me as pastor of Messiah Lutheran Church. I didn't grow up with a whole lot of traditions in my home, but we did go to church on Christmas Eve. It was the night when the Sunday School children performed their Christmas program and the kids received a bag of goodies as we left the church. When I was in seminary, I became acquainted with some other special traditions, like the candlelight service and midnight communion service. Here at Messiah we kind of sputtered in fits and starts to establish Christmas Eve traditions. Eventually we settled upon a candlelight service of carols and readings that developed into the Evening Prayer Candlelight Service as we have it today. This service grew rapidly each year until we had to have two services to accommodate the people. We also offered special Christmas music before each service. The whole service was also filled with wonderful choir pieces, instrumental music, and rousing Christmas hymns sung by all. I began to realize that these services were bringing in more non-members than members. The majority of those I greeted at the end were strangers to me. It occurred to me that under such circumstances I should be preaching very basic, clear, and simple law and gospel sermons on Christmas Eve. Several years ago I began the practice of choosing short "free texts" (John 3:16, 1 John 4:9-11, 1 Tim 2:5-6, John 6:51, etc.) for my sermon by which I could clearly teach who the baby in the manger is and why He came into the world. I am keenly aware that someone in the service might be hearing the Gospel for the first and last time. The following sermon was preached on Christmas Eve, 2003. On that occasion I used a very familiar Christmas text, the message of the Angels to the Shepherds. My goal on this day is that no one comes to our service without hearing both law and gospel and receiving the invitation to believe in unadorned clarity and simplicity.

### GLAD TIDINGS FROM HEAVEN

Text: Luke 2:10—11  
12/24/03

Christmas Eve

**Luke 2:10—11:** *<sup>9</sup>And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. <sup>10</sup>And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy that will be for all the people.*

Most of the news that we get throughout the year, and even in this "joyful season," is bad news. One of the reasons that bad news is prolific is that it sells. But the main reason bad news dominates is because we live in a sinful world, and the nature of man is inclined only toward evil. When Noah and his family were starting anew after the flood, God said of the human race, "the imagination of his heart is evil from his youth." Yes, even in his best state, man is altogether corrupt. "Out of the heart," Jesus said, "proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies" (Mt 15:20). That is quite an ugly list. Is there no good mixed within the natural heart? St. Paul says of his

own heart, "I know that in me, that is, in my flesh, dwells no good thing" (Rom 7:18). The sinful heart has produced great misery for mankind through the centuries. The history books and the newspaper headlines confirm the reality of original sin. Bad news is the norm in this corrupt and dying world, and it will be so until the end.

For a growing number of people it seems that the Christmas season is just an attempt temporarily to escape the daily struggles of life. Much of the Christmas celebration today is just an artificial façade of happiness, a "let's pretend everything is OK" idealism, or an

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*That you may believe that Jesus is the Christ,  
the Son of God, and that by believing  
you may have life in His name. —John 20:31*

attempt to ease pain by satisfying worldly desires through materialism and the indulgence of greed. All of this is but a perfume to cover the stench of sin. It does not help matters, and those who cannot afford to indulge, those who face less than ideal conditions in their lives, can feel absolutely alone and desolate in this time of year. In America, Christmas has become the most depressing season for many. Their bad situation is simply magnified by the superficial way the season is celebrated. How sad! When the Christmas gospel is replaced by an empty "happy holidays" message, the devil steals the joy God intends for us.

Tonight we come out of the darkness to hear glad tidings from heaven. This is not glad tidings reserved for those who have perfect marriages, perfect families, perfect health, perfect jobs, and no big problems. Jesus did not come into the world for people who have everything they need or want. He came for the lost, the unrighteous, the sinners, the people he calls "poor in spirit." That is why the Christmas angel was sent to lowly shepherds with this famous message from heaven: "Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all people." The message of Christ's birth is good news for ALL PEOPLE. It is good news which God intends to bring great joy. So there is good news tonight for you who are troubled in spirit, burdened with problems, and paralyzed with fears. The angel brings good news for you who are lonely. This good news for you whose heart aches for a missing loved one. There is good news for you who grieve over a broken relationship, a troubled marriage, or a wayward child. There is good news for you who are facing serious health problems. There is good news for you who are poor, for you who face financial losses in these uncertain times, and for you who have lost your jobs. There is good news for you who face the relentless, withering assaults of the evil one. There is good news for you who suffer under a load of guilt and shame, or who are paralyzed by fear. This good news does not come from a politician who can spin any story the way he wishes. This good news does not come from an optimist who can make any situation look positive. This good news comes to you directly from heaven, through the mouth of a holy angel. "Behold, I bring you good news of great joy which shall be for all people."

