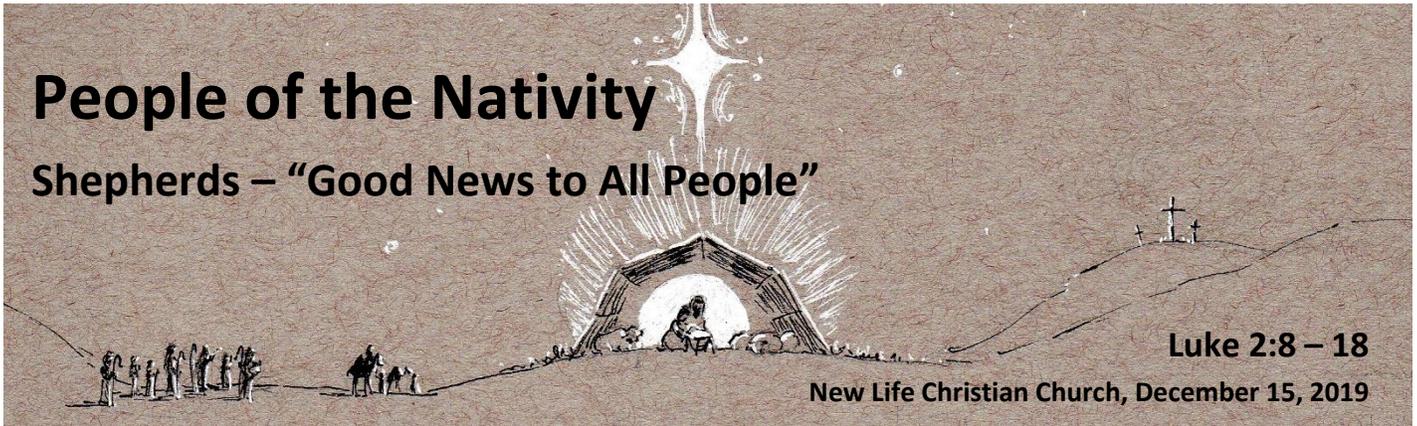


People of the Nativity

Shepherds – “Good News to All People”



OPEN IT

1. If you were put in charge of letting The Villages know that the President of the United States was coming for a visit, who would you tell and how would you tell them?

In the passage you are about to read, God gave an angel the responsibility of telling the world through shepherds that Christ the Lord has come. In telling the shepherds, God announced Jesus' birth in a surprising and counter-intuitive way. God does unusual things sometimes, but always with meaningful purpose.

Read Luke 2:8 – 18

EXPLORE IT

2. Describe the setting for the announcement of the good news (who was involved, where, when, and why).

Matt shared three take aways based upon what the shepherds may have said to others after their encounter with the angel and the baby Jesus. As you continue to consider this passage from Luke 2, explore those three take away statements

3. “No one ever chose me before.”

- a) Of all the people the angels could have visited, why do you suppose God sent the angel to the shepherds?
- b) God chose and appeared to the shepherds when they were just being themselves. How has God chosen and spoken to you in the ordinary flow of life?

4. “I was a changed man after that.”

- a) In what ways did the shepherds obey God that night showing that their lives were changed?
- b) What should be our response when we discover what God want us to do?

5. "I bring good news to all people. That means you, too."

- a) The shepherds spread the word to others. What does that tell you about what they experienced?

- b) What is the responsibility of those who discover the good news about Jesus?

APPLY IT

- 6. Who do you know who needs to be told about the birth and life of Jesus Christ? Include them in your group prayer time and in your prayers this coming week.

- 7. How can you glorify and praise God when you are alone and when you are with other followers of Jesus this week?