

# THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

## *In a rush in Bethlehem*

*“In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. And everyone went to their own town to register.” – Luke 2:1-3*

*“And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger.’ Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.’ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, ‘Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.’” – Luke 2:8-15*

*“So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them.” – Luke 2:16-18*

**The shepherds were willing to act on what God told them: “Let’s go and see this thing that has happened.” – Luke 2:15**

### **Preparing our hearts for Christmas:**

- 1. Plan on worshipping at Christmas Service.**
  - 2. Invite someone to Christmas Service.**
  - 3. Find a few moments alone in the quiet to consider what God has done for you.**
  - 4. Find a nativity scene to look at.**
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