What kind of news can be good for all people? Usually news that is good for some is bad news for others. A zero inflation rate is good news for many, but some profit from inflation, so that is not good news for them. World peace is good news for most, but some profit from war. Hardly any news is good for everyone. That's why there is so much division and conflict in the world. But the Christmas message is good news that transcends this fallen world. It deals with the very root of the world's problem. The good news is, A SAVIOR IS BORN!

Zachariah, the father of John the Baptist, called Jesus "a horn of salvation," and predicted that He would "save us from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us." Jesus Himself said, "I have not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them." What does all this religious talk

about "salvation" really mean? Why is it good news for everyone that a Savior is born?

It is good news for everyone because He saves us all from the very source of all the misery, sorrow, pain, and affliction in this world. The angel told Joseph in a dream to name Mary's baby, "Jesus," because "He will save His people from their sin." Sin is rebellion against our Creator, disobedience to His holy law in thought, word and deed. Sin is the root of all the evil in our own lives, in our families, churches, and in all the world. Sin brings forth division, hate, bloodshed, wars, and death. Sin is even at the root of all that is wrong in nature. The whole created world has been cursed through sin. Sin separates us from God, and without God we are without hope in the world. All we can do is struggle to cope with the consequences and symptoms of sin, but in the manger of Bethlehem, God Himself has entered into flesh and blood to do battle with our invincible enemies who rule over this world as tyrants. In Jesus, God comes to conquer sin and set us free from the curse of the Law. In Jesus, God comes to defeat Satan, the father of sin, and the accuser of mankind. In Jesus, God comes to face and swallow up death, the just penalty of sin. All that weighs you down in life, all that causes you pain and affliction, all that leads you to weep and mourn. All that is evil and wrong in your life and in the world is a result of the curse brought upon us through Adam's sin, and our own. That is the context of the angel's message. But there is good news for you tonight: A SAVIOR IS BORN.

Our God has had pity upon us. Our creator has loved us, loved us SO MUCH that He gave His only-begotten Son. The eternal Son of God left the glories of heaven to enter into world history, to assume a human body in the womb of Mary, and to be born, to be born in poverty, and to be cared for by humble parents. He entered human flesh and blood so that he might live a perfectly obedient life under God's holy law as the substitute for all mankind. The Bible says, "By the obedience of One, the many have been declared righteous," which means His righteousness has been credited to our account. Furthermore, He entered human flesh and blood so that he might have a perfect human life to offer as a ransom for mankind. He offered Himself as the perfect and all sufficient sacrifice for the sins of the world. His death on the cross has fully paid the debt for the sins of all the world. Ultimately, He entered human flesh and blood that he might, through death, destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil and set free all who throughout their lifetimes were held in bondage through fear of death. He came to destroy the works of the devil. A SAVIOR IS BORN. That is good news. That is good news that brings great joy. And the deeper you have fallen, the heavier burden you bear, the more affliction you suffer, the greater the joy generated by this good news, just as prisoners of war are happiest beneficiaries of the good news that their army has been victorious and the war has ended.

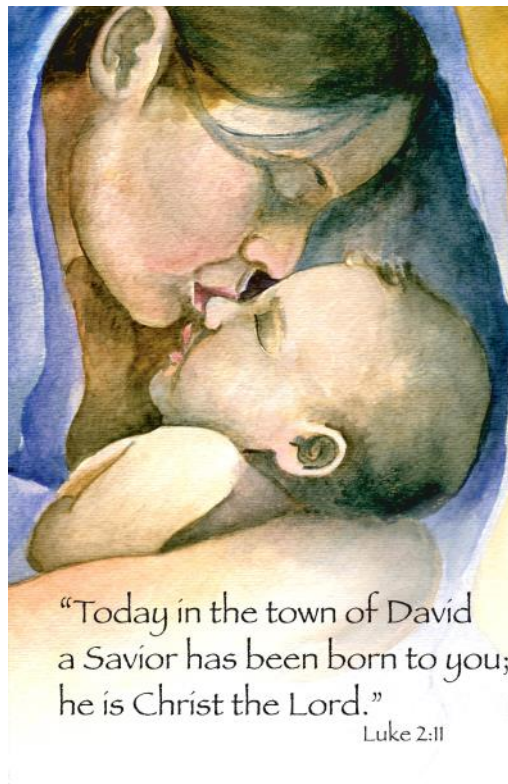
To YOU the Savior has been born. Unto you who labor and are heavy-laden, a Savior is born. Unto you who feel the pangs of guilt in your conscience, a Savior is born.

