

*But the angel said to them,  
“Do not be afraid. I bring you good  
news of great joy that will be for all  
the people.*

*Luke 2:10*

***Scripture Reading:***

***Luke 1:26-56***

*26 In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, 27 to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. 28 The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."*

*29 Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. 30 But the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. 31 You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus.*

*32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.”*

*34 “How will this be,” Mary asked the angel, “since I am a virgin?”*

*35 The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. 36 Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be barren is in her sixth month. 37 For nothing is impossible with God."*

*38 "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May it be to me as you have said." Then the angel left her.*

*39 At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, 40 where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth.*

*41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. 42 In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! 43 But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?"*

*44 As soon as the sound of your  
greeting reached my ears, the baby  
in my womb leaped for joy. 45  
Blessed is she who has believed  
that what the Lord has said to her  
will be accomplished!”*

*46 And Mary said:*

*“My soul glorifies the Lord  
47 and my spirit rejoices in God my  
Savior,*

*48 for he has been mindful  
of the humble state of his servant.  
From now on all generations will  
call me blessed,*

*49 for the Mighty One has done  
great things for me—  
holy is his name.*

*50 His mercy extends to those who  
fear him,  
from generation to generation.*

*51 He has performed mighty deeds  
with his arm;*

*he has scattered those who are  
proud in their inmost thoughts.*

*52 He has brought down rulers  
from their thrones*

*but has lifted up the humble.*

*53 He has filled the hungry with  
good things  
but has sent the rich away empty.  
54 He has helped his servant  
Israel,  
remembering to be merciful*

*55 to Abraham and his  
descendants forever,  
even as he said to our fathers.”*

*56 Mary stayed with Elizabeth for  
about three months and then  
returned home.*

**Christmas Message:**  
*Good News of Great Joy!*

**Luke 2:10**

**Do not be afraid...**

John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

**Christmas Message:**  
*Good News of Great Joy!*

**Luke 2:10**

**...I bring you good news...**

**Luke 2:11**

**Today in the town of David a Savior has  
been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.**

**Christmas Message:**  
*Good News of Great Joy!*

**Luke 2:10**

**...of great joy...**

**John 15:11**

**I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.**

**Christmas Message:**  
*Good News of Great Joy!*

**Luke 2:10**

**...that will be for all the people...**

**1 Timothy 2:3-4**

**This is good, and pleases God our  
Savior, who wants all men to be saved  
and to come to a knowledge of the  
truth.**