

# ROBERTSVILLE BIBLE CHURCH

December 27, 2020

Thank you for being a part of our service today. We trust that you will receive a blessing from being with us and hearing a message from the Word of God. May the Lord bless you as you serve Him.

## MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE (Please use this time to quietly prepare your heart for worship)

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN #271 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 12:13-21

### OPENING PRAYER

HYMN #286 Once in Royal David's City

HYMN #288 We Three Kings

HYMN #292 Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne

BIBLE MESSAGE Pastor Ernie Brodie, Jr.

HYMN #270 Joy to the World!

### CLOSING PRAYER

#### Announcements

**Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.** - Prayer Meeting.

**Business Meeting** - Sunday, January 3, following the Morning Service.

**Annual Reports** are needed for our Annual Business Meeting. Reports needed: Pastor, Deacons, Trustees, Ladies Bible Study, Men's Bible Study, Missions Committee, Christian Education Committee, Prison Ministry, and Nursing Home Ministry. All reports are due by **Wednesday, January 13**.

## The Birth of Jesus – Luke 2 Rev. Dr. Ernest Brodie Jr.

No other birth in human history holds as much significance as the birth of Christ. The incarnation of deity establishes the atonement of humanity as no other birth. The incarnation relates to God the Son taking upon Himself a complete, sinless human nature consisting of a body, soul, and spirit, thus making Jesus both human and divine (John 1:14). The eternity of the Son of God is shown John 1:1-5.

Christ's coming was prophesied of old (Genesis 3:15, Isaiah 9:7). It was prophesied that Christ would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), and it was prophesied that a virgin would bring forth the Messiah (Isaiah 7:14). God even set up the world for the coming of the Messiah. Luke 2:1-3: "And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city." The name Caesar is a title similar to that of president. The name Augustus is an adjective that means august, reverend, or honored. Caesar Augustus (Gaius Octavius) was born September 23, 63 B.C. His mother, Atia, was the daughter of Julia, the sister of Julius Caesar. Julius Caesar adopted Gaius as his own son in 43 B.C. Eventually, Gaius Octavius, now called Gaius Julius Caesar, pushed out Lepidus and Mark Anthony for the throne. Caesar Augustus ruled 45 years and unified the Roman Empire. Under his rule, the Roman Empire extended from Western Europe to the Middle East. He brought *Pax Romana* (Roman Peace). Caesar Augustus established the framework for the coming of Christ.

Why was there no room at the inn (Luke 2:4-7)? Although Joseph took Mary to Bethlehem for Caesar's tax, the place of his ancestral home, they were not among friends. No one welcomed them. No one invited them in. No one made room for them. This reveals that they were not wanted. Joseph was marked by the fact that he was still willing to care for a woman pregnant with a child that was not his. Mary was considered by many to be immoral.

God sent the angels to tell the shepherds of the birth of the Messiah (Luke 2:8-18). The shepherds in the hills around Bethlehem raised the sheep that would be sacrificed in the Temple at Jerusalem. They were blessed with the news of the Lamb of God that would take away the sins of the world.

The story does not end here. 1 Corinthians 15:3-4: "For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures." Salvation comes through Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17-21). God not only reconciles us to God, He also gives us the ministry of reconciliation. We have the privilege to share the gospel with others. We have the opportunity to be like the shepherds and see the Christ, as well as run and tell others.