Unto you whose lives have been devastated with the loss of a loved one, a Savior is born. Unto you who face the insecurities of unemployment, a Savior has been born. Unto you who face financial ruin, a Savior is born. Unto you, who through failing health have come face to face with your mortality, a Savior is born. The angel wants you who are been hounded by Satan to hear the good news. The angel wants you who are weighed down by guilt to hear the good news. The angel wants you who fear death to hear the good news, and to rejoice with great joy. God has come to your rescue, battled your enemies, paid your debts, and abolished death. "Unto you is born, this day, in the City of David, a Savior who is Christ, the Lord."

God sent His holy angel to proclaim this message for one reason, that you might believe it and be saved through Him. Only through Christ are your sins removed, for He alone is "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." Only through Christ are you set free from the devil, for if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. Only through Christ can you have eternal life. The Bible says "whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life," but "he that believeth not shall be condemned." Will faith in this heaven sent Savior make you immune from the pains and struggles and sorrows of this life? No, Jesus plainly acknowledges that "In this world you shall have tribulation." But He goes on to say, "But be of good cheer, for I have overcome the world." When you have Christ by faith, you will bear the cross to be sure, but you do so with hope and joy, for God has promised, "if we suffer with Him, we shall also reign with him, if we die with him, we shall also live with him." Hallelujah! The kingdoms of this world have become the

kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign forever and ever." UNTO YOU IS BORN THIS DAY ... A SAVIOR WHO IS CHRIST THE LORD.

Amen.



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## ***Vocations in Life – Parenting/Grand Parenting Series***

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### **Training Small to Young Children**

What are we trying to achieve here? Well, first is to focus your child on the Word. Second, to help the child, over time, to understand what worship is. Third, is to be quiet for others. Fourth, is not to make a big mess of the pew. And please do not use electronic devices no matter how quiet to "babysit" the child in church. As the child develops, even before they can read, it is very beneficial to help them follow the liturgy, follow hymns and participate in the prayers. It really is that important to their development in understanding what worship is about.

Being a good steward of the congregation's resources, you should use the drawing paper pad for scribbling on instead of the hymnals. Crayola crayons should be used over all others because they do not permanently stain cloth and are easier to remove from the pews. They cost more but please spend the extra money for them. The same with drawing paper. Get the kind that is soft and does not make a lot of noise. Remember copy/printer paper is loud. Small finger food in a resealable soft plastic bag is quiet. Ever hear someone open something that crinkles? Especially in worship, it is like dragging finger nails across a chalkboard. Painfully excruciating to hear!

Did we say this is hard work? Yes, we did and we know it is. There is a lot of thought and energy to do this. For some it is natural to think about all of these things and plan for them, but for others it is not. Pretty much everyone will joyfully support parents who are diligently trying to train up their child. The rest require much prayer for them and us.

Remember you are trying to counteract your child's sinful nature and huge secular influences that are not focused on supporting your child living a Christian life.

(to be continued)

# Christian Symbols at Christmas by Pastor Tom Chryst

The Christian church has long used representative art both for the sake of beauty but also to teach various aspects of the faith. Over time, certain themes have come to be regular visitors in various seasons of the church year, with Christmas perhaps the most chock-full of such symbols.

Some Christian symbols are drawn directly from the pages of Scripture. But while many other symbols and decorations have their roots in pagan times, or in superstition and legend, Christians have often sought to “baptize” certain things by drawing connections to Christ and aspects of our faith. Symbols work best when they aren’t just there to “set the mood”, but to remind us of spiritual truths and the teachings of God’s Word. They are best used as teaching tools, and work especially well with children.

