



## “The Gift”

### The Birth of Jesus

2 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. <sup>2</sup> (This was the first census that took place while<sup>[a]</sup> Quirinius was governor of Syria.) <sup>3</sup> And everyone went to their own town to register.

<sup>4</sup> 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. <sup>5</sup> He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, <sup>7</sup> 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.

<sup>8</sup> And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. <sup>9</sup> An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. <sup>11</sup> Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.”

<sup>13</sup> Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.”

<sup>15</sup> 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.”

<sup>16</sup> So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. <sup>21</sup> On the eighth day, when it was time to circumcise the child, he was named Jesus, the name the angel had given him before he was conceived.

**Poem: The Gift of Jesus** by Sue Lueck Carlson

A love story was written a long time ago.  
It was about the birth of a baby in a manger so low.  
Shepherds and kings walked from afar,  
Because up in the sky was a bright shining star.  
Word of a Savior spread throughout the land,  
Though Mary and Joseph didn’t understand.  
“Why us?” They wondered as they looked on the face  
Of this beautiful baby given by grace.  
Just like Mary and Joseph-God chooses you.  
It makes no difference what you may do.  
God needs all of us to lend him a hand.  
There is so much turmoil in our great land.  
Share the love God planted deep in your hearts,  
Because it’s there where Christmas had its start.  
Let go all bitterness if only for this day  
And send Satan packing to be on his way.  
See the good in every person. Let go the pain you bear.  
Give Jesus as your present. Show others that you care.  
Life is short. Look around you. Tomorrow’s not a guarantee.



You have today to make a difference with your friends and family.  
Reach out and feed the needy. Be friendly to those you meet.  
Share a smile with a stranger. Drop some change on the street.

Have a very Merry 2022 Christmas! May God bless you all year through.  
Give others the gift of Jesus because He is my gift to you.

Because of God's love for us, He gave us His very best. **John 3:16** says, "For God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son. And whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." It is my sincere hope and prayer that each of us cherishes Jesus in our hearts and makes Him Lord of our lives; for He is the greatest **Gift** we will ever receive, **and** He is the reason for the Season!

**Prayer:**

O Gracious Heavenly Father,

We thank You for giving us Your very best in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. We thank You loving us in spite of ourselves. You are our Creator and our everything. Lord, help us to possess the spirit of giving to bless our fellowman. Help us to understand that it doesn't have to always be through financial blessings, but it can be by giving of our time and talents to touch and bless on another. Change our hearts and let Your love run from heart to heart. Bless everyone who is dealing with anxiety and/or depression or any type of ailment to tap into the source—You Heavenly Father. Heal Lord and bless the bereaved families wherever they may be. Help us Lord to stand in the gap for one another as intercessors. You are our All and All Lord, and for that we say thank You! Bless our children and youth Lord and keep them during this holiday season. Touch every woman connected to this ministry. All these things we ask in Thy Most Precious Name, Amen.

*Happy Birthday to all  
of our sisters who are  
celebrating the gift of  
another year of life  
during the month of  
December! May the  
Lord enrichly bless and  
keep you all!!!*



*Happy Anniversary to all  
who are celebrating during  
the month of December!  
May the Lord continue to  
bless and strengthen your  
union!*





girl scouts  
heart of the south



“Are you ready to explore a whole new world of deliciousness? This year, there's a big helping of adventure in every delicious bite of Girl Scout Cookies®.

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Enjoy Girl Scout Cookies yourself, give some to a friend, or donate to a worthy cause—every bite counts!”

Our very own Sis. Linda Harris is the fearless troop leader of our Fullview Missionary Baptist Church's Girl Scouts. **Cookie sells kick off on Monday, December 26, 2022.** Please contact Sis. Harris to place your order! She can be reached via phone at 901-488-7021 or via email at [lfayehar@comcast.net](mailto:lfayehar@comcast.net). You may also make cookie purchases from Girl Scouts Olivia and Hailey Watson, Sis. Kyra Turner, or me. We look forward to helping to connect you with your favorite box of Girl Scouts Cookies soon!



## Announcements and Upcoming Events



- The new Sunday School books are in! Please see Deacons Michael Henry and David Crutchfield to get yours.
  - The Women's Ministry will be partnering with the Arts (Dance and Drama) Ministries! **On Saturday, December 17, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., we will gather at the Signature Nursing Home (1150 Dovecrest Rd. Memphis, TN 38134) to sing Christmas Carols and pass out Hot Chocolate to the residents.** The Arts Ministry will perform and pass out throws and other goodies. Please come and join us as we bring joy to the residents and where your favorite Christmas sweater/shirt. **Please also note that masks are mandatory.** We hope to see you there!!!
  - **Our December Monthly Meeting has been canceled. We reconvene in the new year on Sunday, January 15, 2023. This will also be our New Year's Fellowship!** It will be a great time of fun, fellowship, and food as we celebrate our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and the blessing of being in a new year! Everyone is encouraged to bring a \$10-\$15 gift for a woman for the gift exchange.
- Please continue to pray for healing and strength for Sis. Willie Ann Daniel, Sis. Cherri Branch, Sis. Theresa Dillihunt, Sis. Bonnie Jordan, Rev. Linda Fryer, and all FMBC Mature Members and Sick/Shut-in Members.
  - Please continue to pray for the covering of our youth and young adults that they seek the Lord in all that they do.
  - Please remember and lift up all bereaved families.
  - Please pray for those who are suffering in silence. Let us stand in the gap for one another and lift up spoken and unspoken prayer requests.
  - Let us also pray for our world leaders and brothers and sisters throughout all the land and countries.