

## GOD IS WITH US!

### Christmas Day: BORN TO YOU THIS DAY

**Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!” (Luke 2:10-14)**

What a moment in history! Christ had come! God with Us was here. The hope of the promised Messiah was now fulfilled. God’s one and only Son had been sent sacrificially in love. The Prince of Peace was here to begin His kingdom and fill humanity with the wholeness of shalom. New and amazing joy was being unleashed in the world, and the angels of heaven were now bringing it to all humans, beginning with the humble and lowly shepherds.

Because Christ has come, God is with us. Because God is with us, we can know His hope, love, joy, and peace filling us in the present through His Spirit. And because God is with us, we can look confidently to the future when we will be united in the fullness and perfection of His presence in the completion of His work in our world. This is what we celebrate in Advent. Let us join with the angels on this Christmas Day, proclaiming, “Glory to God in the highest!” (Luke 2:14). Let us join with the shepherds in praising God and worshiping the Savior. And let us join together to give thanks that our God is truly, faithfully, and always with us.

*How will you continue to live with an awareness and recognition that God is with you in the new year? How will you rejoice and celebrate and worship today?*