Consider just a few popular Christmas symbols and how they help us observe the celebration of Christ’s birth:

**ANGELS** – Luke’s Nativity account tells of the angel, and then the multitude of angels that appeared to the Shepherds announcing, “To you is born this day a Savior, which is Christ the Lord”. Angels accompany many of the “milestones” in God’s plan of salvation. They bring good news and certainly get our attention as they do!

**MARY AND JOSEPH** - Some of the most important characters in the Christmas story are Jesus’ mother Mary and his guardian or Step-father, Joseph. We are glad these two people of faith carried out their vocations with love for the Christ-child, nurturing and protecting Jesus. They remind us of the importance of faithful parents, even today.

**BELLS** – Bells were used to some extent even in ancient Judaism, but St. Patrick usually gets credit for first using them in the Christian church. They’ve come to represent the announcement of some significant event – and are especially associated with the work of God. Christmas fits both of those criteria!



**MISTLETOE** – One of the few plants that remains green in the winter, Mistletoe was used in Nordic and Greco-Roman pagan traditions from antiquity.

Christians have sometimes used mistletoe as a reminder of the Old Testament promises of the “Righteous

Branch” (Jeremiah 23:1-8 and 33:14-16) or the “Branch of

Jesse” (Isaiah 11:1-10). And while

pagans superstitiously hung the plant for protection, Christians might use it as a simple reminder that our only protection is in Christ. As for kissing under it, that seems to have been a pagan fertility practice that Christians may want to avoid, or at least understand it as simple fun apart from any superstitious meaning.

**CANDY CANES** – A sweet treat that has developed and changed over the years, but began sometime in the 1400s, the most common symbolism is as follows:



- The **hard** candy reminds us that Jesus is our rock. — Psalm 61:2
- The **cane shape** reminds us of a shepherd’s staff and the shepherds that came to worship Jesus. It also reminds us of how Jesus came into the world to be a shepherd of his people. — Luke 2:8-15 and John 10:11
- The **upside-down** candy cane forms the letter “J” and reminds us of the name of Jesus which means “God saves.” — Matthew 1:21
- The **peppermint** flavor reminds us of the gift of spices from the Wise Men. — Matthew 2:11
- The **white candy** reminds us of purity and holiness. It recalls the virgin birth of Christ, the sinless life of Christ and the holy life that Jesus wants his people to live. — Matthew 1:23 and 1 Peter 1:15
- The **color red** reminds us that Jesus became a real flesh and blood man and spilled his blood to save his people. — Hebrews 2:14
- The **stripes** remind us of the lashes Jesus received when he suffered for us and ultimately bore our sins that we might be healed. — 1 Peter 2:24-25

**POINSETTIAS** - The plants are native to Mexico and bear the name of the first U.S. Ambassador to Mexico (around 1825) who also had a deep interest in botany. The plant also is associated with a Spanish legend that a simple weed was transformed into the Poinsetta plant on a Christmas Eve, which is why the plant soon came to be known in Mexico as the Flores de Noche Buena (Flowers of the Holy Night). Poinsettias are certainly a natural plant to associate with Christmas. They bloom during the Christmas season, and their star-shaped leaves call to mind both the star of Bethlehem and Christ himself who is called the “bright morning star.”

**CHRISTMAS TREES** – While also used in pagan religions in ancient times, evergreen trees came to be used with Christian meaning possibly as early as the 8<sup>th</sup> century in Germany, by St. Boniface. Another tradition sees their origin in the “paradise plays” of the 15<sup>th</sup> century, in which a fir tree decorated with apples represented the Garden of Eden. Finally, some credit Martin Luther with starting the practice, and especially of decorating a Christmas tree with candles. The symbolic meaning of an evergreen tree is easy to see – a reminder of eternal life in Christ. But **trees** also play an important role in our salvation, from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil, to the tree of the cross by which Jesus undid the curse of sin.



