

Largs Church of the Nazarene

LargsNaz Online listening guide: 26 December 2021



Luke 2 (NRSV)

8 In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. 9 Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10 But the angel said to them, 'Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: 11 to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour (*soter*), who is the Messiah, the Lord (*kyrios*). 12 This will be a sign (*semeion*) for you: **you will**

find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.' 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

14 'Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!'

15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.'

16 So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. 17 When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; 18 and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. 19 But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. 20 The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Joy to the world

Isaac Watts

Joy to the world the Lord is come
Let earth receive her King
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and nature sing
And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing

Joy to the earth the Saviour reigns
Let men their songs employ

While fields and floods
Rocks hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

No more let sins and sorrows grow
Nor thorns infest the ground
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as, far as the curse is found

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love

Of the Father's love begotten

Aurelius Prudentius (trans. Henry Baker)

Of the Father's love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!

O that birth forever blessèd,
When the virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the Saviour of our race;
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face,
Evermore and evermore!

O ye heights of heaven adore Him;
Angel hosts, His praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before Him,
and extol our God and King!
Let no tongue on earth be silent,
Every voice in concert sing,
Evermore and evermore!

O rest beside the weary road
And hear the angels sing

Christ, to Thee with God the Father,
And, O Holy Ghost, to Thee,
Hymn and chant with high thanksgiving,
And unwearied praises be:
Honour, glory, and dominion,
And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore!

The Saviour Reigns (Luke 2)

- **Introduction: Joy to the World in review**

- **The Saviour Reigns**

- **Saviour and Lord (*soter* and *kyrios*) were titles of Caesar**
- **Illegal to predict the Emperor's death—the end of their reign**
- **But Jesus is a different kind of Saviour and Lord**

- **This will be a sign for you**

- ***Semeion*: sign**

- **Wrapped in cloths**
 - **Ezekiel 16**

Luke 2	Luke 23, 24
Joseph and Mary	Joseph and Marys
wrapped Jesus in cloths	wrapped Jesus in cloths
and laid him	and laid him
in a manger	in a tomb
(where no baby had been laid before)	(where no one had been laid before)

- **Lying in a manger**
 - **Luke 23 and 24**

Luke 2	Luke 24
Angels appear to the shepherds and they're afraid	Angels appear to the women and they're afraid
The shepherds see Jesus wrapped in cloths and lying in the manger	The women had seen Jesus wrapped in cloths and lying in the tomb
The shepherds remember what the angels had said when they find Jesus	The women are told by the angels to remember what Jesus had said
The shepherd tell others, who are amazed	The women tell the disciples, who don't believe them
The shepherds go in haste to see Jesus wrapped in cloths in the manger	Peter goes in haste to the tomb, finds only the cloths Jesus had been wrapped in

- **Luke 22: the Passover Lamb**
- **Why shepherds?**

Doxology

Thomas Ken

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost