

## A THRILL OF HOPE

Luke 2:1 – 20

December 23 – 24, 2022

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### MESSAGE NOTES

- **Christmas reminds us to open our hearts up to God.**
- **Christmas reminds us that God invites us into a life set apart.**

*And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them ... — Luke 2:8 – 9 (ESV)*

*And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." — Luke 2:10 – 12 (ESV)*

*"Had the angel gone to theologians, they would have first consulted their commentaries. Had he gone to the elite, they would have looked around to see if anyone was watching. Had he gone to the successful, they would have first looked at their calendars. So he went to shepherds — Men who didn't have a reputation to protect or an ax to grind or a ladder to climb. Men who didn't know enough to tell God that angels don't sing to sheep and that messiahs aren't found wrapped in rags and sleeping in a feed trough." — Max Lucado*

*When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger ... And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them ... — Luke 2:15 – 18 (ESV)*

*For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. — Luke 2:11 (ESV)*

*... the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. — Luke 2:20*

- **Christmas reminds us to dream again with God.**