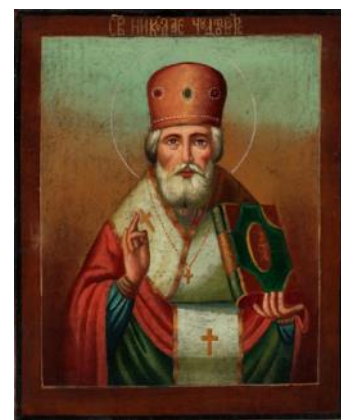
**HOLLY** – Another Christian symbol used first by pagans, as the Romans thought holly sacred to the god Saturn, and brought good spirits. But like the mistletoe, this plant which remains green in winter is a natural decoration. The holly also bears prickly leaves, which might remind us of the crown of thorns and the suffering of Christ. The red berries remind us of drops of his blood. This child was born for a purpose – to suffer and die for sinners.



**WREATHS** - Northern Europeans naturally came to associate their wreaths with Christmas, for many of the

reasons we've mentioned above. There's some debate, however, about how the wreaths came to be associated with Advent, the time of preparation for Christmas. Generally, scholars credit a 19th century German theologian, named Johann Hinrich Wichern, with creating the modern Advent wreath. For each Sunday of Advent, Wichern positioned a large white candle in a wreath made from a cart wheel. For every other day in between, Wichern placed a small red candle in the wreath. Each day Wichern would light a candle and teach the children about Jesus. Thus, the children had a visual means to help them count the days until Christmas, and Wichern had an opportunity to help draw their focus to the purpose of Christmas. His idea was a success, and with time, it spread throughout Europe and on to North America, although now we typically see four candles on the wreath and one in the center. Various meanings have also been assigned to the four candles – hope, love, joy and peace or prophecy, Bethlehem, shepherds and angels. The central candle represents Christ himself.

**SANTA CLAUS** – This familiar figure has his roots in 2<sup>nd</sup> century St. Nicholas of Myra, a well know bishop and defender of the Christian faith. One legend has Nicholas so enraged with the heretic Arius that their disagreement came to physical blows! Nicholas is also said to have generously provided help to the poor, including leaving gold coins in shoes or stockings. Today, Christians are of varied opinion on the usefulness of a Santa figure. But surely remembering the generosity of this saint of old is a good springboard to appreciate God's greatest gift which the world received in the Christ-child.



**STARS** – Certainly the Star of Bethlehem that led the wise men to Jesus is the main inspiration for this Christian symbol. While we don't know exactly what this star was – a comet, a supernova, or a conjunction of some sort – the wise men certainly interpreted it correctly and made their journey to find “Him who is born king of the Jews”.

**LIGHT** – This most basic and first element of creation is always a fitting symbol for Christ, who John 1 calls the “Light” that “came into the world”. Jesus himself says, “I am the light of the world”. And it's clear that only through him can we see the truth, and escape the blindness of sin and the darkness of death. Simeon recognized this light in the baby Jesus when he sang the Nunc Dimittus, “a light to reveal you to the nations, and the glory of your people Israel”.



## *Silent Night, Holy Night*

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Services:**  
**5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.**

*Special pre-service music begins 30 min. prior to each service.*

**Christmas Eve with Holy Communion:**  
**11:30 p.m.**

**Christmas Day with Holy Communion:**  
**10:00 a.m.**



What a delightful time of year as we anxiously anticipate the birth of the Babe in Bethlehem. And what an incredible amount of music is available for this season as well. We are so blessed to have such an abundance of musical talent within our own congregation - and a

willingness to share it. Our annual **Sunday of Carols and Lessons** will be **Dec. 16<sup>th</sup>** at both services. It will be a glorious offering of music between special readings and

meditations as we prepare for Jesus' coming. This is a musical gift to you from the Music Ministry of Messiah.

I especially urge you to take advantage of the music that will be presented on **Christmas Eve** starting one half hour before the five and seven o'clock services. Plan to come early and spend that time listening, reflecting, and preparing your heart to celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Blessings to you and yours as we worship together this Christmas season!

Vicki Main, Kantor

## Higher Things 2018: Sanctified, Part 3 by Deaconess Pamela Buhler



Pastor Dryer, James Buhler & Max Hedman

Throughout the course of the day, participants have the privilege of worshipping with sisters and brothers from across the country. Fellowship with Lutherans is one of the big perks to attending Higher Things every summer. Coming together to worship

one Lord, one faith, one baptism with faithful confessional Lutherans is priceless. Apart from sessions and eating on campus, participants gather for Matins, Vespers, and Compline. Our youth have multiple opportunities to interact, converse, and compete with pastors who they've learned to know and look forward to seeing year after year.



Christina Buhler serves as one of our CCVs: College Conference Volunteers

As a result of our youth sitting and listening to different approaches to Scripture through the excited eyes of new pastors, they often have "aha" moments. They enjoy learning something new as God opens their eyes to His Word. Here are a few "aha" memories from our youth:

◦ When God walked through the Garden of Eden after the fall into sin Adam and Eve "heard God's footsteps" because it could have well been autumn with the crunchy leaves on the ground.

- Pastor Wolfmueller explained the Latin phrase "opinion legis"...the idea that if God is mad at me for my sin, than he must be pleased with me for my good works. This is not Lutheranism.
- It's Baptism not Bapt-was-m!
- In the Seder Meal, the Matza was in the middle spot & how when they are cooking it, they poke holes in it and laid it on something that gives it stripes. This symbolizes that Jesus was pierced for our transgressions and how we are healed by his stripes (Isaiah)-AB
- I realized just how much Hebrew is needed to understand subtle meanings

At the close of day, youth have free time to interact friends and with other conference attendees. Higher Things offers a variety of activities at each conference.

These can include mechanical bull riding, swimming, sumo wrestling, obstacle courses, nine square, rock climbing, and bubble soccer ball. They also host competitions such as talent shows, archery tag, chant offs, chalk drawing contests, and tetramorph challenges.

**Our favorite free-time activities** were Chalk-Drawing and Volleyball. Volleyball, Talent Show, Cards and Volleyball, Rock Climbing, Volleyball, Chalk-Art, Volleyball!

Stay tuned next month for more information on our Higher Things Youth Trip!





## ***It's Angel Tree Time*** by Barbara Brewer

The Angel Tree Season is in full swing and we have had a great start! Angel Tree Sunday on November 18th was a huge success. Thank you to all the congregation members and visitors that chose an Angel from the tree. We are serving 75 children this year. Last year we received several letters and cards from the prisoners and caregivers with words of thankfulness and gratitude. Here are some words written by the prisoners:

"I just want to thank you fro the gift cards that you gave Heaven. It is my hope that one day I will get to thank you in person. May God bless your congregation and guide you to the path of righteousness. I will always keep you in my prayers." -Scott, Prisoner

"Words really cannot express the gratitude I have. I am a father, who is incarcerated and I have few options to show my 3 boy's my love for them. It's been 10 months, since I've seen my boys face-to-face. Though I know Christ is in control, and all will be as it should on His time. May God Bless you all and your families today, tomorrow, and everyday. These are hard-times no doubt, I lean on Jesus Christ and He does answer prayers. You all showed me that." -Charles, Prisoner

There are still more Angels on the tree and more are expected to arrive over the next week. Prayerfully consider choosing an angel if you haven't already, or choosing another one if you already have. To support MLCA please consider using a Scrip

card (see Amy Hedman) when purchasing the gift(s) for the Angel Tree. Some volunteer opportunities are coming up as well. If you haven't been involved with this ministry but would like to experience the joy of serving, we will need drivers to deliver gifts and need helpers to write Christmas cards to the prisoners. Saturday December 15th is when we will be delivering gifts. Thank you for joining in our important ministry of changing lives, minds, and communities through Jesus Christ! We are sharing the love of Jesus Christ and assuring a child that he or she has not been forgotten while mom or dad is in prison! The work and love that we pour into this ministry means the world to prisoners, their children, and their families.

## ***Bag Mat—ters Matters*** by Vicki Main



Since February, the plastic bag comfort mats have been growing in numbers . . .  
. 1, 2, 3, . . . . .  
21 in total!



Finally, at the end of November each one was carefully rolled up and secured with a braided cord rope allowing for ease in carrying. Ray & I loaded them all into his car to journey to the Presbyterian Night Shelter in downtown Fort Worth.



*And an extra bit of trivia—those 21 mats represent approximately 14,500 bags!*

*Thank you to everyone who helps in any way with this project!*



This is Harriet Willis. She is a very hardworking, caring person and is in charge of the Volunteer & In-Kind Donation area at the Shelter. Harriet had a cart waiting for us to put all the mats in along with a big hug! Nice.



### Messiah Lutheran Church & School

*The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod*

1308 Whitley Rd. Keller, TX 76248

Church Office: (817) 431-2345

Academy Office: (817) 431-5486

Sunday Worship: 8:00 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.

