

Sunday 20th December

Introduction to Cornerstone

Call to Worship

Song: Joy Has Dawned

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession & Assurance

Reading: Luke 2:1-20

Talk

Song: Psalm 8

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Supplication

Song: Silent Night

Benediction

Call to Worship

Leader: I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

All: Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!

Song: Joy Has Dawned

Verse 1

Joy has dawned upon the world
Promised from creation
God's salvation now unfurled
Hope for ev'ry nation
Not with fanfares from above
Not with scenes of glory
But a humble gift of love
Jesus born of Mary

Verse 2

Sounds of wonder fill the sky
With the songs of angels
As the mighty Prince of Life
Shelters in a stable
Hands that set each star in place
Shaped the earth in darkness
Cling now to a mother's breast
Vulnerable and helpless

Verse 3

Shepherds bow before the Lamb
Gazing at the glory
Gifts of men from distant lands
Prophecy the story
Gold a King is born today
Incense God is with us
Myrrh His death will make a way
By His blood He'll win us

Verse 4

Son of Adam Son of heaven
Given as a ransom
Reconciling God and man
Christ our mighty Champion
What a Savior what a Friend
What a glorious mystery
Once a babe in Bethlehem
Now the Lord of history

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession & Assurance

As we come to God we ask for forgiveness and remind ourselves that when we do so God promises to listen and respond with grace.

Leader (Confession): Generous God, You give us the greatest gift of all, yourself, but often we find it hard to take notice; We are caught up with our own gifts, given and received. Forgive us, generous God, for the casual way we treat your gift of love. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.

All (Assurance): The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned. 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 Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Bible Reading: Luke 2:1-20

The birth of Jesus

In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register. ⁴ 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. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ 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. ⁸ And there were shepherds living out in the fields near by, keeping watch over their flocks at night. ⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰ But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Saviour has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.' ¹³ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ¹⁴ 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favour rests.' ¹⁵ 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.' ¹⁶ So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Lectura Bíblica: Lucas 1:1-20

NACIMIENTO DE JESÚS

Por aquellos días Augusto César decretó que se levantara un censo en todo el Imperio romano.² (Este primer censo se efectuó cuando Cirenio gobernaba en Siria).³ Así que iban todos a inscribirse, cada cual a su propio pueblo.⁴ También José, que era descendiente del rey David, subió de Nazaret, ciudad de Galilea, a Judea. Fue a Belén, la Ciudad de David,⁵ para inscribirse junto con María su esposa. Ella se encontraba encinta⁶ y, mientras estaban allí, se le cumplió el tiempo.⁷ Así que dio a luz a su hijo primogénito. Lo envolvió en pañales y lo acostó en un pesebre, porque no había lugar para ellos en la posada.

LOS PASTORES Y LOS ÁNGELES

⁸En esa misma región había unos pastores que pasaban la noche en el campo, turnándose para cuidar sus rebaños.⁹ Sucedió que un ángel del Señor se les apareció. La gloria del Señor los envolvió en su luz, y se llenaron de temor.¹⁰ Pero el ángel les dijo: «No tengan miedo. Miren que les traigo buenas noticias que serán motivo de mucha alegría para todo el pueblo.¹¹ Hoy les ha nacido en la Ciudad de David un Salvador, que es Cristo el Señor.¹² Esto les servirá de señal: Encontrarán a un niño envuelto en pañales y acostado en un pesebre». ¹³De repente apareció una multitud de ángeles del cielo, que alababan a Dios y decían: ¹⁴«Gloria a Dios en las alturas, y en la tierra paz a los que gozan de su buena voluntad». ¹⁵Cuando los ángeles se fueron al cielo, los pastores se dijeron unos a otros: «Vamos a Belén, a ver esto que ha pasado y que el Señor nos ha dado a conocer». ¹⁶Así que fueron de prisa y encontraron a María y a José, y al niño que estaba acostado en el pesebre. ¹⁷Cuando vieron al niño, contaron lo que les habían dicho acerca de él,¹⁸ y cuantos lo oyeron se asombraron de lo que los pastores decían. ¹⁹María, por su parte, guardaba todas estas cosas en su corazón y meditaba acerca de ellas. ²⁰Los pastores regresaron glorificando y alabando a Dios por lo que habían visto y oído, pues todo sucedió tal como se les había dicho.

Talk

Song: Psalm 8

¹ In all the earth, O LORD our Lord,
how glorious is your name!
For you have set above the heavens
your glory and your fame.

² From infants' and from children's lips
you ordered praise to sound,
To silence all your enemies,
the wicked to confound.

³ When I regard the heavens you made,
your fingers' work I trace;
I see the moon and shining stars
which you have set in place.

⁴ I ask myself, "What then is man
that you should give him
thought—
The son of man, that you to him

such gracious care have
brought?"

⁵ You made him little less than
those
who dwell in heaven above,
And you have crowned and
honoured him
with glory and with love.

⁶ You gave him charge of all the
works
created by your hand,
And everything that you had
made
you gave him to command—

^{7,8} All flocks and herds, and birds
and fish,
all beasts both wild and tame.

⁹ *In all the earth, O LORD our
Lord,
how glorious is your name!*

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Supplication

Personal Reflection

Song: Silent Night

Silent night, Holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and
child
Holy infant, tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night, Holy night
Son of God, love's pure light
Radiant beams from thy holy face

With the dawn of redeeming
grace,
Jesus, Lord at thy birth
Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Silent night, Holy night
Shepherds quake, at the sight
Glories stream from heaven above
Heavenly, hosts sing Hallelujah.
Christ the Savior is born,
Christ the Savior is born.

Benediction

Coming up

*At the close of the service this morning your City Group will be meeting online via Zoom.
Please contact your City Group leader if you need more info.*

A Night of Hope - Our Cornerstone carol service is happening tonight! Grab your minced pies and tune in to <https://cstonefc.org/hope> at 5:30pm from the comfort of our own homes!

Teen Girls Christmas Party - We'll be hosting a Zoom Christmas party for the teen girls tonight 7-8pm, just after our carol service. We're going to play a few games, try some crafts and just have some fun together! If you need the Zoom link please contact Jessie (jessie@cornerstone-edinburgh.com) or Jo (jo@cornerstone-edinburgh.com).

Advent Devotions - From now until Christmas landing in your inbox every day.

Women's Bible Study is having a break for the holidays so won't meet this week.

Old Schoolhouse Updates - Follow the latest at www.osh.org.uk/updates.

Hardship Fund - During this time we really want to help those who are struggling financially and we've set up a fund for those connected to Cornerstone who need assistance.

If you would like to donate to this fund or apply for help, please contact: AnnaLauren on annalauren@cornerstone-edinburgh.com or Laird (Colin) on colin@cornerstone-edinburgh.com for details.

Giving Information - If you would like to make a donation to the work of Cornerstone in Edinburgh, please follow this link: www.cornerstone-edinburgh.com/donate

Pastoral Care for the whole Church

Our hope is that everyone connected to Cornerstone is taken care of during this time. Please also be proactive in connecting with your City Group leaders and letting them know how you are. Let's be creative about being in touch with others and finding our own ways to connect also. Feel free to contact me, Laird or AnnaLauren at any time if you need help of any kind.

Neil: neil@cornerstone-edinburgh.com

AnnaLauren: annalauren@cornerstone-edinburgh.com

Laird: colin@cornerstone-edinburgh.com