Sunday School & Adult Bible Class: 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Glenn Huebel, Senior Pastor

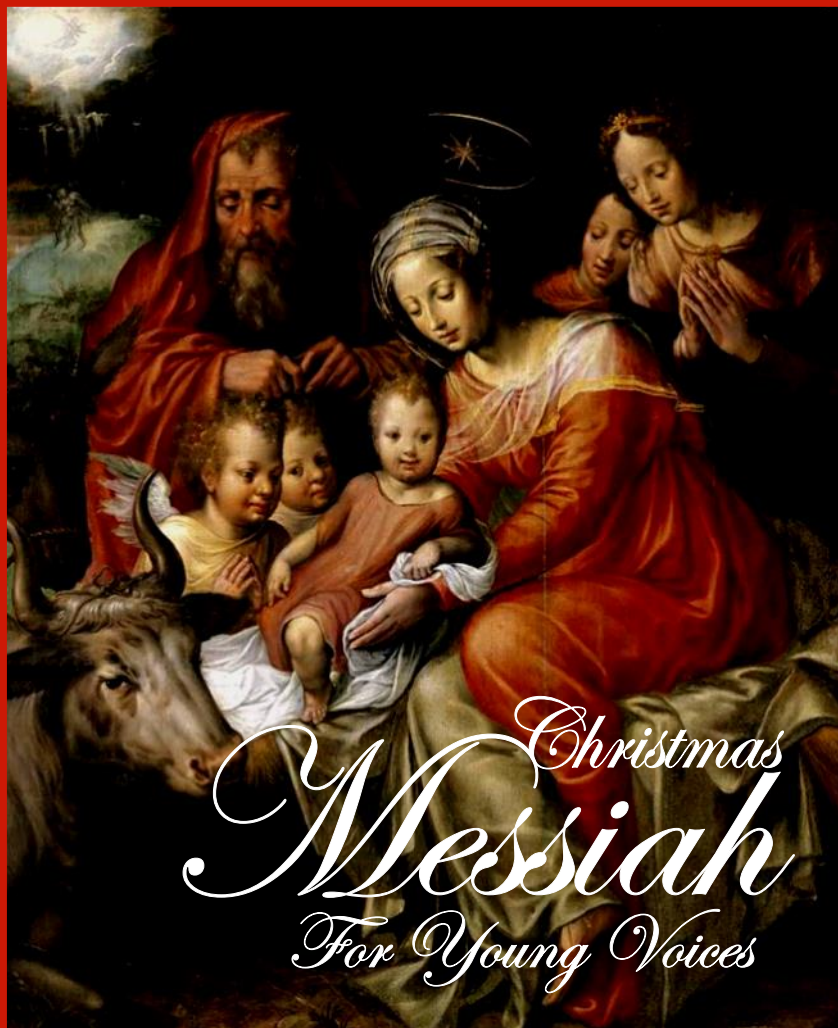
Rev. Thomas Chryst, Associate Pastor

[www.messiahkeller.org](http://www.messiahkeller.org)

## Miscellany (/ˈmɪsəˌlānē /)

noun. —a mixture or collection of different things

- **Midweek Advent services** continue on Wednesdays, Dec. 12 and 19 at 7:00pm. This year's theme: *The Songs of Christmas*. Each service is preceded by a supper, offered for a free-will offering, at 6:00pm.
- **Our library** has many books, for all ages, on the nativity of Christ. You are welcome to check them out to read to your family during the Advent and Christmas seasons. They have been set apart on the circulation desk.
- If you have "**Gifts in Kind**" **donations** for 2018 for which you would like a tax receipt, please turn the information in to Jinel Munoz by the end of the year.
- If you are on/use Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, **please like/follow us!** It's a painless way to help our church and school—and it really does help! #MLCATexas
- Phase 2 of the **library fundraiser with Schwans continues until Jan 2**. We receive 5% of each order. Use code 40105.
- This month is full of a variety of activities. Please remember to make sure the doors are locked and the lights are off when your group leaves the building!



BY G. F. HANDEL

CREATED BY TIMOTHY W. SHARP

Presented  
by the  
Students  
of

Messiah Lutheran  
Classical Academy

Thursday,  
Dec. 13

6:30 p.m.